EASIER ENGLISH™
STUDENT DICTIONARY
UPPER INTERMEDIATE LEVEL
OVER 32,000 TERMS CLEARLY DEFINED

‘The best on my desk ... so practical’
EL Gazette

second edition
Preface

By 2050, it is estimated that fifty percent of the world’s population will have some competence in English. Many of these people will regard themselves as improvers rather than learners and will have only occasional need to quickly check the meaning of a word in a dictionary.

This dictionary is a portable, easy-to-use quick reference tool for a large number of words and phrases, rather than a substitute for the detailed guidance of a grammar or course book. It includes commonly heard terms, with an indication of their relevant frequency, and many more terms from the worlds of work and communication and of modern society generally.

Each word is individually defined, and no words, not even adverbs, are listed without a definition. Examples and collocations are given for words that are likely to be used in practice, in order to provide patterns for the user’s own production of English sentences. Less frequently encountered words, which only need to be recognised and understood, are given definitions only.

Each word, including compound words and phrasal verbs, has its own easy-to-find main entry in bold type. Each word has a pronunciation in the International Phonetic Alphabet. Typical phrases and idioms associated with the main term are shown in bold type and separately defined within the entry.

The meaning of the main senses of each word is given clearly and simply, using a limited and easily understood vocabulary. Meanings are grouped together by their part of speech.

Extra help is offered in Notes at the end of some entries. These include unusual inflected forms and warnings about words which sound the same but have different spellings and can be confused with each other. The major differences in US and British spelling are also noted. Synonyms and antonyms (opposites) are given for many words.
Parts of speech

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Symbols

The numbers 1, 2, 3 indicate words which are commonly used, from 1 = the most basic and essential, 2 = frequent and useful to know, to 3 = starting to develop a wider vocabulary.

- ■ before a new part of speech
- ● before examples
- □ before a phrase or collocation
- ◊ before an idiom
- ◊ an explanation of the word will be found at the place indicated
- ♦ extra information will be found at the place indicated

Pronunciation

The following symbols have been used to show the pronunciation of the main words in the dictionary.

Stress has been indicated by a main stress mark (') and a secondary stress mark (‘). Note that these are only guides, as the stress of the word changes according to its position in the sentence.

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a /æ/, A noun the first letter of the alphabet, followed by B ○ Do you mean 'pendant' spelled with an 'a' or with an 'e'? □ from A to Z completely, all the way through a /ə/, an /ən/, an/ article 1. one ○ an enormous hole ○ a useful guidebook ○ She's bought a new car. ○ I want a cup of tea. ○ We had to wait an hour for the bus. 2. for each or to each ○ Apples cost 50p a kilo. ○ The car was travelling at 50 kilometres an hour. ○ He earns £100 a day. (NOTE: an is used before words beginning with a, e, i, o, u and with h if the h is not pronounced: an apple or an hour. a is used before words beginning with all other letters and also before u where u is pronounced /juː/: a useful guidebook)
A&E abbreviation and emergency "back /bæk/ adv ○ taken aback surprised and shocked by something unpleasant ○ She was somewhat taken aback when he told her there was no train that evening.
abacus /əˈbækəs/ noun an object used for counting, consisting of a frame with balls which can be moved on bars.
abandon /əˈbændən/ verb 1. to leave someone or something without help ○ The crew abandoned the sinking boat. Synonym desert 2. to give up or stop doing something ○ The company has decided to abandon the project. ○ We abandoned the idea of setting up a London office.
abandoned /əˈbændənd/ adj no longer used or lived in.
abandonment /əˈbændənmənt/ noun 1. the act or process of giving someone or something up 2. the act or process of leaving someone or something without help. Synonym desertion.
abashed /əˈbæʃt/ adj ashamed or embarrassed
abate /əˈbeɪt/ verb to become less strong or forceful (formal). Synonym decrease
abattoir /əˈbatəwar/ noun a place where animals are killed for meat. Synonym slaughterhouse.
abbey /ˈæbi/ noun 1. a place where a community of Christian monks or nuns live 2. a large church ○ Westminster Abbey
abbreviate /əˈbrɪvɪeɪt/ verb 1. to shorten a word by leaving out some of the letters 2. to shorten a piece of writing by leaving out part of it. Synonym cut
abbreviated /əˈbrɪvɪeɪtɪd/ adj shortened by having something left out
abbreviation /əˈbrɪvɪˈeɪʃən/ noun a shortened form of a word. Compare acronym
ABC /æbɪt/ abbreviation 'siz/ noun the alphabet (NOTE: The name comes from the first letters of the Roman alphabet.) ○ It’s as easy as ABC: it’s very easy
abide /əˈbaɪd/ verb to follow ○ to abide by a rule ○ You must abide by the rules of the game. ○ We have to abide by the decision of the referee. ○ to abide by a promise to keep a promise
abiding /əˈbaɪdɪŋ/ adj lasting a long time (formal). Synonym enduring. Antonym transient
ability
- ability /əˈbɪləti/ noun 1. the force or capacity to do something. She has many abilities but singing isn’t one of them. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is abilities.) 2. I’ll do it to the best of my ability. I’ll do it as well as I can. 3. the fact of being clever or a person of great or outstanding ability
- able /əˈbɛl/ adj (formal) 1. very bad, making you feel ashamed. 2. an object apology. 3. object terror
- abject /əˈbɛkt/ adj (formal) 1. very bad. 2. object poverty. Synonym unsuccessful. Antonym successful
- aboard /əˈbɔːrd/ adv 1. on a ship or vehicle. The passengers went aboard the ‘Queen Elizabeth’ at 10 p.m. 2. all aboard! everyone get on, please!
- abode /əˈbɔːd/ noun the place where someone lives. Synonym home. 2. of no fixed abode with no permanent address.
- abolish /əˈbɔːlish/ verb to get rid of something such as a law or right. 2. to abolish something such as a law or right.
- abomination /əˈbɒmɪnəʃən/ noun 1. very bad. Synonym dreadful
- abominably /əˈbɒmɪnəbli/ adv in a horrible way
- Aboriginal /əˈbɪɒrɪʒən/ adj referring to Aborigines. noun same as Aborigine
- abortion /əˈbɔːʃn/ noun the ending of a woman’s pregnancy before a live infant can be born. Synonymmiscarriage
- abort /əˈbɔːrt/ verb 1. to stop something taking place. 2. to perform an abortion on a foetus. 3. of a woman) to have an abortion or miscarriage
- abrasive /əˈbræsɪv/ adj 1. rude and impatient in dealing with people. 2. which rubs away a surface. Synonym a substance which rubs away a surface. Avoid using abrasives to clean this surface.
abreast /əˈbrestr/ adv 1. side by side 2. to keep abreast of something: to keep up to date with something. She wants to keep abreast of the latest developments in cancer therapy.

abridge /əˈbrɪdʒ/ verb to shorten a text such as a book or play

abridged /əˈbrɪdʒt/ adj shortened by removing parts of a text

abridgement /əˈbrɪdʒmənt/ noun a shortened form of a text such as a book or play

abroad /əˈbrɔːrd/ adv in or to another country. They’ve gone abroad on holiday.

abrupt /əˈbrʌpt/ adj, suddenly, without giving any warning. Briefly and impolitely

abruptness /əˈbrʌptnəs/ noun 1. the fact of happening suddenly 2. the fact of using few words and not being very polite

abscess /əˈbesəs/ noun a collection of pus in the body. Synonym boil

abscond /əbˈskɔnd/ verb 1. to leave somewhere suddenly and secretly (formal) 2. to escape from prison (formal)

absell /əbˈsɛl/ verb to come down a cliff or wall using a fixed rope wound around your body

absence /əbˈsɛns/ noun 1. the fact of being away from a place. She did not explain her absence from the meeting. 2. The former president was sentenced in his absence. In the absence of because someone is not there. In the absence of the chairman, his deputy took the chair.

absent adj /əbˈsɛnt/ not there. To absent yourself from to stay away from a class or meeting deliberately (formal)

absentee /əbˈsɛnti/ noun a person who is not there

absenteeism /əbˈsɛntiizəm/ noun the act or fact of deliberately staying away from work

absentee landlord /əbˈsɛntiˈlændərd/ noun an owner of a property who lives a long way away and uses other people to deal with those who live in or use it

absent-minded /əbˈsɛntminded/ adj often forgetting things. Synonym forgetful

absolutely /əbˈsɛlətli/ adv 1. completely or totally 2. I am absolutely sure I left the keys in my coat pocket.

absurd /əbˈsɜːrd/ adj ridiculous

absurdity /əbˈsɜːrdeɪti/ noun the fact of being absurd
abundance /ˈbʌndɑːns/ noun a large quantity. Synonym profusion. Antonym scarcity. In abundance in large quantities (informal) The fridge was full, so we had food and drink in abundance.

abundant /ˈbʌndənt/ adj existing in large quantities. Synonym plentiful. Antonym scarce

abundantly /ˈbʌndəntli/ adv 1. to a very large degree 2. in large or more than large enough quantities

abuse /ɔːbjuːz/ noun a bad use. Synonym mistreatment. Antonym misuse. He abused his position as finance director.

abusive /ˈæbjuːsɪv/ adj rude and insulting. Synonym insulting. He had too much to drink and became abusive. 2. treating someone in a violent or cruel way, or referring to a violent and cruel situation. Synonym violent. He abused his position as finance director.

abysmal /ˈæbjɪzməl/ adj extremely bad. Synonym terrible. Antonym superb

abysmally /ˈæbjɪzməli/ adv extremely badly

abyss /ˈæbɪs/ noun 1. a deep hole. Synonym abysses. 2. a horrible or frightening situation (NOTE: The plural is abysses.)

AC abbr alternating current

academic /əkˈdæmɪk/ adj 1. referring to study at a university. Members of the academic staff received a letter from the principal. 2. only in theory, not in practice. It is only of academic interest.

academically /əkˈdæmɪkli/ adv with regard to study in general, or to teaching at a university.

academic year /əkˈdæmɪk ˈjɪər/ noun a period which starts in September and finishes in August.

academy /əkˈdæmɪ/ noun 1. a college where students are taught. 2. a secondary school in Scotland that chooses its pupils on academic ability.

accelerate /əkˈseləreɪt/ verb 1. to go faster. 2. to make something go faster. Antonym decelerate
gloves, and shoes. 3. a person who helps someone commit a crime (NOTE: The plural is accessories.)

**accident** /əˈkʌrənt/ noun 1. an unpleasant thing which happens and causes damage or injury. ○ He missed his flight, because his bus had an accident. ○ She was involved in a car accident and had to go to hospital.

2. something that happens unexpectedly by accident without being planned or expected. ○ He found the missing papers by accident. Synonym **accidentally** /əˈkʌrəntli/ adj which happens by chance or an accidental meeting.

3. accidental damage. ○ His death was not accidental. Synonym **unintentional** /əˌɪnˌtɪʃəNL/ noun (in music) an additional sharp, flat or natural.

4. **accidentally** /əˈkʌrəntli/ adv by chance.

5. **acclaim** /əˈkleitm/ noun great praise. Synonym **approval**. Antonym **disapproval**. **acclaim** /əˈkleitm/ adj much praised, especially publicly.

6. **accclimatise** /əˈkʌlmətɪz/ verb to become acclimatised to their new habitat.

7. **acclimatise** /əˈkʌlmətɪz/ verb (formal) to accost someone in an aggressive or suggestive way.

8. **accomplice** /əˈkʌmplɪs/ noun a person who helps another person to commit a crime.

**accomplish** /əˈkʌmplɪʃ/ verb to do something successfully. Synonym **achieve**

**accomplished** /əˈkʌmplɪʃt/ adj talented or skilled.

**accomplishment** /əˈkʌmplɪʃmənt/ noun the successful finishing of something after a lot of work.

9. **accord** /əˈkɔːrd/ noun 1. an agreement with one accord with the agreement of everyone. 2. of your own accord without being ordered or forced by anyone. ○ If he decided to sell the business and retire to a Greek island, he did so of his own accord.

10. **accord** /əˈkɔːrd/ verb 1. to give something to someone as an honour. 2. to accord with to agree with (formal). ○ His way of behaving does not accord with his principles.

11. **accordingly** /əˌkʌrəntli/ adv as a result of something just mentioned.

12. **according to** /əˌkʌrənt tu/ prep as someone says or writes. ○ The washing machine was installed according to the manufacturer’s instructions. ○ According to the witness, the car was going too fast.

13. **account** /əˈkaʊnt/ noun 1. same as bank account. 2. (in a shop) an arrangement which a customer makes with a shop to buy goods and pay for them later. ○ Put it on my account. 3. on account as part of a total bill. ○ to pay money on account to pay part of a bill.

14. **account** /əˈkaʊnt/ noun 1. a story of how something happened. ○ They served cranberry sauce as an accompaniment to the turkey. 2. music played to accompany someone singing or playing an instrument. ○ a piece for violin with piano accompaniment.

15. **accompaniment** /əˈkʌmpəmənt/ noun 1. a thing which accompanies something. ○ They served cranberry sauce as an accompaniment to the turkey. 2. music played to accompany someone singing or playing an instrument.

16. **accompany** /əˈkʌmpəri/ verb 1. to go with someone or something. 2. to play a musical instrument when someone else plays or sings (NOTE: accompanied by something).

17. **accuse** /əˈkjʊz/ verb to charge someone with something.

18. **accusation** /əˈkjʊzəʃən/ noun a charge of something.

19. **accuse** /əˈkjʊz/ verb (formal) to account for to explain something that has happened. ○ He was asked to account for all his expenditure.
accountability /əˈkɑːntɪbɪlɪtɪ/ noun the fact of being accountable for something
accountable /əˈkɑːntəbl/ adj having to explain what you have done, especially how you have spent or received money (NOTE: You are accountable to someone for something.)
accountancy /əˈkɑːntənsi/ noun the study or the work of being an accountant (NOTE: The US term is accounting in this meaning.)
accountant /əˈkɑːntənt/ noun a person who deals with financial accounts. Synonym bookkeeper
accounting /əˈkɑːntɪŋ/ noun the work of recording money paid, received, borrowed or owed
accredit /əˈkrɛdɪt/ verb to make someone an official representative. Synonym recognise accredited /əˈkrɛdɪtəd/ adj given official approval
accrued /əˈkrʌrd/ verb to accumulate. Antonym dwindle
accumulate /əˈkjʊmjuːlət/ verb to grow larger by addition. Synonym build up, accrue
accumulation /əˈkjʊmjuːleɪʃən/ noun 1. the action of accumulating something 2. an amount of something built up over time accuracy /əˈkrɪkjʊrəs/ noun the fact of being correct in every detail accurate /əˈkrɪkjʊrət/ adj correct in all details what are the figures accurate? ○ we asked them to make an accurate copy of the plan. Synonym precise, Antonym inaccurate accurately /əˈkrɪkjʊrətli/ adv correctly accusation /əˈkjʊəzɪʃən/ noun a statement that someone has done wrong. Synonym allegation accusative /əˈkjʊzətɪv/ noun the grammatical case which shows the object of a verb in the accusative accuse /əˈkjʊz/ verb to say that someone has done something wrong ○ the police accused her of stealing the money. (NOTE: You accuse someone of a crime or of doing something.) accusing /əˈkjʊzɪŋ/ adj □ in an accusing tone as if you are accusing someone of something accusingly /əˈkjʊzɪŋli/ adv as if you are accusing someone of something wrong accustomed /əˈkʌstəmd/ adj normal or usual □ accustomed to used to ○ she was accustomed to walking her dog in the park every morning. ○ it took him some time to become accustomed to driving on the right-hand side of the road.
ace /eɪs/ noun 1. a playing card with one spot 2. someone who is excellent at doing something 3. a service in tennis which the opponent cannot return ache /eɪk/ noun a pain that lasts for a while. toothache, headache. Synonym pain □ verb 1. to hurt or feel pain that lasts for a while (formal) 2. to feel a painful desire. Synonym long achieve /əˈtʃiːv/ verb to succeed in doing something. what do you hope to achieve by writing to your MP? ○ he achieved all his objectives. Synonym attain
achievement /əˈtʃiːvmənt/ noun a thing which has been done successfully ○ coming sixth was a great achievement, since he had never raced before. ○ she is excessively modest about her achievements. Synonym attainment Achilles’ heel /əˌkɪliːz ‘hiːl/ noun a weak spot where you can be hurt Achilles’ tendon /əˌkɪliːz ‘təndən/ noun the tendon at the back of the ankle acid /əˈsɪd/ noun 1. a chemical substance containing hydrogen that forms a salt when combined with an alkali, and turns litmus paper red. Antonym alkali □ adj sour ○ the acid taste of lemons. Synonym acidic acidic /əˈsɪdɪk/ adj which has a sour taste. Synonym acid acicity /əˈsɪdɪtɪ/ noun 1. the percentage of acid in something 2. bitter taste acid rain /əˈsɪdrɛn/ noun polluted rain which kills trees acid test /əˈsɪdrɛst/ noun a test which will show the true value of something acknowledge /əˈkɒnlɪdʒ/ verb 1. to say that something has been received 2. to accept that something is true. Synonym admit acknowledgement /əˈkɒnlɪdʒmənt/ noun 1. a reply to say that something has been received 2. an admission that something is true acme /əˈkʌm/ noun the highest point. Synonym peak, Antonym nadir acne /əˈkʌn/ noun spots on the skin, usually on the face, neck and shoulders acolyte /əˈkɒlət/ noun 1. a person who helps a priest during religious ceremonies 2. a person who supports someone else, often without criticising their behaviour or opinions acorn /əˌkɒrn/ noun the fruit of an oak tree acoustic /əˈkʊstɪk/ adj referring to sound acoustics /əˈkʊstɪks/ plural noun the ability to carry sound without changing its quality ○ the acoustics in the concert hall are good.

acoustics

accountability
acquaint

acquaint /ˈkwɛnt/ verb 1. to be acquainted with someone or something have some knowledge of someone or something (informal) ♦ Is he acquainted with the details of the case? ♦ She is acquainted with my father. 2. to form someone acquaintance /ˈkwɛntəns/ noun 1. knowledge of someone ♦ My first acquaintance with him was in Hong Kong in 1997. ♦ to make the acquaintance of to get to know someone for the first time ♦ I made her acquaintance when we were at college together. 2. a person you know slightly ♦ She has many acquaintances in the publishing industry but no real friends.

acquiesce /əˈkwɪsəs/ verb to agree to something without protesting about it (for- mally) Synonym accept. Antonym resist

acquiescence /əˈkwɪsəns/ noun agreement without protest. Synonym acquiescence /əkwɪəsəns/. Antonym resist

acquire /əˈkwɔːri/ verb to obtain or to get something

acquisition /əˈkwɔːʃən/ noun 1. the act of acquiring something 2. a thing which has been acquired

acquisitive /əˈkwɔːzɪtɪv/ adj always wanting to acquire new things. Synonym greedy

acquit /əˈkwɪkt/ verb 1. to state formally that someone is not guilty 2. to acquit yourself well to do well when trying something difficult or for the first time ♦ She said she had never played tennis before, but in the event she acquitted herself very well.

acquittal /əˈkwɪt(ə)l/ noun a decision by a court that someone is not guilty

acre /ˈeɪkər/ noun a measure of land, 4840 square yards or 0.4047 hectares. (Note: The plural is used with figures, except before a noun: a farm of 250 acres or a 250-acre farm)

acrid /ˈækrid/ adj with a bitter smell

acrimonious /ˌækriˈmɔniəs/ adj angry and bitter. Synonym hostile

acrobatic /ˌækroˈbætɪk/ adj 1. moving in a difficult and exciting way, like an acrobat. Synonym gymnastic 2. lively and energetic. Synonym agile

acrobatics /ˌækroˈbætɪks/ plural noun 1. acrobatic movements 2. skills used in doing something difficult ♦ We enjoyed the verbal acrobatics as they tried to explain their actions.

acronym /ˌækroʊnəm/ noun a word made from the first letters of the name of something ♦ NATO and AIDS are both acronyms. Compare abbreviation

action

act /ækt/ noun 1. a thing which is done ♦ the many acts of kindness she had shown him over the years ♦ we caught him or her in the act we caught him or her as he or she was doing it 2. a distinct part of a play or show ♦ Act II of the play takes place in the garden. ♦ The circus has acts by clowns and wild animals. ♦ to get your act together to organise yourself properly (informal) ♦ If they don’t get their act together, they’ll miss their train. 3. a law passed by Parliament ♦ an act to ban the sale of weapons 4. to take part in a performance such as a film or play ♦ She’s acted on TV many times. ♦ He acted the part of Hamlet in the film. 2. to do something ♦ You will have to act quickly if you want to stop the fire. ♦ She acted in a very responsible way. ♦ to act on behalf of to do something official for someone or represent someone ♦ The lawyer is acting on behalf of the old lady’s family. ♦ to act as to do the work of ♦ The thick curtain acts as a screen to cut out noise from the street. 3. to behave ♦ acting very strangely 4. to take effect ♦ How long will the drug take to act? 5. to take the place of someone who is absent. Synonym temporary. Antonym permanent

across /əˈkros/ prep 1. from one side to the other ♦ Don’t run across the road without looking to see if there is any traffic coming. 2. on the other side of ♦ He called to her from across the street. ♦ their house is across the street from ours ♦ it is opposite our house adv from one side to the other 3. The river is only twenty feet across. ♦ The stream is very narrow – you can easily jump across.

across-the-board /əˈkros daˈbɔːd/ adj adv having the same effect on everyone or everything

acrylic /əˈkrɪlɪk/ noun a synthetic substance used to make many products, including fibres ♦ made from acrylic

acrylic paint /əˈkrɪlɪk peɪnt/ noun a paint used by artists, made from acrylic

act /əkt/ noun 1. something that has been done ♦ the many acts of kindness she had shown him over the years ♦ we caught him or her in the act we caught him or her as he or she was doing it 2. a distinct part of a play or show ♦ Act II of the play takes place in the garden. ♦ The circus has acts by clowns and wild animals. ♦ to get your act together to organise yourself properly (informal) ♦ If they don’t get their act together, they’ll miss their train. 3. a law passed by Parliament ♦ an act to ban the sale of weapons 4. to take part in a performance such as a film or play ♦ She’s acted on TV many times. ♦ He acted the part of Hamlet in the film. 2. to do something ♦ You will have to act quickly if you want to stop the fire. ♦ She acted in a very responsible way. ♦ to act on behalf of to do something official for someone or represent someone ♦ The lawyer is acting on behalf of the old lady’s family. ♦ to act as to do the work of ♦ The thick curtain acts as a screen to cut out noise from the street. 3. to behave ♦ acting very strangely 4. to take effect ♦ How long will the drug take to act? 5. to take the place of someone who is absent. Synonym temporary. Antonym permanent

action /ˈeɪʃən/ noun 1. something done, or the doing of something ♦ What action are you going to take to prevent accidents? ♦ out of action not working ♦ The car has been out of action for a week. ♦ The goalkeeper broke his leg and will be out of action for some time. 2. what happens in a performance such as a play or film ♦ The action of the play takes place in a flat in London. 3. an instruction to start recording a film ♦ Camera, lights, action! 4. a case in a law court where someone tries to get money from someone else ♦ to bring an action for damages against someone ♦ an action for libel or a libel action ♦ to take legal action against someone
action-packed

to take someone to court to try to get money from him or her

action-packed /ækʃən pæktd/ adj with a large number of exciting events

action replay /əkʃən ‘rɪpleɪ/ noun a section of a sporting event which is shown again on TV at a slower speed, so that the action can be examined carefully

activate /ək’tɪvɪt/ verb 1. to make something start to work 2. to start a chemical reaction

active /ək’tɪv/ adj 1. energetic or positive ○ He didn’t play an active part in the attack on the police station. ○ My grandmother is still very active at the age of 88. 2. (of a volcano) which is erupting or liable to erupt ○ Scientists think the volcano is no longer active. 3. on active service, on active duty US serving in the armed services in time of war ○ He was killed on active service. 4. the form of a verb which shows that the subject is doing something (NOTE: If you say ‘the car hit him’ the verb is active, but in ‘he was hit by the car’ it is passive.)

actively /ək’tɪvlɪ/ adv in an active way.

Synonym vigorously

activist /ək’tɪvɪst/ noun a person who vigorously supports a political party. Synonym campaigner

activity /ək’tɪvɪ/ noun 1. the act or fact of being active ○ There is a possibility of volcanic activity. 2. something that someone does to occupy or pass time pleasantly ○ Children are offered various holiday activities – sailing, windsurfing and water-skiing. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is activities.)

activity holiday /ək’tɪvɪtɪ  ’holɪday/ a holiday taken to do a leisure activity such as painting or rock-climbing

Act of Parliament /ək’tɔːr ‘pærliment/ noun a law which has been passed by parliament

actor /ək’tɔːr, actress /ək’tres/ noun a person who acts in the theatre, in films, on TV (NOTE: The plural of actress is actresses.)

actual /ək’tʃʊəl/ adj real ○ It looks quite small but the actual height is 5 metres. ○ Her actual words were much stronger. Antonym imaginary ○ in actual fact really ○ In spite of what the newspapers said, in actual fact he did win first prize.

actually /ək’tʃʊəli/ adv really ○ It looks quite small, but actually it is over 5 metres high. ○ He said he was ill, but actually he wanted to go to the football match.

actuary /ək’tʃʊəri/ noun a person who calculates insurance rates

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acumen /əkjuːmən/ noun the ability to make clever and successful decisions. Synonym insight

acupuncture /əkju:ˈpʌŋktʃə/ noun a medical treatment that comes from China, in which needles are stuck through the skin into nerve centres in order to reduce or remove pain or to treat an illness, etc.

acupuncturist /əkju:ˈpʌŋktʃərɪst/ noun a person who practises acupuncture

acute /əkˈjuːt/ adj 1. (of serious illness or pain) which starts suddenly and lasts for a short time ○ a child with acute bronchitis ○ The pain was very acute. Compare chronic 2. able to notice something easily ○ Dogs have an acute sense of smell.

acute accent /əkˈjuːktɪv/ noun a mark sloping forwards over a vowel, indicating a change of sound

acute angle /əkˈjuːt/ noun an angle which is less than 90°

acutely /əkˈjuːtlɪ/ adv to a high degree.

Synonym very. Antonym slightly

ad /æd/ noun an advertisement (informal) ○ If you want to sell your car quickly, put an ad in the paper.

AD abbr Anno Domini (used in dates) ○ Claudius invaded Britain in 43 AD. (NOTE: Latin for ‘in the year of our Lord’. For dates before the birth of Christ, use BC.)

adage /ədʒɪdʒ/ noun a traditional statement about an aspect of everyday life ○ According to the old adage, ‘time is a great healer’.

Synonym saying

adagio /əˈdɑːdʒɪəʊ/ noun a slow piece of music (NOTE: The plural is adagios.)

Adam /ˈædəm/ noun ○ I don’t know him or her from Adam I have no idea who he or she is (informal)

adamant /ˈædəmənt/ adj with firm opinions. Synonym obstinate. Antonym amenable

Adam’s apple /ˈædəmz ˈæp(ə)l/ noun a piece of cartilage that makes a lump in the front of the throat, which can sometimes be seen in men

adapt /ədəpt/ verb 1. to change something to be suitable for a new situation ○ She adapted the story for TV. ○ The car has been adapted for disabled drivers. 2. to change your behaviour to fit into a new situation ○ We’ll all have to learn to adapt to the new system.

adaptability /ədəptəˈbɪləti/ noun being able to change or be changed easily to new situations or uses. Synonym flexibility

adaptable /ədəpˈtəbl/ adj able to change or be changed easily to deal with new situations or uses. Synonym flexible

adaptation /ədəpˈteɪʃən/ noun 1. a change which fits new situations or uses 2.
something such as a film or play which has been developed from another

add /æd/ verb 1. to make a total of numbers ○ If you add all these numbers together it should make fifty. (NOTE: Adding is usually shown by the sign +. \(10 + 4 = 14\).) 2. to join to something else ○ Interest is added to the account monthly. ○ Add two cupfuls of sugar. ○ Put a teabag into the pot and add boiling water. ○ By building the annexe, they have added thirty rooms to the hotel. 3. to say or to write something more ○ I have nothing to add to what I put in my letter. ○ She added that we still owed her some money for work she did last month.

added /'ædɪd/ adj included as well as what there is already. Synonym extra

adder /'ædər/ noun a type of poisonous European snake. Also called viper

added /'ædɪd/ adj included as well as what there is already. Synonym extra

adjective /'ædʒɪktʃəl/ noun a person who cannot stop doing something

addicted /'ædɪktɪd/ adj unable to stop doing something

addiction /'ædʒɪkʃɒn/ noun the fact or state of being unable to stop doing something. Synonym habit

additive /'ædʒɪktɪv/ adj 1. which people can become addicted to. 2. which you can get used to doing

1. addition /'ædɪʃən/ noun 1. the action of adding figures to make a total ○ You don’t need a calculator to do a simple addition. 2. a thing or person added ○ the latest addition to the family ○ He showed us the additions to his collection of paintings. 3. in addition as well ○ in addition to as well as ○ There are twelve registered letters to be sent in addition to this parcel.

2. additional /'ædɪʃənl/ adj included as well as what there is already. Synonym extra

adversity /'ædʒɪstvɪ/ adj which sticks

adhesive /'ædʒɪstɪv/ adj which sticks a substance which sticks things together. Synonym glue

address book /'ædres bʊk/ noun a special book with columns printed in such a way that names, addresses and phone numbers can be entered

address list /'ædres lɪst/ noun a list of names and addresses of people and companies

add up /'ædʌp/ verb 1. to put several figures together to make a total ○ the figures do not add up the total given is not correct 2. if it doesn’t add up it doesn’t make sense, it is confusing ○ The story she told the police simply did not add up.

add up to /'ædʌp tu/ verb to make a total of something. Synonym come to

additional /'ædɪʃənl/ noun a person who is skillful at doing something ○ She’s adept at avoiding paying her bills. Antonym inept /'ɪnɪpt/ noun a person who is skillful at doing something (formal)

adequate /'ædɪkwət/ adj enough to fulfil a purpose ○ We don’t have adequate supplies for the whole journey. ○ His salary is barely adequate to support his family.

adhere /'ædər/ verb to attach physically to something. Synonym stick ○ to adhere to something to keep to a rule, agreement or promise

adherent /'ædɪhrənt/ noun a person who supports a policy or a religion. Synonym supporter

adhesion /'ædɪzʃən/ noun the ability of something to stick to something else

adhesive /'ædɪzɪv/ adj which sticks

ad infinitum /'æd ɪn'fɪnɪtəm/ adv for ever. Synonym endlessly

adj. adj, abbr 1. adjective 2. adjunct

adjacent /'ædʒɪsnt/ adj very close to or almost touching something ○ adjacent to very near to ○ The house is adjacent to the garden centre.

adjacent /'ædʒɪsnt/ adj very close to or almost touching something ○ adjacent to

adjacent /'ædʒɪsnt/ adj

adjoint /'ædʒənt/ verb to be close to or touching something ○ adjoining rooms
rooms which are next to each other • They asked to be put in adjoining rooms.

adjourn /ədˈdʒɔːn/ verb to stop something such as a meeting or court proceedings in order to continue at a later time or date • let’s adjourn to the bar let’s go on talking over a drink in the bar

adjournment /ədˈdʒɔːnmənt/ noun the act of stopping a meeting or court proceedings in order to continue at a later time or date

adjudicate /ədʒuˈdeɪkt/ verb 1. to give an official decision in a legal matter or a disagreement 2. to act as a judge in a competition

adjudication /ədʒuˈdeɪkeɪʃən/ noun 1. an official decision in a legal matter or a disagreement 2. the judging of a competition

adjunct /ˈædʒʌŋkt/ noun something which is joined to something else

adjust /ədˈʒust/ verb 1. to make a slight change to something 2. to adjust to change and adapt to something • How are you adjusting to living in a tropical climate? 3. which can be adjusted. Synonym adaptable

adjustable /ədˈʒustəb(ə)l/ adj which can be adjusted. Synonym adaptable

adjustment /ədˈʒustmənt/ noun a slight change to make something work well.

Synonym modification

ad-lib /ˈædˌlɪb/ adj, adv spoken without using a prepared set of words • a few ad-lib remarks • verb to speak without a prepared set of words. Synonym improvise (NOTE: ad-libbing – ad-libs – ad-libbed)

admit /ədˈmɪt/ verb 1. to allow someone to go in • no admission no one can enter 2. a statement saying that something is true • admission fee • admission paid to go into a place such as a museum or a sports stadium

admittedly /ədˈmɪdətli/ adv admitting that this is true

admiration /ədˈmɪʃən/ noun a strong feeling of respect or admiration for someone or something. Synonym regard

Antonym disapproval

admire /ədˈmaɪər/ verb 1. to consider someone or something with approval 2. a much-admired chief minister • he was admired for his skill as a violinist. Synonym respect

admiration /ədˈmɪʃən/ noun respect for someone or something. Synonym regard

Antonym disapproval

admonish /ədˈmɒnɪʃ/ verb to criticise or warn someone. Synonym reprove. Antonym praise

admonishment /ədˈmɒnɪʃən/ noun a warning given to someone (formal). Synonym reprimand. Antonym approval

adolescence /ədəˈlesəns/ noun the period between childhood and adulthood • She teaches a class of adolescent boys. • noun a young person between 12 and 18. Synonym teenager

adolescent /ədəˈlesənt/ adj referring to the period between childhood and adulthood • the ages of 12 and 18. Synonym teens

admirably /ədˈmɪəbrə/ adv to a remarkable or excellent degree

admiral /ədˈmɪrəl/ noun a high ranking officer in a country’s navy

admission /ədˈmɪʃn/ noun a prepared set of words

admit /ədˈmit/ verb 1. to allow someone to go in • Children are admitted free, but adults have to pay. • This ticket admits three persons.

admitting /ədˈmɪtɪŋ/ verb admitting that something is true

adorable /əˈdɔːrəbl/ adj • adjective which must be approved of and praised. Synonym praiseworthy

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adopt /ə'dɑpt/ verb 1. to take someone legally as a son or daughter ○ They have adopted a little boy. 2. to take and use something ○ adopted an air of superiority ○ The opposition parties have adopted a different line of argument. 3. to tell all students to use something ○ The book has been adopted for use in all English classes. 4. (of a political party) to choose a candidate ○ James Black was adopted as the candidate for our constituency.

adopted /ə'dɑptɪd/ adj taken legally as someone’s son or daughter ○ adoptive parents or mother or father Synonym legal.

adoptive /ə'dɑptɪv/ adj who has or have adopted a child as a son or daughter ○ adoptive parents ○ mother or father Synonym legal. Antonym natural

adorable /ə'dɔrəbl/ adj attractive and appealing. Synonym lovable

adoration /ə'dɑrəʃən/ noun admiration or love

adore /ə'dɔr/ verb to like someone or something very much. Synonym love. Antonym hate

adoring /ə'dɔrɪŋ/ adj who or which adores. Synonym affectionate

adorn /ə'dɔrn/ verb to decorate something with ornaments (formal)

adrenalin /ə'dredəlin/ noun a hormone produced by glands in the body when a person or animal is experiencing surprise, shock, fear or excitement. It speeds up the heartbeat and raises the blood pressure. □ to get the adrenalin going. flowing to make someone excited and energetic ○ The preparation for the great race got the adrenalin going.

adrift /ə'drɪft/ adv 1. floating on the water but not being guided by anyone ○ to cast a boat adrift to let a boat float without control 2. not connected ○ It won’t work because the wire has come adrift from the plug. 3. away from the correct figure ○ I think we are about £250 adrift in our calculations.

adroll /ə'drɔlt/ adv clever, especially in negotiating. Synonym skilful. Antonym clumsy

adroitly /ə'drɔltli/ adv skilfully

ADSL abbr asymmetrical digital subscriber line

adulation /ə'djuəleɪʃən/ noun excessive praise. Synonym adoration. Antonym disparagement

adult /'ædəlt/ adj 1. fully grown ○ an adult tiger 2. referring to mature people ○ adult fiction □ noun a mature person, or a mature animal or plant. Synonym grown-up. Antonym child

adult education /'ædəlt ɪdʒuˈeɪʃən/ noun the teaching of people over the age of 20

adulterate /'ædʌltəreɪt/ verb 1. to add water to milk or wine. 2. to make something less pure by adding an inferior substance to it

adulteration /'ædʌltərəʃən/ noun the act of making something less pure. Synonym contamination. Antonym purification

adulterer /'ædʌltərər/ noun a person who commits adultery

adultery /'ædʌltərɪ/ noun sexual intercourse with someone who is not your husband or wife

adulthood /'ædʌltθʊd/ noun the period when someone is adult. Synonym maturity. Antonym childhood

advance /'ædvaɪns/ noun 1. a movement forwards 2. ○ in advance earlier than something happens ○ If you want to get good seats for the play, you need to book three weeks in advance. 3. ○ You must phone well in advance to make an appointment. ○ money paid as a loan or as a part of a later payment 4. to change a date or time for something to an earlier one 4. to move a clock to a later time. Synonym put forward □ adv 1. to go forward 2. to pay money as a loan or as part of a later payment 3. to take advantage of the season is coming to an end

advanced /'ædvaɪnst/ adj 1. which is studied after studying for several years ○ taking advanced mathematics ○ studying for an advanced degree 2. which has moved forward ○ in an advanced state of decay ○ the season is well advanced

advantages /'ædvaɪntidʒz/ plural noun attempts to be friendly with someone ○ advantage /'ædvaɪntidʒ/ noun something which will help you to be successful ○ being able to drive a car is an advantage. ○ Knowledge of two foreign languages is an advantage in this job. ○ She has several advantages over the other candidates for the job. Synonym benefit. Antonym disadvantage □ to take advantage of to profit from something ○ They took advantage of the cheap fares on offer. ○ to take advantage of someone to cheat someone ○ He took advantage of the old lady. ○ to advantage in a way that makes someone look perfect ○ Her dress shows off her figure to advantage. □ to use something to great advantage to use something in a way which helps you win
advantageous /ədˈvæntɪdʒəs/ adj likely to help or make something successful. Synonym beneficial. Antonym disadvantageous

advent /ədˈvent/ noun the introduction or appearance of something new

Advent /ədˈvent/ noun the period just before Christmas

adventure /ədˈventʃə/ noun a new, exciting and dangerous experience

adversary /ədˈvɜːri/ noun the person you are fighting or opposed to. Synonym opponent. Antonym supporter (NOTE: The plural is adversaries.)

adverse /ədˈvɜːs/ adj 1. (of a wind) which blows against you 2. (conditions) which do not help or which go against you. Adverse balance of trade a situation where a country imports more than it exports

adversely /ədˈvɜːslɪ/ adv in a bad or damaging way

adversity /ədˈvɜːsɪti/ noun difficult times, when you have to face all sorts of problems. Synonym hardship. Antonym privilege

advert /ədˈvɜːt/ noun GB same as advertisement (informal)

advertise /ədˈvɜːtɪz/ verb to make sure that people know that something is for sale, that something is going to happen or that a show is on. • The company advertised millions on the advertising campaign. • The company has increased the amount of money it spends on advertising. Synonym publicity

advertising /ədˈvɜːtɪznɪŋ/ noun the action of making sure that people know that something is for sale, that something is going to happen or that a show is on. • They spent millions on the advertising campaign. • The company has increased the amount of money it spends on advertising. Synonym publicity

advise /ədˈvaɪz/ verb 1. to suggest to someone what should be done 2. He advised her to put all her money into a deposit account. 2. to tell someone officially that something is going to happen 3. Did you see the advert in the newspaper. • He went to the bank manager for advice on how to pay his debts. • They would not listen to the doctor’s advice. • My grandfather gave me a very useful piece of advice. • His mother’s advice was to stay in bed. (NOTE: no plural: some advice; for one item say a piece of advice)

advisable /ədˈvɑːzəb(ə)l/ adj which is recommended. Synonym sensible. Antonym unwise

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advisable /ədˈvɑːzəb(ə)l/ adj which is recommended. Synonym sensible. Antonym unwise

advice /ədˈvaɪs/ noun the saying of what should be done 2. She took or followed the doctor’s advice. • He went to the bank manager for advice on how to pay his debts. • They would not listen to the doctor’s advice. • My grandfather gave me a very useful piece of advice. • His mother’s advice was to stay in bed. (NOTE: no plural: some advice; for one item say a piece of advice)

advocate noun /ədˈvɑːkt/ 1. a lawyer in a Scottish court 2. a person who strongly supports a cause 3. a person who says that something is a good thing. • He advised us that the sale of the house had been completed. • They advised us that the sale of the house had been completed. • The company is advertising cheap meals on Sundays? • There’s no need to advertise the fact there’s no need to tell everyone something which would be better kept secret

advertisement /ədˈvɜːtɪznmənt/ noun an announcement which tries to make sure that people know that something is for sale, that something is going to happen or that a show is on

advertiser /ədˈvɜːtɪza/ noun a person who advertises something
aeronautical 13

2. the way in which a machine moves through the air (NOTE: takes a plural verb) aeronautical /ə'renəʊti kal/ adj referring to the flying of aircraft

3. aeroplane /ɛərə'plɛn/ noun a machine which flies in the air, carrying passengers or cargo. Synonym aircraft, plane (NOTE: The US term is airplane.)

aerosol /ɛərə'səʊl/ noun 1. a can which sprays a liquid such as an insecticide or medicine in the form of tiny drops 2. tiny particles of a chemical in the air

aerospace /ɛərə'spɛs/ noun Earth’s atmosphere and space beyond it aerospace industry /ɛərə'spɛs/ ˈɪndəstri noun the industry involved in making and flying aeroplanes

aesthetic /əˈstɪkt/ adj pleasant, from an artistic point of view (NOTE: The usual US spelling is esthetic.)
aesthetically /əˈstɪktli/ adj from an artistic point of view (NOTE: The usual US spelling is esthetically.)

aesthetics /əˈstɪktks/ noun the science of and study of beauty, especially in art (NOTE: takes a singular verb. The usual US spelling is esthetics.)

afar /əˈfær/ adv from afar from a long way away (formal) ○ Travellers came from afar to the great market at Samarkand.

affability /əˈfæbəlɪtɪ/ noun the state of being pleasant and easy to talk to

affable /əˈfæbl/ adj pleasant and easy to talk to. Synonym genial. Antonym unfriendly

affability /əˈfæbəlɪtɪ/ noun the state of being pleasant and easy to talk to

affection /əˈfɛkʃən/ noun a feeling of liking or love

affectionate /əˈfɛkʃənət/ adj showing love. Synonym loving

affectionately /əˈfɛkʃənəti/ adv in a loving way

affidavit /ˌɛfiˈdevɪt/ noun a written statement which is signed and sworn before a solicitor and which can then be used as evidence in court

affiliate noun /əˈfɪliət/ a company formally associated with another one ○ We have affiliates in several European countries. Synonym associate

affiliated /əˈfɪliətɪd/ adj connected to or with another as an affiliate

affiliation /əˈfɪliəˈʃən/ noun the act or fact of being affiliated. Synonym association

affinity /əˈfɪni/ noun the fact of being similar in character ○ to feel an affinity for to feel a special link with someone or something ○ She feels an affinity for homeless people.

affirm /əˈfɜːm/ verb 1. to state publicly that something is true 2. to make a statement in court that you will tell the truth, though this is not sworn on oath

affirmation /əˈfɜːrmeɪʃən/ noun 1. a statement that something is true 2. a statement in court that you will tell the truth, though this is not sworn on oath

affirmative /əˈfɜːrmətɪv/ adj meaning ‘yes’. Antonym negative

affix verb /əˈfɪks/ to fix something in place (formal) ○ He affixed the seal to the contract. ○ There is no need to affix a stamp on a pre-paid envelope. Synonym attach. Antonym remove

affix noun /əˈfɪks/ a group of letters added to the beginning or end of a word to make a new word

afflict /əˈfɪlkrt/ verb (of a serious problem or illness) to make someone suffer (formal)

affliction /əˈfɪlkʃən/ noun (formal) 1. an illness affecting someone physically or mentally 2. something that causes distress

affluence /əˈfljuəns/ noun wealth. Synonym prosperity. Antonym poverty

affluent /əˈfljuənt/ adj very rich. Synonym wealthy

afford /əˈfɔːrd/ verb to have enough money, time or other resources to do something ○ We can’t afford to run a large car these days. ○ He couldn’t afford the time to take a holiday. (NOTE: only used after can, cannot, could, could not, able to, unable to)
ter the other.

/ˈkʌtʃɪəs/ noun an action which in-
sults someone • verb to insult someone • Insult. Antonym insult. Antonym compliment

/ˈfeɪld/ adv • far afield a long way
away • People come from far afield to visit the grave.

/ˈflaʊt/ adv 1. floating, not sinking ○ She kept afloat by holding on to a piece of
wood. ○ Our boat was driven onto the beach by the storm, but we managed to get it afloat
again. 2. (of a company) not in financial dif-
culties ○ I wonder how they manage to stay
afloat when the market is so difficult.

/ˈfʊt/ adv in the process of being
planned

/ˈfɔːriən/ adj mentioned earlier • noun someone
or something mentioned earlier

afraid /ˈfreɪd/ adv 1. frightened of some-
thing ○ I am afraid of snakes. ○ He is too
afraid to climb the ladder. 2. ○ to be afraid
(that) to be sorry to say ○ I’m afraid that all
the cakes have been sold. ○ You can’t see the
boss – I’m afraid he’s ill. ○ Have you got a
pocket calculator? – No, I’m afraid not.

afresh /ˈfres/ adv again. Synonym anew

African /ˈæfrɪkən/ adj referring to Africa
African American /ˈæfrɪkən ˈɛmərɪkən/ noun
an American whose ancestors came from Africa
African Caribbean /ˈæfrɪkən ˈkærɪbən/ noun
someone from the Caribbean whose ancestors
came from Africa

Afro- /ˈæfraʊ/ prefix, African, or between Af-
rica and another country

Afro-Caribbean /ˈæfraʊ ˈkærɪbɪən/ noun
same as African Caribbean

affair /ˈeɪʃər/ adv in the back of a ship or plane.

after /ˈeɪʃər/ prep 1. following or next in
order to ○ If today is Tuesday, the day after
tomorrow is Thursday. ○ They spoke one af-
ter the other. ○ What’s the letter after Q in
the alphabet? ○ after you you go first ○ af-
ter you with the milk pass me the milk when
you have finished with it (informal) 2. later
than ○ We arrived after six o’clock. ○ We
don’t let the children go out alone after dark.
3. ○ what’s she after? what does she want?
(informal) 4. conj later than a time ○ After the
snow fell, the motorways were blocked. ○
Phone me after you get home. (NOTE: after
is used with many verbs: to look after, to
take after, etc.) ○ after all 1. in spite of ev-
ything 2. the fact is ○ to be after some-
one (informal) 1. to be looking for someone

affordable /ˈɑːfərdəb(ə)l/ adj which can be
afforded. Synonym reasonable. Antonym
expensive

after /ˈeɪʃər/ noun an action which in-
sults someone • verb to insult someone • Insult. Antonym insult. Antonym compliment

after /ˈfiːld/ adv • far afield a long way
away ○ People come from far afield to visit the grave.

afl0at /ˈflaʊt/ adv 1. floating, not sinking ○ She kept afloat by holding on to a piece of
wood. ○ Our boat was driven onto the beach by the storm, but we managed to get it afloat
again. 2. (of a company) not in financial dif-
culties ○ I wonder how they manage to stay
afloat when the market is so difficult.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>age</strong></th>
<th>15</th>
<th><strong>agonize</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>someone proposes</td>
<td>it's against the rules,</td>
<td>against the law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>age /ɛdʒ/</td>
<td>noun 1.</td>
<td>the number of years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aged adj 1.</td>
<td>/ɛdʒd/</td>
<td>with the age of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>age group /ɛdʒ ɡruːp/</td>
<td>noun</td>
<td>all the people of a particular age.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>age limit /'ɛdʒ ˈlɪmɪt/</td>
<td>noun</td>
<td>the youngest or oldest age at which you are allowed to do something</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agenda /ˈedʒənda/</td>
<td>noun a list of points for discussion</td>
<td>what are we going to discuss?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| age of consent /ˈedʒə əˈkɒnsent/ | noun | the age at which someone can legally agree to have sex | age-old adj, adv | which has existed for a long time | aggravate /'ægərveɪt/ | verb 1. | to make something worse | to annoy someone | aggravating /'ægərveɪtɪŋ/ | adj who or which annoys someone (informal). | Synonym annoying.
| aggregate /'ægərgrət/ | noun 1. | a total of everything added together | on aggregate, in the aggregate as a final total | Liverpool won 7–2 on aggregate. | 2. | a mixture of sand and gravel used to make roads | aggression /'ægərʃən/ | noun a feeling of anger against someone that is expressed, especially in physical force | an act of aggression an attack on someone | aggressive /'ægresɪv/ | adj ready to attack someone | aggressively /'ægresɪvli/ | adv as if wanting to attack someone |
| aggressiveness /'ægresɪvnoun/ | noun | the state of being aggressive towards someone | aggressor /'ægresə noun a person or country that attacks another. | Synonym attacker |
| aggrieved /'æɡriːvd/ | adv annoyed because you have been badly treated | aggro /'ægrəʊ/ | noun violent quarrelling or disagreement | aghast /'æɡast/ | adj filled with horror and amazement. | Synonym horrified. | Antonym unaffected |
| agile /ˈedʒəli/ | adj that can move easily | agility /'ægləti/ | noun the fact of being agile. | Synonym clumsiness |
| age-old | 15 | graphene | all | agog very eager | They were all agog to hear her story. | agonise /'æɡənaɪz/ | agonize verb to spend a lot of time worrying about something | to agonize over a decision to worry about a decision |
| agony /'ægəni/ | noun | extreme pain |
agony aunt

agony aunt /eɪˈgɒni ənt/ noun a person who writes an agony column.

agony column /eɪˈgɒni ˈkʌləm/ noun a newspaper column giving advice on personal problems.

agreed /əgrɪd/ verb 1. to say yes 2. Most of the group agreed with her suggestion. 3. After some discussion he agreed to our plan. (NOTE: You agree to or on a plan.)

agreement /əˈɡrɪmənt/ noun 1. the act of saying ‘ah!’ as someone as possible 2. to agree to be in agreement with (formal) 3. Are they all agreeable to the plan?

agreedly /əˈɡrɪdli/ adverb pleasantly agreed /əˈɡrɪd/ adjectiv which has been accepted. Synonym decided

agreement /əˈɡrɪmənt/ noun 1. the act or fact of thinking the same 2. to come to an agreement on salaries 3. Agreement between the two sides is still a long way off. 4. they are in agreement with our plan 5. We discussed the plan with them and they are in agreement. 6. a contract 7. to draw up or to draft an agreement 8. We signed an agreement with the Italian company.

agricultural /əˈɡrɪkʃəl/ adjective referring to agriculture

agricultural labourer /əɡrɪkʃəl ləˈbɔːrər/ noun a person who does heavy work on a farm

agriculture /əˈɡrɪkʃər/ noun the practice of growing crops or raising animals on farms. Synonym: cultivation

aground /əˈɡraʊnd/ adverb stuck on sand or rocks, not afloat 2. the ship ran aground

ah /ə/ interjection showing surprise 3. an act of saying ‘ah!’ 4. The audience let out ‘oohs!’ and ‘ahs!’ as they watched the lion tamers.

aha /ə/ interjection showing that something has been discovered, especially expressing satisfaction or excitement

ahead /əˈhɛd/ adverb in front 2. Our team was losing, but now we are ahead again.

ahoy /əˈhɔɪ/ interjection used by sailors to call an other ship

aerial /əˈriəl/ adjective 2. artificial intelligence

aid /eɪd/ noun 1. help 2. aid to Third World countries 3. aid worker 4. in aid of to help 5. We give money in aid of the Red Cross.

aide /eɪd/ noun a person employed to assist someone important.

AIDS /aɪdz/ noun a viral infection which breaks down the body’s immune system 2. a clinic for people with AIDS.

aim /eɪm/ verb 1. to plan to do something 2. We aim to go on holiday in June 3. to point a weapon at something 4. He was not aiming at the target.

aimless /eɪmləs/ adjective without any particular plan.

aimlessly /eɪməli/ adverb without any particular plan

air /eə/ noun 1. a mixture of gases, mainly oxygen and nitrogen, which cannot be seen, but which is all around us and which every animal breathes 2. His breath was like steam in the cold air. 3. He threw the ball up into the air.

air conditioned /eəˈkændɪʃənd/ adjective having the temperature controlled by an air conditioner.

air-conditioned /eəˈkændɪʃənd/ noun a device which filters and cools the air in a room

air-conditioning /eəˈkændɪʃəŋ/ noun a system of controlling the temperature in a place such as a room or a train

aircraft /eəˈkraːft/ noun a machine which flies in the air 2. The passengers got
aerial, airport, Synonym airstrip
air force /ˈɛə fɔːr/ noun a country's military air organisation
air freshener /ˈɛə frɛʃənə/ noun a substance which makes the air in a room smell fresh and clean
air hostess /ˈɛə həʊstəs/ noun a woman flight attendant (dated)
airing cupboard /ˈɛə rɪŋ kʌbəd/ noun a warm cupboard where clothes can be aired
airless /ˈɛələs/ adj without any air. Synonym stuffy
air letter /ˈɛə ˈlɛtə/ noun a special sheet of thin blue paper which when folded can be sent by airmail without an envelope
airlift /ˈɛəlɪft/ noun an emergency transporting of something by air ★ verb to transport someone or something by air in an emergency ○ The climbers airlifted to safety. Synonym fly
airline /ˈɛə laɪn/ noun a company which runs air services ○ He's an airline pilot. ○ The airline has been voted the most popular with business travellers.
airliner /ˈɛə lɪnər/ noun a large aircraft that carries passengers
airmail /ˈɛəmeɪl/ noun a way of sending letters or parcels by air ★ verb to send letters or parcels by air ○ We airmailed the documents to New York.
airman /ˈɛəmən/ noun a man who serves in an air force (NOTE: The plural is airmen.)
airplane /ˈɛəplɛn/ noun US an aeroplane
airport /ˈɛəpɔːrt/ noun a place where aircraft land and take off ○ You can take the underground to the airport. ○ We are due to arrive at Heathrow Airport at midday.
airport tax /ˈɛəpɔːrt tæks/ noun a tax added to the price of an air ticket to cover the cost of running an airport
air raid /ˈɛə rɛd/ noun an attack by military aircraft
airship /ˈɛəʃɪp/ noun a large balloon driven by an engine
airsickness /ˈɛəsɪnskəs/ noun the feeling of being sick while in an aircraft. Synonym travel sickness
airspace /ˈɛəspɛs/ noun the air above a country
airstream /ˈɛəstrɛm/ noun a flow of air in a particular direction

airstrip /ˈɛəstrɪp/ noun a small runway
airtight /ˈɛətʃt/ adj which does not allow air to get in or out
air time /ˈɛə tʌm/ noun 1. the amount of time that is given to a programme or subject in radio or TV broadcasting 2. the time at which a programme or item is to be broadcast
air travel controller /ˈɛə ˈtræfɪk kənˈtrɒlə/ noun a person on land who gives instructions for the movements of aircraft as they land or take off
airwaves /ˈɛəwɛvz/ plural noun 1. ○ on the airwaves on the radio (old) ○ His was a familiar voice on the airwaves in the 1950s. 2. the way in which radio signals move through the air
airport tax /ˈɛəpɔːrt tɛks/ noun 1. a name given to an airline 2. a passage for air
airportiness /ˈɛə ˌwɜːdnəs/ noun the safety of an aircraft for use
airy /ˈɛəri/ adj 1. full of fresh air 2. vague and not likely to be put into practice (NOTE: airier – airiest)
air-fairy /ˈɛəri ˈfɛri/ adj not possible to put into practice (informal) Synonym vague
aisle /ˈɛɪsl/ noun 1. a gangway between seats in something such as a plane, theatre or church 2. a gangway between shelves in a supermarket 3. a side part of a church (NOTE: Do not confuse with isle.)
aisle seat /ˈɛɪsl sɛt/ noun a seat which is next to an aisle
ajar /ˈə dʒər/ adj slightly open
aka abbr also known as
akin /əˈkɪn/ adj akin to similar to ○ She experienced a sensation akin to burning on her skin.
à la carte /ə la ˈkɑrt/ adv, adj made of several dishes ordered separately from a menu
alacrity /əˈlækrəti/ noun speed ★ with alacrity fast ★ alarm /əˈlærm/ noun 1. a loud warning ○ An alarm will sound if someone touches the wire. ★ to raise the alarm to warn everyone of danger ○ it was a false alarm it was a wrong warning 2. the fact or feeling of being afraid ○ The expression on his face increased her alarm. ○ There's no cause for alarm, the injection won't hurt at all. ★ verb to frighten someone ○ I don't want to alarm you, but the police say a dangerous criminal has been seen in the village. Synonym worry. Antonym calm
alarm bells /əˈlærm bɛlz/ plural noun an indication that something unpleasant or dangerous will happen
alarm clock /əˈlærm klk/ noun a clock which rings a bell to wake you up
alarmed /əˈlærmd/ adj worried and frightened. Synonym worried
alarming /əˈlærɪŋ/ adj frightening. Synonym disturbing. Antonym soothing
alarmist /əˈlærɪmst/ noun someone who makes people feel frightened or worried when they do not need to • adj which makes people feel frightened or worried when they do not need to • an alarmist report
alias /ˈaɪliəs/ interj showing sadness ○ He died in the war, alas. ○ Alas, there is no time left to continue the discussion.
albatross /ˈælbətrəs/ noun a very large white sea bird which flies for long distances (NOTE: The plural is albatrosses.)
alive /əˈlɪv/ adj & conj although
albino /əlˈbɪnəʊ/ noun an animal or person born with pale skin, white hair, and pink eyes (NOTE: The plural is albinos.)
album /ˈælbəm/ noun 1. a large book 2. a collection of songs on a CD, cassette or record
alcohol /ˈælkəhol/ noun 1. a substance in drinks such as beer or wine, that can make people drunk ○ They will not serve alcohol to anyone under the age of 18.
alcoholic /ˈælkəholɪk/ adj referring to alcohol. Synonym intoxicating • noun a person who depends on alcohol as a drug
alcoholism /ˈælkəholɪzəm/ noun the condition of depending on drinking alcohol regularly
alcove /ˈælkəʊv/ noun a part of the wall of a room which is set back. Synonym recess • ale /ˈæl/ noun a type of British beer, especially bitter beer, but not lager
alert /əˈlɜːt/ adj 1. able to think clearly 2. watching carefully • noun news that something dangerous is happening or going to happen ○ a flood alert. Synonym warning • verb to be on the alert to watch out for something ○ To be alert someone to to warn someone of something ○ She was alerted to the dangers of smoking
A Level /ˈeɪ ˈlev(ə)l/ noun an examination taken by pupils aged 17 or 18  ○ If you pass your A Levels, you can go on to higher education. Full form: advanced level
alfresco /əˈlfreskəʊ/ adj in the open air. Synonym outdoor. Antonym indoor (NOTE: Do not confuse with fresco.)
algae /ˈældʒiːz/ noun very small plants living in water or in wet conditions which have no stems or roots or leaves
algebra /ˈældʒɪbrə/ noun a type of mathematics where letters are used to represent quantities
algebraic /ˈældʒɪbrəɪk/ adj referring to algebra
algorithm /ˈælɡərɪθm/ noun a plan for working out a complicated calculation
alias /ˈɛliəs/ adv also known as ○ John Smith, alias ‘The Bulldog’ • noun a different name that is not the person’s own. Synonym assumed name (NOTE: The plural is aliases.)
alibi /ˈælɪbɪ/ noun a claim that a person charged with a crime was somewhere else when the crime was committed
alien /ˈeɪliən/ adj foreign, from another country. Synonym unfamiliar • noun a person who is from a foreign country • alienate /ˈæliənɪt/ verb 1. to make someone feel unfriendly 2. to make someone not want to support you
alienated /ˈæliənətɪd/ adj not feeling included or welcome, especially in society at large
alight /ˈɔːlɪt/ verb to get off a vehicle (formal) • adj on fire
align /ˈɔːlɪn/ verb 1. to arrange in line with 2. to align yourself with to decide on a similar policy to another country ○ The three neighbouring states aligned themselves with France.
alignment /əˌlɪmənt/ noun 1. a row ○ out of alignment not parallel ○ I think the front wheels are out of alignment. 2. an agreement between people on the same side of an argument. • realignment
alike /əˈlaɪk/ adj very similar. Antonym different • adv in a similar way ○ My sister and I just don’t think alike. ○ The change will affect rich and poor alike.
alimentary canal /ˌælɪmənətri ˈkænl/ noun the tube by which food goes into the stomach, and passes through the body
alimony /ˈælɪmənəri/ noun money paid regularly by someone to a wife or husband they are no longer married to
alive /əˈlɪv/ adj 1. not dead ○ He was still alive when he was rescued, even though he had been in the sea for hours. ○ When my grandfather was alive, there were no supermarkets. (NOTE: not used in front of a noun: the fish is alive but a live fish.) 2. ○ alive to knowing and understanding ○ alive with full of 3. lively ○ The fishing village is rather dead during the day time, but really comes alive at night.
alkali /ˈælkəlaɪ/ noun a substance which reacts with an acid to form a salt and water (NOTE: The British English plural is alkalis, but American English is alkalies.)
alkaline /ˈælkəleɪn/ adj containing more alkali than acid
all /ɔːl/ adj, pron 1. everything or everyone ○ They all or All of them like coffee. ○ All trains stop at Clapham Junction. ○ Did you pick all (of) the tomatoes? ○ Where are all the children? ○ let’s sing the song all together everyone should sing at the same time. 2. ○ fifteen all (in tennis) fifteen points each • adv 1. completely ○ The ground was
alone /L50263

gested, but not proved

being loyal. Synonym

which produces an allergic reaction

2.

out
countries

ment between two or more groups or

are symbols of something else. Synonym

story where the characters represent ideas or

ér

everywhere over something

Allah 19 all right

of the United States

are allergic to grass pollen.

It's been raining hard all day.

It’s all white after the snow fell.

I forgot all

about her birthday. 2. ☑ all by yourself

alone ○ You can’t do it all by yourself.

○ I’m all by myself this evening – my girl-

friend’s gone out. ○ He drove the lorry all by

himself. ○ all along right from the beginning

○ all but almost ○ all in (informal) 1 , tired

out 2 , including everything ○ all over 1 .
ev-erywhere over something 2 . finished 3 .
everywhere

Allah /əˈlaː/ noun the Muslim name for God

a
day

tired

It’s been raining hard all day.

allegation /əˈleɪʒən/ noun the sug-
gestion that someone has possibly done

something wrong

allege /əˈledʒ/ verb to suggest that some-
one may have done something wrong. Syn-

onym claim

alleged /əˈledʒd/ adj suggested. Antonym

confirmed

allegedly /əˈledʒdli/ adv as has been sug-
gested, but not proved

allegiance /əˈlɪdʒiəns/ noun the fact of

being loyal. Synonym loyalty. Antonym

disloyalty

allegorical /əˈlɪgəriəl/ adj referring to

allegory. Synonym metaphorical. Antonym

literal

allegory /əˈlɛgəri/ noun a painting or

story where the characters represent ideas or

are symbols of something else. Synonym

parable

allegro /əˈlɛgrə/ adv, adj (in music)

played fast

allegen /əˈlɛdʒən/ noun a substance

which produces an allergic reaction

allergic /əˈlɛdʒərk/ adj suffering from or

referring to an allergy ○ to be allergic to 1 .
to react badly to a substance ○ Many people

are allergic to grass pollen. ○ She is allergic
to cats. ○ She is allergic to men with beards.

allergy /əˈlɛdʒəri/ noun a bad reaction to a

substance

alleviate /əˈlɛvɪət/ verb to make less pain-

ful. Synonym ease

all /əˈlɛl/ noun a narrow little street

alliance /əˈlɛns/ noun a formal agree-

tment between two or more groups or coun-
	ries

allied /əˈlɛd/ adj 1 . joined in an alliance

2. ☑ allied to combined with ○ His poor

health allied to his age means that he will not

be able to run the marathon.

alligator /əˈlɛɡətər/ noun a large reptile

like a crocodile, found in the southern parts

of the United States

all-important /əˈlɛm ˈɪmˈpɔːrnt/ adj very

important or necessary

all-inclusive /əˈlɛn ˈkwɪsəv/ adj that in-
cludes everything. Synonym comprehensive

all-in rate /əˈlɛn ˈrɛt, əˈlɛn prɪs/ noun a price

which covers everything

alliteration /əˌlɪtəˈreʃən/ noun the prac-
tice of using words which begin with the

same sound to make special effects in poetry

all-night /əˈlɛnt nʌt/ adj lasting, open or

available throughout the night, or throughout

a specific night

allocate /əˈlækət/ verb to give some-
ting out to various people

allocation /əˈlækəʃən/ noun the pro-
cess of giving something as a share

allow /əˈləʊ/ verb to give something to some-
one as a share of something (NOTE: allotting –

allotted)

allotment /əˈləʊmənt/ noun 1 . the process

of giving out money 2 . a piece of land which

belongs to a local council and which can be

rented for growing vegetables

all-out /əˈləʊt/ adj total, involving a lot of

work. Synonym maximum. Antonym

half-hearted

allow /əˈləʊ/ verb 1 . to let someone do

something ○ She allowed me to borrow her

book. ○ Smoking is not allowed in the restaur-

ant. ○ You are allowed to take two pieces of

hand luggage onto the plane. 2 . to give ○ We

will allow you a discount. 3 . to agree or to ac-
cept legally ○ to allow a claim for damages □
to allow for something to provide a certain

amount of time or money for something ○ to

allow 10% extra for postage and packing ○

Allow 28 days for delivery.

allowable /əˈləʊəbl/ adj which can be

allowed. Synonym permissible. Antonym

unacceptable □ allowable expenses exp-
enses which are allowed against tax

allowance /əˈləʊəns/ noun 1 . money

paid regularly 2 . something which is allowed

3. an amount of money which you are al-

lowed to earn without paying tax 4 . □ to

make allowances for to take something into

account ○ You must make allowances for his

age.

alloy /əˈlɔɪ/ noun a mixture of metals ■

verb to mix metals ○ You alloy copper and

zinc to get brass.

all-purpose /əˈpɜːpɔs/ adj which can be

used in many different situations. Antonym

specialised

all right /əˈlɛri/ adj well ○ She was ill

yesterday but is all right now. ■ interj mean-
ing ‘yes’ (NOTE: OK and no problem are

often used in this meaning.)
all-round adj able to do many things well, or useful in a number of different ways, not specialising  adv 1. considering everything 2. for, from or involving everyone
all-rounder /əˈrʊndər/ noun a person who is good at anything
all-star /ˈælstər/ adj with many stars or celebrities. Antonym unknown
all-time /ˈɔːltim/ adj biggest, best, worst, etc. ever (informal) Antonym insignificant
allude /əˈlud/ verb to allude to something to refer to something in an indirect way. He alluded to it in his speech, without giving any details.
alluring /əˈlʊərɪŋ, əˈluərɪŋ/ adj very attractive. Synonym appealing. Antonym repulsive
allusion /əˈluːʒən/ noun referring indirectly to something. Synonym reference
alphabetical /əˈlɪpθəkəl/ adj in order of the first letter of each word. Sort out the address cards into alphabetical order.
almond /ˈɔːlmɔnd/ noun 1. a type of nut 2. same as almond tree
almond tree /ˈɔːlmɔnd trɪz/ noun a tree which produces almonds
almost /ˈɔːlməʊst/ adv nearly. London is almost as far from here as Paris. She’s almost as tall as I am. She’ll eat almost anything. It’s almost time for the train to leave. Synonym nearly
aloof /ˈɔːləʊf/ adv high in the air. Antonym below
alone /ˈɔːləʊn/ adj with no one else. She lives alone with her cats. He was all alone in the shop. We don’t let the children go out alone after dark. I want to talk to you alone. I want the two of us to talk in private. adv to leave someone alone not to disturb someone. Leave that cat alone and come and have your tea.
along /ˈɔːlŋ/ prep 1. by the side of. He has planted fruit trees along both sides of the garden path. The river runs along one side of the castle. 2. from one end to the other. She ran along the pavement. Walk along the street until you come to the post office. adv to get along with someone to agree with or to work well with someone. She doesn’t get along very well with her new boss.
alongside /ˈɔːlŋsɔd/ prep at the side of. The ship was tied up alongside the quay. adv so as to be beside or level with something. We had stopped at a red light when a police car pulled up alongside. Synonym abreast
aloof /ˈɔːlʊf/ adj quiet, private and unfriendly to other people. adv to keep yourself aloof, to stand aloof from to keep separate from, not to get involved with other people. They kept themselves aloof from the rest of the crowd.
aloud /ˈɔːləʊd/ adv in a voice which can be heard
alpha /ˈælfa/ noun the first letter of the Greek alphabet, or a mark showing the best results. Symbol α
alphabet /ˈælβəet/ noun a series of letters in order, e.g. A, B, C, etc. G comes before H in the alphabet. If you’re going to Greece on holiday, you ought to learn the Greek alphabet.
alphabetical /ˌɔːlβəˈtɪkl/ adj referring to the alphabet in alphabetical order in order of the first letter of each word. The words in the dictionary are in alphabetical order. Sort out the address cards into alphabetical order of their names.
alphabetically /ˌɔːlβəˈtɪklɪ/ adv in alphabetical order
alphabetise /ˈælβətɪsaɪz/ verb to put words into alphabetical order, especially automatically
alpine /ˈælpən/ adj referring to high mountains, especially the Alps. Synonym mountainous. A plant which grows on or originally comes from high mountains
already /ˈɔːldʒri/ adv before now or before the time mentioned. I’ve already done my shopping. It was already past ten o’clock when he arrived. I have seen that film already. I have seen that film before. 2. sooner than expected. Have you finished your work already?
alright /ˈɔːlˈrɛt/ adj, adv another spelling of all right
Alsatian /ˈælsətʃən/ noun a type of large dog, often used as a guard dog. Also called German shepherd
also /ˈɔːldʒəʊ/ adv too, in addition. She sings well and can also play the violin. They came to visit us, and their children also came.
alter /ˈɔːltər/ noun a table for important objects in religious ceremonies, especially in a church to lead someone to the altar to marry someone, especially a woman
alter

Grandfather led his wife to the altar when she was only 22 years old.

alter /'ɔltər/ verb to become or make something different. Synonym change (NOTE: Do not confuse with altar.)

alteration /'ɔltərəʃən/ noun an act of becoming different or of making something different. Synonym change, modification

alternative /'ɔltərətʃiv/ adj every other one. Antonym argument

alternately /'ɔltərətli/ adv with one first and then the other. Antonym consecutively

alternative energy /'ɔltərətʃiv tju:nər/ noun energy produced by the sun, the sea or the wind

alternatively /'ɔltərətvi/ adv on the other hand

alternative medicine /'ɔltərətʃiv mi'dēsfn/ noun the treating of diseases by means such as herbal medicines which are not usually used by doctors

alternator /'ɔltərətər/ noun a device which produces alternating current

although /'ɔləfew/ conj in spite of the fact that. Although it was freezing, she didn’t put a coat on. I’ve never been into that shop although I’ve often walked past it.

allot /'ɔltət/ verb to give something to someone

altitude /'ɔltətju:d/ noun height above sea level

altitude sickness /'ɔltətju:d ski:niss/ noun a condition caused by lack of oxygen because of being at a high altitude, as when you are on a mountain

alto /'ɔltəu/ noun 1, a high singing voice of a man or boy. 2, a man or boy with a high voice (NOTE: The plural is altos.)

altogether /'ɔltətju:də/ adv 1. taking everything together. 2. completely. 3. complete. 4. all the time.

ambassador /'æmbəsədər/ noun a person who is regarded as a representative or a symbol of something
amber /ˈæmbr/ adj yellow-orange coloured noun 1. a yellow to dark brown substance, which can be used for making jewellery 2. an orange traffic light

ambidextrous /ˌæmˈbɪdɛkstrəs/ adj able to use either the right or left hand equally well

ambience /ˈæmbiəns/ noun the character and general feeling of a place. Synonym atmosphere

ambitious /ˈæmbrɪʃəs/ adj with high aims

ambivalence /ˈæmbrəlɪvəns/ noun the state of not being sure about something. Synonym uncertainty

ambivalent /ˈæmbrəlɪvənt/ adj not sure or decided. Synonym unsure

amble /ˈæmbəl/ verb to walk in a relaxed way without hurrying. Synonym stroll. Antonym dash

a surprise attack by people who have been hiding. The enemy lay in ambush beside the path. (NOTE: The plural is ambushes.)

amblance /ˈæmbləns/ noun a van which carries sick or injured people. When she fell down the stairs, her husband called an ambulance.

amoeba /əˈmɪbiə/ noun another spelling of ameba

amelioration /əˈmiːlɪərəʃ(ə)n/ noun the process of becoming better. Synonym improvement. Antonym deterioration

amen /əˈmɛn, əˈmiːn/ interj meaning ‘let this be so’ used at the end of Christian prayers. I say amen to that I agree with that

amenable /əˈmɛnəb(ə)l/ adj easy-going, not difficult. Synonym agreeable

amend /əˈmɛnd/ verb to change for the better. Synonym alter

amendment /əˈmɛndmənt/ noun 1. a change intended to make something better. a change to a law or proposal

amends /əˈmɛndz/ noun 0 to make amends for something to compensate, e.g. for an injury

amenity /əˈmiːntɪ/ noun a feature that makes a place attractive, enjoyable or comfortable to be in

American /əˈmɛrɪkən/ adj referring to the United States noun a person from the United States

American football /əˈmɛrɪkən ˈfʊtbɔːl/ noun a type of football played in the United States (NOTE: The US term is simply football: soccer is used in US English to refer to what is simply football in British English.)

American Indian /əˈmɛrɪkən ˈɪndjən/ noun (dated) a Native American adj referring to Native Americans

Americanise /əˈmɛrɪkənɪz/ Americanize verb to take on or give someone or something qualities which are associated with the United States

American War of Independence /əˈmɛrɪkən ˈwɔːr / noun a war from 1775 to 1786 between the American colonies and Britain, by which the colonies became independent and formed the United States

amethyst /əˈmiːθɪst/ noun a purple stone from which jewellery can be made

amicable /əˈmɪkləb(ə)l/ adj friendly and pleasant

amid /əˈmɪd/ prep in the middle of

amidships /əˈmɪdʃps/ adv in the middle of a ship

amongst /əˈmɪdz/ prep in the middle of the

amino acid /əˈmɪnəʊ ˈæsid/ noun one of the chemicals that combine to make protein. Humans are only able to produce some amino acids in their bodies, so others have to be absorbed from food.

amiss /əˈmɪs/ adv, adj □ something is amiss something is wrong, there is a problem

they checked the engine, but nothing seemed to be amiss. □ don’t take it amiss don’t be annoyed

ammonia /əˈmaʊniə/ noun a strong poisonous gas or liquid used in cleaning products

ammunition /ˌæmjʊˈnʃ(ə)n/ noun objects such as bombs and bullets, which can be fired from weapons (NOTE: no plural)

amnesia /əˈmɪnɪsɪə/ noun a medical state when you forget everything

amnesty /əˈmənɪstɪ/ noun a period during which criminals will not be punished

amniotic fluid /ˌæmnɪtɪtɪk ˈflʌɪd/ noun the liquid surrounding a baby before it is born

amoeba /əˈmɪbiə/ ameba /əˈmɪba/ noun a living thing which consists of a single cell
amoebic (NOTE: The plural is amoebas or amoebae /əˈmiːbəz/)
amoebic /əˈmiːbɪk/ adj caused by an amoeba
amok /əˈmɒk/ adv □ to run amok to behave in a frightfully uncontrolled way
among /əˈmɒŋ/ prep in addition to other people or things
amoral /əˈmɒrəl/ adj not caring about right and wrong. Synonym unprincipled
amorous /əˈmɔːrəs/ adj showing sexual love. Synonym ardent. Antonym dispassionate
amorphous /əˈmɔːfəs/ adj with no particular shape
amount /əˈmɑːnt/ noun a quantity of something such as money ○ The amount in my bank account has reached £1,000. ○ This make of car uses by far the least amount of petrol. □ a certain amount some ○ The storm did a certain amount of damage.
amp /əm/p noun a piece of equipment which can make sounds louder
ampersand /ˈæmpərˌsænd/ noun a printing sign (&) meaning ‘and’
amphetamine /ˈæməˈfetəmɪn/ noun a drug which is supposed to increase the user’s energy levels
amphibian /əmˈfɪbɪən/ noun an animal that lives both in water and on land
amphibious /əmˈfɪbɪəs/ adj living both in water and on land
amphitheatre /əmˈθaɪθiətər/ noun 1. a circular Greek or Roman theatre 2. a semi-circular lecture hall (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is amphitheater.)
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amplification /əmˈplɪfɪkʃən/ noun 1. the process of making a sound louder 2. a more detailed explanation
amplifier /əmˈplɪfɪər/ noun a piece of equipment which makes sound louder
amplify /əmˈplɪfɪə/ verb 1. to make a sound louder 2. to explain something in more detail
amputate /əmˈpjuːtət/ verb to cut off an arm, leg, finger or toe
amputation /əmˈpjuːʃən/ noun cutting off an arm, leg, finger or toe
amuse /əˈmjuːz/ verb 1. to make someone laugh 2. to make the time pass pleasantly □ to amuse yourself to play or get pleasure from what you are doing ○ The children amused themselves quietly while their parents talked.
amused /əˈmjuːzd/ adj thinking that something is funny. Antonym annoyed □ to keep someone amused to keep someone interested and happy ○ This jigsaw will keep the children amused for hours.
amusement /əˈmjuːznənt/ noun 1. pleasure 2. □ to someone’s amusement making someone laugh ○ Much to her amusement, the band played ‘Happy Birthday to you!’
amusement arcade /əˈmjuːznənt ɑːkˈrɛd/ noun a place with machines for playing games
amusement park /əˈmjuːznənt pɑːrk/ noun an open-air park with various types of entertainment. Synonym funfair
amusing /əˈmjuːznɪŋ/ adj funny. Synonym entertaining ○ an /ən, æn/ a
anachronism /əˈnɑːkroʊnɪzəm/ noun a thing which is out of date and does not belong to the present time. Synonym relic
anaesthetist /əˈnɛsθɛtɪst/ noun a person whose job is to give patients anaesthetics (NOTE: The US term is anesthesiologist.)
anagram /ənˈɡræm/ noun a word or phrase containing the letters of another word or phrase in a different order, e.g. ‘Cathy’ is an anagram of ‘yacht’
anal /ənˈəl/ adj referring to the anus
analgesic /ənˈəlˌdʒɛsɪk/ adj killing pain □ noun a painkilling drug. Synonym painkiller
analogous /ənˈləɡəs/ adj similar. Antonym different
analogue /ənˈləɡ/ noun an example or model of something. Antonym illustration
anaesthesia /əˈnɛsθiəsiə/ noun the loss of feeling after being given an anaesthetic (NOTE: The US spelling is anesthesiology.)
anesthetic /əˈnɛsθətɪk/ noun a substance given to a patient to remove feeling, so that he or she can have an operation without feeling pain (NOTE: The US spelling is anesthetic)
ananas /ˈænənəs/ noun 1. a type of large tropical fruit 2. a long, flat, fruit with a thick skin, a white centre and brown seeds (NOTE: The US spelling is pineapple)
analogous /əˈnələgəs/ adj similar. Antonym different
anaesthetic /əˈnɛsθɛtɪk/ adj causing unconsciousness, dizziness or painless operation (NOTE: The US term is anesthesiologist.)
appearance /əˈpærəns/ noun the way people or things look. Antonym invisibility
appear /əˈpɪər/ verb 1. to become visible ○ This tree will appear in about a week. ○ The sun will appear at six o’clock. 2. to have an effect ○ The new law seems to have appeared to reduce crime.
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analogy 24

analogy /əˈneɪdʒəli/ noun a similarity between two things. Antonym contrast ☐ to draw an analogy between to show how two things are similar ☐ He drew an analogy between raising children and growing plants.

analysis /əˈneɪlɪsɪs/ noun a close examination of the parts or elements of something ☐ job analysis ☐ to make an analysis of the sales or a sales analysis ☐ to carry out an analysis of the market potential (NOTE: The plural is analyses /əˈneɪlɪsɪz/) 

analyst /əˈnælist/ noun 1. a person who carries out analyses. 

analytical /əˈnælɪtɪk(ə)/ adj examining something in detail

anarchic /əˈnærɪk/, anarchical /ə-nærɪk(ə)/ adj without any law or order

anarchist /əˈnærst/ noun a person who tries to destroy a government by violent means, without planning to replace it in any way. Synonym revolutionary

anarchy /əˈnærki/ noun a lack of law and order, because the government has lost control or because there is no government (NOTE: no plural)

anathema /əˈneɪθəmə/ noun a thing which you dislike very much ☐ it’s anathema to her she dislikes it very much ☐ His way of teaching is anathema to the older teachers.

anatomical /əˈnætomɪk(ə)/ adj referring to the structure of the body

anatomy /əˈnætəmi/ noun 1. the structure of the body or of part of the body 2. a detailed examination (NOTE: plural in sense 1 and 2 is anatomies) 3. the study of the structure of the body 4. your own body

ancestor /əˈnɛstɜːr/ noun a member of a family who has been dead for a long time

ancestral /əˈnɛstərəl/ adj referring to a family over many generations

ancestry /əˈnɛstɜːri/ noun your family going back over a long period. Synonym lineage ☐ she is of French ancestry originally her family came from France

anchor /əˈnɜːkər/ noun a large metal hook which holds a ship in place ☐ to drop anchor to let an anchor fall to the bottom of the sea to hold a ship steady ☐ The ship dropped anchor in the bay. ■ verb 1. (of a ship) to drop an anchor to stay in the same place 2. to hold something firmly in position

anchorman /əˈnɜːkərmən/ noun the main presenter on a TV news show. Synonym newscaster

anchovy /ənˈtʃɔvɪ/ noun a small, very salty fish (NOTE: The plural is anchovies.)

ancient /əˈɛntʃænt/ adj very old ☐ She’s studying ancient history. ☐ He was riding an ancient bicycle.

ancillary workers /ənˈsɪləri ,ənˈsɛktri/ plural noun staff such as cleaners or classroom helpers who work with professional people in hospitals or schools

and /ænd, ənd/ conj used to join two words or phrases ☐ All my uncles and aunts live in the country. ☐ The children were running about and singing. ☐ Come and sit down next to me. (NOTE: and is used to say numbers after 100: seven hundred and two (702))

andante /ənˈdɛntɪ/ adv, adj (in music) played fairly slowly

anecdotal /əˈnɛktə(ʊ)l/ adj coming from stories of individual people. Synonym subjective. Antonym objective

anecdotal evidence /əˈnɛktəl əˈvɪdəns/ noun evidence which comes in the form of stories told by individual people

anecdote /əˈnɛktət/ noun a usually humorous story based on something which has taken place

anemone /əˈnɛməni/ noun a small flower

new /njuː/ adv again (formal)

angel /ˈeŋɡəl/ noun 1. a heavenly being 2. a sweet, kind person 3. a person who provides money for a theatre production

angelic /əˈnɛdʒɪkl/ adj 1. very beautiful 2. appearing to be kind and good. Synonym angelic. Antonym wicked

anger /ˈæŋɡər/ noun the feeling of being very angry ☐ I felt no anger, only great disappointment. Synonym annoyance.

anxious /əˈnæksəs/ adj verb to make someone annoyed ☐ Her lateness angered him. Synonym annoy. Antonym pacify

angina /əˈngɪnə/ noun severe pains in the centre of the chest, caused by not enough blood being supplied to the heart muscles

angle /ˈæŋɡəl/ noun 1. a corner between two lines ☐ She planted the tree in the angle of the two walls. ☐ at an angle to not straight or upright in relation to ☐ The bookcase is at an angle to the wall. 2. a point of view ☐ What’s the government’s angle on the story?

angle bracket /ˈæŋɡəl ˈbrækɪt/ noun a printed symbol < or >, used around text, especially in instructions for a computer

angle for /ˈæŋɡəl fɔːr/ verb to try to get something ☐ he was just angling for compliments he was trying to get someone to say nice things about him

angler /ˈæŋɡələ/ noun a person who goes fishing for pleasure

Anglican /ˈæŋɡlɪkən/ adj referring to the Anglican Church ■ noun a member of the Anglican Church
Anglican Church 25 annul

Anglican Church noun the Protestant church which is the official religion of England, with the Queen as its head, and other similar churches in other countries. Also called Church of England.

angling noun the sport of catching fish with a rod.

angry /ˈæŋgri/ adv in an angry way.

angrier /ˈæŋgriər/ adj.

angrily /ˈæŋgriəli/ adv.

angrily /ˈæŋgriəli/ adv.

angrily /ˈæŋgriəli/ adv.

angry /ˈæŋgri/ adj.

annihilate /əˈnaːliːteɪt/ verb to destroy something completely.

annihilation /əˈnaːlɪˈkeɪʃ(ə)n/ noun total destruction. Antonym protection.

anniversary /əˈnɪvərəsɪ/ noun the same date as an important event that happened in the past.

annotate /əˈnætət/ verb to add notes to a text. Synonym gloss.

annotation /əˈnætəʃ(ə)n/ noun.

announcer /əˈnaʊnər/ noun a person who reads the news or announces programmes on radio or TV. Synonym presenter.

annoy /əˈnɔɪ/ verb to make someone feel angry or impatient. Synonym irritate.

annoyance /əˈnɔɪəns/ noun a feeling of being annoyed. Synonym irritation.

annual /əˈnjuːrəl/ adj making you angry or impatient.

annually /əˈnjuːləli/ adv every year.

annuity /əˈnuːtɪ/ noun an amount of money paid to someone each year. Synonym pension.

ankle /ˈæŋkə/ noun the part of the body where your leg joins your foot.

ankle sock /ˈæŋkəl ˈsɔk/ noun one of a pair of short socks.

annex /əˈnɛks/ verb to take possession of land which belongs to another state.

annexation /əˈnɛksəʃ(ə)n/ noun attaching one country to another.

annex /əˈnɛks/ noun.

annulled /əˈnɔːld/ verb.

annul /əˈnaːl/ verb 1. to stop something having a legal effect 2. to end a marriage by stat-
thing she liked. dress after another, but couldn't find any-

son as part of a religious ceremony

answerable to someone for something

affected by anorexia

proof jacket, sometimes with a hood

anomalies

call for help to someone who has spoken to you or asked you a

spoke to you or asked you a question. Synonym answer

1. to reply, to speak or write words to some -

2. in answer to a reply, letter or

answer to your letter of October 6th. ■ noun ■ the

anterolateral

answer

anorexia /ˈærərɛkˈsɪə/ noun a condition caused by an extreme fear of becoming fat and marked by ill health as a result of not eating enough

anorexic /ˈærərɛkˈsɪk/ adj referring to or affected by anorexia

an other adj, pron one more ○ I’d like another one of those cakes, please. ○ Would you like another drink? 2. a different one ○ He’s bought another car. ○ She tried on one dress after another, but couldn’t find anything she liked. each other, one another

answer /ˈɑːnsər/ verb a reply, letter or communication after someone has written or spoken to you, asking you a question ○ I phoned his office but there was no answer. ○ Have you had an answer to your letter yet? ○ in answer to as a reply to ○ I am writing in answer to your letter of October 6th. ■ verb 1. to reply, to speak or write words to someone who has spoken to you or asked you a question ○ He never answers my letters. ○ When he asked us if we had enjoyed the meal we all answered ‘yes’. 2. □ to answer the phone to speak and listen to a telephone caller ○ When I called, it was his secretary who answered the phone. □ to answer the door to open the door when someone knocks or rings ○ He jumped out of the shower and answered the door dripping wet with a towel round his waist.

answerable /ˈɑːnsərəbl/ adj ○ to be answerable to someone for something to be responsible to someone for your actions ○ The manager is answerable to the directors for the smooth running of the office.

answer back /ˈɑːnsər ˈbæk/ verb to speak to someone in a rude way. Synonym retort

annulling – annull

annulment /əˈnʌlmənt/ noun the ending of a marriage or a contract by stating that it does not exist

anode /ˈænəd/ noun a positive terminal on a piece of electrical equipment

anoint /əˈnɔɪnt/ verb to put oil on a person as part of a religious ceremony

anomalies

anonymity /ˌænəˈnɪməti/ noun the hiding of your real name

anonymous /əˈnɒnəməs/ adj without stating a name

anorak /ˈænərək/ noun 1. a warm waterproof jacket, sometimes with a hood (NOTE: The US term is windbreaker or parka.) 2. someone who is too interested in a particular subject, especially one that seems unfashionable or dull to other people (informal)

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answerphone /ˈɑːnsərˈfəʊn/ noun a machine which answers the telephone automatically when someone is not in the office or at home, and allows messages to be recorded

ant /ˈænt/ noun a small insect that lives in large groups

antagonise /ˌæntˌɡoʊˈneɪz/ verb to make someone feel angry or impatient. Synonym provoke. Antonym mollify

antagonism /ˌæntˌɡoʊˈnɪzɪz/ noun a strong feeling of dislike towards someone

antagonistic /ˌæntˌɡoʊˈnɪstɪk/ adj disliking someone very much. Synonym aggressive. Antonym friendly • antagonistic to or towards something very much against something ○ The demonstrations against fox-hunting just show how antagonistic these people are to the idea. ○ You would never believe how antagonistic she was towards my plan.

antarctic /ˌæntəˈrɛktɪk/ adj referring to the area round the South Pole ■ noun ■ the Antarctic the area round the South Pole

antedate /ˈɑːntəˈdeɪt/ verb 1. to put an earlier date on a cheque 2. to happen or exist earlier than something else

antelope /ˈæntələp/ noun an African deer which can run very fast (NOTE: usually no plural: a herd of antelopes)

antenatal /ˈæntənˈteɪtl/ adj before birth

antenna /ˈæntənə/ noun 1. a tube on the head of an insect, used to feel things (NOTE: The plural is antennae /ˈæntənɪz/) 2. a piece of equipment for receiving radio or TV signals (NOTE: The plural is antennae /ˈæntənɪz/) 3. a collection of stories or poems (NOTE: The plural is anthologies)

anthem /ˈænθəm/ noun a song for a group of singers

another /ˈɑːnər/ noun the part of a flower that carries pollen

anthology /ənˈθɔlǝdʒɪ/ noun a collection of stories or poems (NOTE: The plural is anthologies)

anthrax /ˈænθræks/ noun a serious disease of cows and sheep, which can be caught by people

anthropoid /ˌænthrəˈpɔɪd/ noun an ape which is like a human □ adj similar to a human

anthropological /ˌænthrəˈpɒlədʒɪk/ adj referring to the study of people and their cultures

anthropologist /ˌænthrəˈpɒlədʒɪst/ noun a scientist who studies people and culture
which produces antibodies because you see something is about to happen.

\[ L50263 \]

places at university.

\[ /L50263 \]

which balances the effect of a poison in the opposite direction to the hands of a clock. He was driving anticlockwise round the ring road when the accident took place. (NOTE: The plural is anticlockwise.)

\[ /L50263 \]

an area of high pressure usually associated with fine dry weather in summer and fog in winter. Compare cyclone

\[ /L50263 \]

an adjective used to treat a person suffering from depression

\[ /L50263 \]

a drug which balances the effect of a poison something which balances a bad influence

\[ /L50263 \]

a substance which produces antibodies

\[ /L50263 \]

a drug which controls the effects of an allergy

\[ /L50263 \]

referring to or coming from Australia or New Zealand.

\[ /L50263 \]

very old and out-of-date. Antonym

\[ /L50263 \]
anybody
She’s been in hospital for two weeks and isn’t any better. Can’t you sing any louder?

apostrophe

apartheid /əˈpaːθət/ noun a policy in the past in South Africa of separating black people from the white population

apartment /əˈpɑːt̄mənt/ noun a separate room for living in

apathetic /ˌæpəˈθɛtɪk/ adj not caring about anything, not interested in anything. Synonym indifferent. Antonym enthusiastic

apathy /ˌæpəˈθɛti/ noun not having any interest in anything. Synonym indifference

(NOTE: no plural)
apes /əˈpiːz/ plural is apes.
apheid /əˈpaɪn/ noun a large monkey

ape /əp/ noun a large monkey

apology /əˈpɒlədʒi/ noun a printing sign (‘), either showing that a letter has been left out or to show possession

apostrophe /əˈpɔstrəfi/ noun a printing sign (‘), either showing that a letter has been left out or to show possession: before an ‘s’ with singular words, after the ‘s’ with plural words (a boy’s coat, the girls’ team).
appeal /əˈpɛl/ verb, to shock or offend someone very much (NOTE: The US spelling is appeal.)
appealled /əˈpɛld/ adj very shocked. Synonym horrified. Antonym delighted
appalling /əˈpɛlɪŋ/ adj horrible, shocking
apparatus /əˈpærətəs/ noun scientific or medical equipment
apparel /əˈpærəl/ noun clothes

apparent /əˈpærənt/ adj obvious, seeming to be. If it was apparent to everyone that there had been an accident. There is an apparent mistake in the accounts.
apparently /əˈpærəntli/ adv as it seems
apparition /əˈpærəʃən/ noun something which you think you see. Synonym ghost
appeal /əˈpiəl/ noun 1. an act of asking for help. The police have made an appeal for witnesses. The hospital is launching an appeal to raise £50,000. 2. a legal request to look at a decision again to see if it was correct. His appeal was rejected. The verdict was overturned on appeal. 3. an attractive quality. The appeal of Greece as a holiday destination. Sex appeal being sexually attractive
apparition /əˈpærəʃən/ noun something which you think you see. Synonym ghost

Antonym repulsive

appealing /əˈpɛlɪŋ/ adj attractive. Antonym repulsive
appealing /əˈpɛlɪŋ/ adj attractive. Antonym repulsive
appliance /əˈplɛns/ noun a machine
applause /əˈplɔːz/ noun the act of clapping
applaud /əˈplɔːd/ verb to clap to show that you like something
applause /əˈplɔːz/ noun the act of clapping
applaud /əˈplɔːd/ verb to clap to show that you like something

Antonym conciliation.
Appellant /əˈpelənt/ noun a person who makes a legal appeal
Appendant /əˈpendənt/ noun a thing that is attached
appendicitis /əˈpendɪsɪs/ noun an illness that affects the appendix
appendix /əˈpendɪks/ noun 1. a small part inside the body which has no real purpose but can become infected, causing appendicitis (NOTE: The plural is appendixes.) 2. a section at the back of a book, containing additional information (NOTE: The plural is appendixes /əˈpendɪsɪz/) apparatus /əˈpærətəs/ noun medical equipment

Antonyms discovery, scientific or applied science

Appendix /əˈpɛndɪks/ noun 1. a small amount of food before a main meal
Appetising /əˈpɛtɪznɪŋ/ noun looking or smelling good and making you want to eat. Antonym unappetising
Appetite /əˈpɛtɪt/ noun 1. a need or wish to eat. Going for a long walk has given me an appetite. He’s not feeling well and has lost his appetite. 2. a good appetite an interest in eating food. The baby has a good appetite. 3. poor appetite a lack of interest in eating food. 2. a strong wish to do something. She has an appetite for hard work.
applaud /əˈplɔːd/ verb to clap to show that you like something
applause /əˈplɔːz/ noun the act of clapping

Antonyms applause, conciliation

Apple /əˈplɔː/ noun 1. a common hard round sweet fruit, growing on a tree. Don’t eat apples that are not ripe - they’ll make you ill. 2. same as apple tree
Apple pie /əˈplɔːp/ noun a pie made with apples and sugar
Apple tree /əˈplɔːt/ noun a tree which apples grow on

Antonyms application, conciliation

Appliance /əˈplɛns/ noun a machine such as a washing machine or cooker used in the home. A fire engine
Applicable /əˈpləkəbəl/ adj able to be applied in particular cases. Synonym appropriate
Applicant /əˈplɛknt/ noun a person who applies for something. Synonym candidate
Application /əˈplɛkʃən/ noun 1. the process of putting medicine on. Several applications of the cream will be necessary. For external application only. 2. the process or act of applying for a job. He wrote a letter of application.
We’ve received dozens of applications for the job of hairdresser. 3. hard work
Application form /əˈplɛkʃənfɔːm/ noun a form which has to be filled in to apply for something

Antonyms application, conciliation

Applied science /əˈplɔːd/ noun a science which is put to practical use

Antonyms science, conciliation
2. a teacher. Appropriate

appointment as manager when she was made

appointment as manager. 2. an agreed time for a

meeting I want to make an appointment to see the doctor. o She was late for her ap-

pointment. 2. I have an appointment with the manager.

apposite /æpɒzɪt/ adj fitting or suitable. Synonym appropriate. Antonym inappropriate

apposition /æpəzɪˈʃən/ noun the practice of putting a word next to another in apposition (of a noun) used as an adjective to describe another noun

appraisal /əˈprɪzl/ə/ noun a report on the value of someone or something. Synonym assessment

appraise /əˈprɪzl/ verb to judge how well someone or something is working. Synonym assess

appreciable /əˈprɪʃəbəl/ adj able to be felt or noticed. Synonym considerable. Antonym insignificant

appreciate /əˈprɪʃɪteɪt/ verb 1. to recognise the value of 2. on purpose. o Customers don't appreciate having to wait to be served. 2. to increase in value 2. on purpose. o The pound appreciated against the dollar. 2. vacation appraisal /əˈprɪʃəp(e)ʃən/ noun 1. showing that you recognise the value of something 2. an increase in value

appreciative /əˈprɪʃɪətɪv/ adj 1. being very grateful 2. showing enjoyment

apprehend /əˈprɛhənd/ verb to arrest a criminal (informal). Synonym catch. Antonym release

apprehension /əˈprɛhənʃən/ noun 1. a worry about what is going to happen. Compare misapprehension 2. the act of arresting someone

apprehensive /əˈprɛhənʃəs/ adj worried about the future. Synonym uneasy. Antonym confident

apply /əˈplaɪ/ verb 1. □ to apply for a job to ask for a job. o She applied for a job in the supermarket. o He's applying for a job as a teacher. 2. to put on o Wait until the first coat of paint is dry before you apply the second. 3. □ to apply to to affect or to be relevant to This rule only applies to people coming from outside the EU.

appoint /əˈpɔɪnt/ verb to give someone a job o He was appointed (as) manager or to the post of manager. o We want to appoint someone to manage our sales department. (Note: You appoint a person to a job.)

appointment /əˈpɔɪnmənt/ noun 1. the process of being given a job. o She had a rise on her appointment as manager. 2. an agreed time for a meeting. I want to make an appointment to see the doctor. o She was late for her appointment. 2. I have an appointment with the manager.

applicable /əˈpɔɪkləbəl/ adj / noun capable or suitable. Synonym appropriate. Antonym inappropriate

approach /əˈprəʊʃ/ verb 1. to come near o We need to get the central heating serviced. 2. a way which leads to o The approaches to the city were crowded with coaches. 3. a way of dealing with a situation o His approach to the question was different from hers.

approachable /əˈprəʊʃəbəl/ adj easy to talk to approaching /əˈprəʊʃɪŋ/ adj coming nearer. Synonym imminent

approach road /əˈprəʊʃ rəʊd/ noun a road leading to a main road

approximate /əˈprɑːktɪmət/ verb to think something is good o He doesn't approve of loud music. 2. to agree to something officially. o The committee approved the scheme.

approving /əˈprəʊvɪŋ/ adj showing agreement approvingly /əˈprəʊvɪŋli/ adv showing agreement approximate /əˈprəʊksɪmət/ more or less correct. Antonym exact
approximate

of the sports stadium will approximate to two million pounds.

approximately /əˈprɒksɪmətli/ adv nearly, but not exactly ○ It takes approximately 35 minutes to get to central London from here.

approximation /əˌprɒksɪˈmeɪʃ(ə)n/ noun a calculation which is not exact. Synonym estimate

apricot /əˈprɪkət/ noun a fruit with yellow flesh and a hard stone ○ April /ˈɛprɪrl/ noun the fourth month of the year, the month after March and before May ○ Her birthday is in April. ○ We went on holiday last April. ○ Today is April 5th. (NOTE: April 5th or April 5: say ‘the fifth of April’ or ‘April the fifth’ or in US English ‘April fifth.’)

April fool /ˈɛprɪrl ˈfʊtl/ noun a person who is tricked on April 1st ○ April Fools’ Day /ˈɛprɪrl ˈfʊlz diː/ noun April 1st, a day when you play tricks on people

apron /ˈɛprən/ noun 1. a cloth worn over your clothes when cooking 2. (at an airport) a piece of ground on which planes can be parked

apt /ˈæpt/ adj 1. fitting well ○ Our old car was apt to break down on motorways.

aptitude /ˈæptɪtjuːd/ noun a natural ability for doing something ○ aptitude test test of someone’s ability ○ Twenty young people will take the aptitude test this month.

aquarium /ˈækwərəriəm/ noun 1. a tank for keeping tropical fish 2. a building with an exhibition of fish

Aquaduct /ˈækwədʌkt/ noun a high bridge carrying water over a valley

Arab /əˈræb/ adj referring to the countries of the Middle East where Arabic is the language ○ Foreign Ministers of the Arab countries have met in Jordan. ○ noun a person who speaks Arabic and who comes from one of the countries in the Middle East
archetype /ˈɑːθɪtɪp/ noun a typical example of something.
archipelago /ˈɑrkiˌpɛləɡoʊ/ noun a group of islands (NOTE: The plural is archipelagos.)
architect /ˈɑrkitɛkt/ noun a person who designs buildings
architectural /ˈɑrkitɛktʃərəl/ adj referring to architecture
architecture /ˈɑrkitɛktʃər/ noun the design of buildings
archive /ˈɑrkəv/ noun 1. an organised collection of documents 2. a place where archives are kept 3. a copy of computer files stored on tape or disk 4. a computer file containing other files 5. a directory of files that Internet users can access 1. to put a document in an archive 2. to transfer computer data from a hard disk to an external storage medium 3. to combine computer files for storage
archives /ˈɑrkəvz/ plural noun a collection of documents
archway /ˈɑrkweɪ/ noun a passage which goes under an arch
arch-lamp /ˈɑrkklæmp/, arc-light /ˈɑrkklɑt/ noun a very bright light caused by an electric spark between two points
arctic /ˈɑrktɪk/ adj 1. referring to the area round the North Pole 2. extremely cold ■ noun □ the Arctic the area round the North Pole ◂ The Arctic is home to polar bears
ardent /ˈɑrdnt/ adj very keen. Synonym passionate. Antonym dispassionate ardently /ˈɑrdntli/ adj very strongly or passionately
ardour /ˈɑrdər/ noun violent feelings of love or enthusiasm (NOTE: The US spelling is ardor.)
arid /ˈərid/ adj extremely dry; where there is very little rain
Aries /ˈɛriəs/ noun one of the signs of the Zodiac, shaped like a ram, covering the period 21st March to 19th April
arise /əˈraɪz/ verb 1. to start, to appear □ to arise from to result from, to happen because of 1. The misunderstanding arose from a mistake in her instructions
aristocracy /ˌɑrɪstəˈkræsɪ/ noun 1. the people of the highest class in society, usually with titles such as Lord or Duke. Synonym nobility. Antonym lower class
aristocrat /ˌɑrɪstəˈkræt/ noun a member of the aristocracy. Synonym noble aristocrat /ˌɑrɪstəˈkræt/ adj referring to the aristocracy
arithmetic /ˌɑrɪθˈmætɪk/ noun calculations with numbers, such as addition, subtraction and division
ark /ɑrk/ noun 1. a large ship (literary) 2. a small building for pigs (NOTE: Do not confuse with arc)
arm /ɑrm/ noun 1. the part of your body which goes from your shoulder to your hand □ He held the parcel under his arm. ◂ She
area code /ˈɛərə kəʊd/ noun a special telephone number which is given to a particular area
arena /ˈɛrənə/ noun 1. a building with seats for people to sit and watch events like sports or fights 2. a field of activity where something happens
aren't ║ aren't /əˈrɛnt/ be argon /ˈɑrgən/ noun an inert gas which is found in small quantities in air, and which is used in electric light bulbs
arguable /ˌɑrgjuəˈbɪli/ adj possibly not true. Synonym debatable"
armada 33 arouse

tripped over the pavement and broke her arm.

arm in arm (of two people) with their arms folded together. They walked down the street arm in arm.

to welcome someone with open arms to welcome someone in a very friendly way. The villagers welcomed the UN soldiers with open arms.

cost 2. the sleeve of a piece of clothing such as a coat or shirt. There was a hole under the arm of her favourite T-shirt.

a coat or shirt

of the armed forces of a country

of warships

Antonym robbers were armed to the teeth.

to stop fighting. Synonym truce

put his coffee cup on the arm of his chair.

give weapons to

against attack

on military ships or vehicles, to protect them from attack. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is armor.)

armoured /ærəʊmd/ adj protected by armour. (NOTE: The US spelling is armored.)

armpit /ˌærmpɪt/ noun the part of your body under each arm where it joins the body

armrest /ˈɑːrmrɛst/ noun the part of a chair which you rest your arms on.

arms /ɑːmz/ plural noun weapons such as guns or bombs. He’s a well-known arms dealer. They were selling arms to various countries.

up in arms about very annoyed about. They are up in arms about the new bus timetable.

arms race /ˈɑːrmz rɛs/ noun competition between countries to have the largest number of weapons or the most powerful weapons.

army /ˈɑːmɪ/ noun 1. all the soldiers of a country, trained for fighting on land. He left school at 16 and joined the army. 2. An army spokesman held a news conference.

arm in arm (of two people) arm in arm.

a pleasant smell of something you can eat or drink.

a treatment with pleasant-smelling oils.

adj with a strong pleasant smell.

a plant which has a pleasant smell and which can be used as flavouring for food or in substances which you use to clean your hair or skin.

around /əˈraʊnd/ prep 1. going all round something. She had a gold chain around her neck. 2. The flood water was all around the village. 3. The restaurants were all full, so we walked around for some time.

close to, nearby. The children stood around waiting for the bus.

in various places. We have lots of computers around the office. 4. Around sixty people came to the meeting. 5. In various places the papers were lying around all over the floor.

in various places. The restaurants were all full, so we walked around for some time. 2. Surrounding something. 3. Close to, nearby. The children stood around waiting for the bus.

feeling of sexual excitement.

verb 1. to make someone feel a particular emotion. Someone is easily aroused. It is easy to make someone angry. 2. to make someone behave in a particular way, e.g. become excited about something. 3. to make someone feel sexually excited. Compare rouse.
arpeggio 34

arpeggio /əˈpɛrdʒəʊ/ noun a set of musical notes where the notes are played one after the other and not all together (NOTE: The plural is arpeggios.)

² arrange /əˈrɛndʒ/ verb 1. to put in order  
- The chairs are arranged in rows.  
- The books are arranged in alphabetical order.  
- The ground floor is arranged as an open-plan area with a little kitchen at the side.  
- to organise  
- Let’s arrange to meet somewhere before we go to the theatre.  
- The tour has been arranged by the travel agent.  
- She arranged for a taxi to meet him at the airport.  
- I’ve arranged with my mother that she will feed the cat while we’re away.
³ arrangement /əˈrɛndʒmənt/ noun 1. the process of putting things into an order  
- the arrangement of the pictures in a book  
- a thing which has been arranged  
- the process of organising an event  
- All the arrangements for the wedding were left to the bride’s mother.  
- a general agreement  
- We have an arrangement by which we meet for lunch every Tuesday.

array /əˈrɛr/ noun a display

arrears /əˈrɛrəs/ plural noun an amount of money which should have been paid earlier  
- She arranged to pay the arrears of rent in monthly instalments.  
- He let the payments fall into arrears.

² noun 2. to be in arrears to owe money which should have been paid earlier  
- He is six weeks in arrears with his rent.

³ arrest /əˈrest/ noun the act of holding someone for breaking the law  
- The police made several arrests at the demonstration.  
- under arrest held by the police  
- After the demonstration, three people were under arrest.

² verb to hold someone for breaking the law  
- The police arrested two men and took them to the police station.
- He ended up getting arrested as he tried to leave the country.

³ arrest 2. to be arrested for breaking the law  
- She was arrested for stealing, but the judge let her off with a fine.

arrival /əˈrɛvrəl/ noun 1. the act of reaching a place  
- We announce the arrival of flight AB 987 from Tangiers.  
- We apologise for the late arrival of the 14.25 express from Edinburgh.

³ time of arrival is 5 p.m.  
- On arrival when you arrive  
- On arrival at the hotel, members of the party will be allocated rooms.  
- a person who has arrived  
- He’s a new arrival on our staff.

²  
³ by a display of force  
- the arrival of their daughter was announced in the newspapers.

arrivals /əˈrɛvrəlz/ noun the part of an airport that deals with passengers who are arriving. Compare departures

² arrive /əˈrɛv/ verb to reach a place  
- They arrived home tired out.  
- The train from Paris arrives in London at 5 p.m. (NOTE: You arrive in a town or in a country but at a place.)

³ arrogance /əˈrægsən/ noun a feeling of being very proud of yourself, and thinking that you are much better than others. Synonym conceit. Antonym humility

² arrogant /əˈrægənt/ adj very proud in an unpleasant way. Synonym conceited

³ arrogantly /əˈrægəntli/ adv too proudly

³ arrow /əˈrɔːr/ noun 1. a weapon made of a piece of wood with a sharp point, which you shoot from a bow  
- 2. a printed sign (↑) which points to something

³ arrowhead /əˈrɔːrheɪd/ noun a sharp metal head attached to the end of an arrow

³ arse /ər/ noun the part of your body that you sit on (offensive)

³ arson /ərˈznən/ noun 1. a crime of setting fire to something such as a building or some property

³ arson attack /ərˈznən əˈtæk/ noun an act of setting fire to something such as a house

³ arsonist /ərˈznɪst/ noun a person who sets fire to buildings or property on purpose

³ art /ərt/ noun 1. the practice of creating objects, e.g. by painting, drawing or sculpture, or the objects that are created in this way  
- She is taking art lessons.  
- When you’re in Washington, don’t miss the Museum of Modern Art.

³ artist /ərˈtɪst/ noun a particular skill or ability at doing something  
- He has mastered the art of not answering reporters’ questions.

³ artefact /ərtəˈfækt/ noun an object such as a tool or a dish that was made by a person in the past

³ arterial /əˈtɛrɪəl/ adj referring to arteries

³ artery /əˈtɛrɪə/ noun a tube carrying blood from the heart around the body. Compare vein (NOTE: The plural is arteries.)

³ artful /ərtˈfʊl/ adj clever, good at tricking people. Synonym crafty

³ artfully /ərtˈfʊli/ adv cleverly, in a way which tricks people

³ art gallery /ərt ˈɡæləri/ noun a building which has paintings and other art for people to go and see
artistic

artistic /ɑːˈtɪstɪk/ adj in an artistic way

artistry /ɑːrˈtɪstrɪ/ noun skill in a particular art

arts /ɑːrts/ plural noun 1. all work connected with art 2. a subject of study which is not a science, e.g. history or literature

art school /ɑːrt skɔːl/ noun a college where students study subjects such as drawing and painting

artwork /ɑːrtwɜːk/ noun things such as pictures or designs which are printed in a book or used in advertising

arty /ɑrˈti, ærˈkraftɪ/ /ærtiˈkrɑːftɪ/ adj pretending to be artistic; making artistic things

ascetic /æˈsɛtɪk/ adj

asceticism /æˈsɛtɪsɪzəm/ noun

ascetic /æˈsɛtɪk/ adj living in a simple way, without personal pleasures. Synonym austere

ascetic /æˈsɛtɪk/ adj

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ascetic /æˈsɛtɪk/ adj
ascorbic acid noun vitamin C, a natural food substance which is contained in many fruits and vegetables

asp /æsp/ noun a small poisonous snake

asparagus /ˈæspraɡəs/ noun a green vegetable that has long thin stems and pointed tips and which you cook before eating

asphalt /ˈæʃfɔlt/ noun a mixture of tar, small stones and sand, used for making road surfaces

asphyxia /ˈæsfɪksiə/ noun a situation in which someone is prevented from breathing and therefore cannot take air into the lungs.

asphyxiate /ˈæsfɪksiət/ verb to stop someone breathing, or to die because of being unable to breathe. Synonym suffocate

asphyxiation /ˈæsfɪksiəʃən/ noun death caused by being unable to breathe. Synonym suffocation

aspirate /ˈæspəreɪt/ noun a speech sound made by breathing out, e.g. the 'h' in 'horse'

aspiration /ˈæspraʃən/ noun something which you want to achieve or to be successful at. Synonym ambition

aspirational adj typical of people who want to become more successful and be able
aspirin

To afford a more expensive home and way of life.

aspirin /əˈspærɪn/ noun 1. a common drug, used in the treatment of slight illnesses to reduce pain. 2. a pill that contains aspirin

aspiring /əˈspærɪŋ/ adj. hoping to get something

ass /æs/ noun 1. US the part of your body that you sit on (offensive). 2. a stupid person (informal). 3. a donkey (old). (NOTE: The plural is asses.)
assemble /əˈsemb(ə)l/ verb 1. to come together. 2. to put something together

assembly line /əˈsembli ˈlaɪn/ noun a moving line in a factory, where the product moves slowly past workers who add pieces to it as it goes past

assent /əˈsent/ noun the approval of or agreement with something such as a suggestion. Synonym approval. ■ verb □ to assent to something to agree to something. ○ The committee assented to the suggestion.
asser /əˈsɑr/ verb to state something firmly. □ to assert yourself to state your opinions strongly

assertion /əˈsɛrʃ(ə)n/ noun a statement of something which you believe to be true but of which you have no proof. Synonym claim

assertive /əˈsɛrтив/ adj. confident and stating your opinions in a strong way. Synonym self-confident. Antonym shy

assess /əˈsɛs/ verb 1. to calculate an amount to be paid. 2. to consider something such as someone’s achievement or progress in order to decide if it is satisfactory

assessment /əˈsɛsment/ noun 1. a calculation of an amount to be paid. 2. the process of assessing someone or something.

assessor /əˈsɛsər/ noun a person who calculates the results of people who have taken an examination

association /əˌsɛsəˈʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. a valuable quality. 2. a meeting. 3. a connection between things. ○ For some people, a black cat has an association with luck. ○ Manchester has strong family associations for him. 3. □ in association with

asset /əˈsɛt/ noun a valuable quality. 2. some things which people own. ○ They will have to sell some of their assets to repay the debt.

assets /əˈsɛts/ plural noun the valuable things which people own. 2. something.

association /əˌsɛsəˈʃ(ə)n/ noun the practice of working in a careful and regular way. Synonym diligence. Antonym carelessness

assiduous /əˈsɪdʒʊəs/ adj. careful and regular. Synonym diligent. Antonym careless

assign /əˈsɛn/ verb □ to assign someone to something to give someone the job of doing something. ○ She was assigned to the booking office. ○ We are assigning you to work in the accounts department.

assignment /əˌsɛnˈmənt/ noun 1. the act of giving someone a job to do. 2. a job of work. 3. a piece of written work which a student has to do

assimilate /əˈsɪmlɪt/ verb 1. to learn and understand. 2. (of the body) to change the food that you have just eaten into substances that can be used. 3. □ to assimilate into a group, to become part of a group. ○ She assimilated into the teaching community very easily.

assimilation /əˌsɪmlɪˈʃ(ə)n/ noun the action of assimilating something or someone

assist /əˈsɪst/ verb to help someone. ○ He assists me with my income tax forms. ○ I will be assisted in my work by Miss Smith. (NOTE: You assist someone in doing something or with something.)

assistance /əˈsɪstəns/ noun help. ○ He was trying to change the wheel, when a truck drew up and the driver offered his assistance. ○ She will need assistance with her luggage.

assistant /əˈsɪstənt/ noun a person who helps or is second in command to someone. ○ His assistant works in the office next door. Synonym helper

associate verb /əˈsəʊsɪt/ □ to associate with to have contact with or be connected with someone or something. ○ I don’t want you to associate with that family – they’ve all been in trouble with the police. ○ The government is closely associated with the project. 1. noun /əˈsəʊsɪt/ a person who works in the same business as you.

associated /əˈsəʊsɪtɪd/ adj. connected with

association /əˌsəʊsɪˈʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. an official group of people or a group of companies in the same trade. ○ an association offering support to victims of street violence. ○ The Association of British Travel Agents. 2. a connection between things. ○ For some people, a black cat has an association with luck. ○ Manchester has strong family associations for him. 3. □ in association with to-
assorted

gather with ○ The guidebook is published in association with the local tourist board. ○ This programme is brought to you in association with British Airways.

assorted /ə'sɔrtid/ adj various, mixed
assortment /ə'sɔrtmənt/ noun a mixture of a lot of things that have some differences, e.g., in shape or colour

assuage /ə'swiidʒ/ verb to make an unpleasant feeling or experience feel less painful (formal)
○ assume /ə'sɛmju/ verb 1. to imagine or believe that something is true ○ Let’s assume that he is innocent. ○ I assume you have enough money to pay for the meal? 2. to take on something such as a responsibility ○ When she was twenty-one, she assumed complete control of the family business. ○ He has assumed responsibility for fire safety.

assumed name /ə'sjuːmd 'nɛm/ noun a false name. Synonym alias
○ assuming /ə'sjuːmɪŋ/ conj believing something to be true

assumption /ə'səmpʃən/ noun 1. an attitude of confidence in your own abilities ○ He didn’t have the assurance to face a press conference Synonym self-confidence 2. the fact of being sure that something will happen 3. a promise ○ He gave her an assurance that he would not do it again.

assure /ə'ʃʊər/ verb 1. to state something definitely 2. to make sure that something will happen 3. to provide someone with insurance

assured /ə'ʃʊəd/ adj very certain and confident

asterisk /ə'ستɛrɪsk/ noun a printing sign like a star, used to draw attention to something

astern /ə'stɛrn/ adv 1. behind a ship ○ to go astern to make a ship go backwards ○ The ferry had to go full speed astern so as not to hit the barge

asteroid /ə'strɔrɔid/ n noun a mass of rock that travels in a path round the sun

asthma /ə'sma/ noun a medical condition in which someone suffers breathing difficulty, often because a particular substance has a bad effect on his or her body

asthmatic /ə'smætɪk/ adj referring to or affected by asthma ○ He has an asthmatic attack every spring. ○ Their little girl is asthmatic. ○ noun a person who has asthma ○ astonish /ə'stɔnɪʃ/ verb to surprise someone very much. Synonym amaze

astonished /ə'stɔnɪʃt/ adj very surprised. Synonym amazed

astonishingly /ə'stɔnɪʃɪŋli/ adv very surprisingly

astonishment /ə'stɔnɪʃmənt/ noun great surprise. Synonym amazement

astound /ə'stɔnd/ verb to surprise someone completely. Synonym astonish

astounded /ə'stɔundd/ adj very surprised. Synonym astonished

astounding /ə'stɔundɪŋ/ adj very surprising. Synonym astonishing

astray /ə'streɪ/ adv □ to go astray to get lost ○ Yet another spoon seems to have gone astray, we can’t find it anywhere. 2. to lead someone astray to encourage someone to bad habits ○ It appears that the boy was led astray by some of the older boys at school.

astride /ə'strʌd/ adv, prep with your legs on either side of something ○ He was sitting astride his bicycle, with both feet on the ground. ○ Sit astride and hold tight.

astrigent /ə'strɪŋdʒnt/ adj 1. severe or extremely unkind 2. describes a substance which you put on your skin, e.g. as a beauty treatment or to stop the flow of blood from a cut □ noun an astringent substance

astronomical /ə'strɔnəmɪk(ə)l/ adj referring to astronomy

astronomy /ə'strɔnəmi/ noun the study of the planets and stars

astronomer /ə'strɔnəmər/ noun a person who studies astronomy

astronaut /ə'strɔnəʊt/ noun a person who travels into space

astronomy /ə'strɔnəmi/ noun the study of the physics of the universe (NOTE: no plural)

astute /ə'stjuːt/ adj clever at understanding things quickly. Synonym shrewd

astutely /ə'stjuːtli/ adv cleverly

astuteness /ə'stjuːtnəs/ noun the quality of being astute

asylum /ə'seləm, 'sɛləm/ noun 1. the right to stay in another country if you have been treated badly in your own country ○ to seek asylum ○ to grant someone asylum ○ to ask for political asylum 2. a hospital for people who have mental illnesses (old)

asylum seeker /ə'seləm 'sɛkJə/ noun a person who asks for permission to stay in another
asymmetrical

other country because the political situation in his or her own country is not safe for him or her to stay there

asymmetrical /ə'sɪmtrɪkl/ adj which does not have the same shape or size on both sides

at /æt, æt/ prep 1. showing time O We’ll meet at eleven o’clock. 2. showing place O We went to Paris at Easter. 2. showing direction O They threw rotten eggs at the speaker. (NOTE: at is often used after verbs, e.g. to look at, to point at.) 5. showing cause O She laughed at my old coat.

ate /æt, ət/ eat

atheist /æθɪst/ noun a person who believes there is no god. Compare agnostic. Synonym unbeliever. Antonym believer.

athlete /æθlɪt/ noun a person who competes in sports such as running

athlete’s foot /æθlɪts ‘fʊt/ noun a skin infection on the feet, especially between the toes

athletic /æθlɪtɪk/ adj referring to athletics

athletics /æθlɪtɪks/ noun organised sports such as running or long jump (NOTE: no plural)

Atlantic Ocean /ætəlɪkɪn /əʊn/ noun the ocean between the Americas and Europe and Africa

atlas /ətəlɪs/ noun a book of maps (NOTE: The plural is atlases.)

ATM abbr automated teller machine

g. atmosphere /ˈætəmɔːʃən/ noun 1. the air around the Earth. O The atmosphere surrounds the Earth to a height of several hundred kilometres. 2. a general feeling O The atmosphere in the office was tense. O I like the friendly atmosphere at our college.

atmospheric /əˈtɛməsɪf/ adj referring to the atmosphere. 2. mysterious, beautiful

atoll /ˈætəl/ noun a ring-shaped island made of coral

atom /ˈætəm/ noun 1. a very small basic piece of matter. 2. a very small thing

atom bomb /ˈætəmbɔm/ noun a bomb using nuclear energy

g. atomic /ˈætəmɪk/ adj referring to atoms

atomic bomb /ˈɔtəmɪk bɔm/ noun same as atom bomb

atomic energy /ˈɔtəmɪk ˈɛnədʒɪ/ adj energy created during a nuclear reaction

atomic number /ˈɔtəmɪk ˈnʌmbə/ noun the number of protons in one atom of a chemical element

atomic weight /ˈɔtəmɪk ‘wɛt/ noun the ratio of the mass of an atom of an element to the mass of carbon 12

atomiser /ˈætəmɪzaɪn/ noun an object which you use to send out a lot of small drops of liquid, e.g. into the air or onto your skin

g. tone /ˈtɔn/ verb to do something which shows that you are sorry for doing something wrong (informal)

tatamenent /ˈtɔtmənt/ noun the act of apologising for doing something wrong

A to Z /ət z/ to ‘zed/ noun a street map for a town, especially one for London

atrium /ət'rɪəm/ noun 1. a very large open space in a building, often with a glass roof and arrangements of indoor plants, which acts as a central meeting point 2. one of two parts inside the heart (NOTE: The plural is atria.)

atrocity /'ətrɒsɪti/ adj 1. very bad 2. extremely evil

atrocity /'ətrɒsɪti/ noun an extremely evil act (NOTE: The plural is atrocities.)

atrophy /'ætrəfi/ noun a process in which an organ or other part of the body wastes away

beauty /'bjuːti/ noun something to something (informal)

attachment /'ɔtətʃmənt/ noun 1. something which can be attached to something else. 2. a liking for someone or something. 3. a document attached to an email

beauty /'bjuːti/ noun 1. the act of trying to hurt someone or something O They made an attack on the town. O under attack the situation of being attacked. O The town is under attack from rebel guerrillas. 2. a criticism O He launched an attack on the government. 3. a sudden illness O She had an attack of malaria. 

beauty /'bjuːti/ verb 1. to try to hurt someone or to hit someone. Three men attacked her and stole her watch. O The old lady was attacked by muggers. 2. to try to destroy something. O They attacked the enemy camp.

beauty /'bjuːti/ noun a person who attacks someone or something. Synonym assailant

beauty /'bjuːti/ verb to reach a particular status or rank or to be successful in something

beauty /'bjuːti/ noun success in achieving something or reaching a particular goal
attempt /ə'tempt/ noun an act of trying to do something. He failed in his attempt to climb Mount Everest. All his attempts to get a job have failed. We closed down one shop in an attempt to cut costs. She passed her driving test at the second attempt. An attempt on someone’s life the action of trying to kill someone. She attempted to commit suicide.

attempted /ə'temptɪd/ adj describes something which someone has tried to do.

attend /ə'tend/ verb to be present at an event. She attended the wedding. They organised a protest meeting, but only one or two people attended.

attendance /ə'tendəns/ noun 1. the fact of being present at an event. In attendance being with someone in order to help them. The Queen unveiled the memorial, with Major Jones in attendance.

attendant /ə'tendənt/ noun 1. a person on duty in a place. A person who helps someone during a ceremony.

attending /ə'tendɪŋ/ verb 1. to give careful thought to something and deal with it. To attend to someone, to someone’s needs to look after someone such as a customer or patient. Wait here, please, someone will attend to you in a moment.

attention /ə'tenʃən/ noun 1. the act of concentrating on what you are doing. Don’t distract the driver’s attention.

attributive /ə'trɪbjuːtɪv/ adj 1. pleasant-looking. They found the Lake District very attractive. She’s an attractive young girl, which attracts people.

attribute /ə'trɪbjuːt/ noun a quality that someone has to attribute something to. To say that something was caused by something. The accident was attributed to faulty brakes.

attributable /ə'trɪbjuːtəbəl/ adj probably the cause of something.

attraction /ə'trækʃən/ noun 1. the ability to attract. The Tower of London is a great tourist attraction. The ability of a substance or object to make something move towards it.

attractive /ə'træktɪv/ adj 1. pleasant-looking. They found the Lake District very attractive. The rival firm made him a very attractive offer.

attended /ə'tendɪd/ verb to attend to something. To start to think about something carefully. Careful treatment.

attentive /ə'tentɪv/ adj 1. listening carefully.

attentively /ə'tentɪvli/ adv in an attentive way.

attesting /ə'tɛstɪŋ/ verb to attest to something. To state officially that something is true. Many people attested to his honesty.
film see if they will be given a part in a play or formers such as actors, singers or dancers, to augment an increase (formal) augur /ˈɔːɡər/ verb to be a sign for the future. Synonym foretell it if doesn’t augur well it is not a good sign ♣ August /ˈɔːɡəst/ noun the eighth month of the year, the month after July and before September ♣ August 15 My birthday is in August. ♣ I left my job last August. ♣ Today is August 15th. (NOTE: August 15th or August 15: say ‘August the fifteenth’ or ‘the fifteenth of August’ or in US English ‘August fifteenth’.) ♣ aunt /ɔːnt/ noun the sister of your mother or father, or the wife of an uncle ♣ Say goodbye to Aunt Anne. ♣ She lives next door to my aunt.

au pair /ˈau ˈpɛər/ noun a person, usually a young woman, who lives with a family in another country to learn the language while looking after children and helping to keep the house clean. (NOTE: The plural is au pairs.)

aura /ˈɔːrə/ noun a general feeling or quality in a particular situation. Synonym air.
aural /ˈɔːrəl/ adj referring to hearing. (NOTE: Do not confuse with oral.)
auspices /ˈɔsəpɪs/ noun under the auspices of organised by or supported with money from (formal) ♦ The concert is being held under the auspices of the local Chamber of Commerce.
auspicious /ˈɔsəpɪʃəs/ adj likely to be successful. Antonym inauspicious.

Aussie /ˈɔsɪ/ (informal) adj Australian ♦ noun an Australian ♦ There was a group of Aussies in the restaurant. (NOTE: The plural is Aussies.)
austere /ˈɔstrər/ adj 1. with a plain and simple appearance 2. with only the basic things you need to live

austerity /ˈɔstrətɪrɪ/ noun 1. the quality of being austere 2. poor living conditions because people do not have much money

Australasian /ˈɔstrələziən/ adj referring to Australasia, the part of the southern half of the world which includes Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands

Australian Rules football /ɔstrəliən/ noun a sport played by two teams of eighteen players on an oval field with an oval ball with the intention of scoring points by kicking the ball over the opponents’ goal line. (NOTE: In Australia the game is often called Footie.)
avoid /əʊd/ adj original, not false or artificial

authenticate /ɔˈsentɪk/ verb to prove that something is authentic
authentication 42
auxiliary verb
autograph hunter /ɔːtɔːɡræfr/ noun a person who tries to meet famous people to get their autographs
automate /ɔːtəmeɪt/ verb to use machines to do work which previously was done by people
automated /ɔːtəmeɪtɪd/ adj using machines in place of people. Synonym automatic
automated teller machine /ɔːtəmeɪtɪd telə məʃ/ noun US a machine outside a bank from which money can be obtained when a card is inserted. Abbr ATM (NOTE: The British term is cashpoint machine.)
automatic adj /ɔːtəmatɪk/ which works by itself ○ There is an automatic device which cuts off the electric current. ■ noun 1. a gun which continues firing as long as the trigger is being pulled ○ The robbers opened fire with automatics. 2. a car which has automatic gear change ○ I prefer driving automatics to manual models.
automatically /ɔːtəmatɪklɪ/ adv 1. without thinking about what is being done 2. without people being involved
automation /ɔːtəmeɪʃn/ noun the practice of using machines instead of people to carry out work. Synonym mechanisation
automobile /ɔːtəməbəl/ noun especially US a car
automotive /ɔːtəmətɪv/ adj referring to motor vehicles
autonomous /ɔːtəˈnəʊməs/ adj self-governing
authority /ɔːtəˈrɪtorɪ/ plural noun the government ○ His authority to act on our behalf. 2. permission to do something ○ He signed without having my authority to do so. 3. where information is from ○ What is his authority for the story? 4. a ruling organisation ○ The education authority pays teachers' salaries. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is authorities.) 5. an expert ○ He's an authority on Greek literature. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is authorities.)
ausiasm /ɔːtəˈsɪzm/ noun a mental condition which makes people who have it unable to react to other people in the usual way
autistic /ɔːtəˈstɪstɪk/ adj having autism ○ automatic /ɔːtəˈmətɪk/ adj referring to the writer's life
autobiographical /ɔːtəˈbɔːrijəl/ adj referring to the writer's life
autobiography /ɔːtəˈbɔːriˈɡræfɪ/ noun a story of the life of a person written by himself or herself.
autocratic /ɔːtəˈkrætɪk/ adj ruling like an autocrat
autocar /ɔːtəˈkɑːr/ noun a person who governs or manages with total power over the people in a country or organisation
autocracy /ɔːtəˈkraʊəri/ adj ruling like an autocrat
autocue /ɔːtəˈkjuː/ trademark a screen which helps people speaking on television by showing them the words of their speech
autograph /ɔːtəˈɡrɑːf/ noun a famous person's name written in their own writing for someone to keep. ■ verb to autograph something for someone to write your name in something such as a book ○ I asked the goalkeeper to autograph the programme for me.
### avow

**verb**
- to avow something
- **noun**
  - an avow

### avalanche

**noun**
- a fall of masses of snow down the side of a mountain

### available

**noun**
- the fact of being available

**verb**
- to be available

### avalanche season

**noun**
- the time of year when avalanches are most likely to occur

### avarice

**noun**
- a strong feeling of wanting to have and keep a lot of money

### avid

**adjective**
- wanting to have and keep a lot of money

### avidly

**adverb**
- in a way that shows you want something very much

### aircraft

**noun**
- flying vehicles used for transport

### anti-terrorism

**noun**
- measures taken to prevent attacks on people or property

### averse

**noun**
- a feeling of not wanting something

**adjective**
- not wanting something

**verb**
- to be opposed to something

### award

**noun**
- a prize or a certificate given for winning something

**verb**
- to give something such as a prize, a degree, or a diploma to someone

### available

**noun**
- the ability to be used or obtained

**verb**
- to be available

### avert

**verb**
- to avoid something

### award

- to give something such as a prize or a certificate

### averse

- to be opposed to something

### avoid

- to try not to do something

### available

- able to be obtained

### aver

- to say something publicly

### avow

- to publicly state something

### avoidable

- able to be avoided

### averse

- to be opposed to something

### avoid

- to try not to do something

### available

- able to be obtained
award-winning

award-winning /ˈɔːrɪdˌwɪnɪŋ/ adj having won an award or awards

aware /ˈeɪwər/ adj knowing something.

aware of

aware of something

away

away from something

away from a person, place or object

away on business.

away game

away from someone

awake, awoken /ˈɔːwək, ˈɔːwəkən/ awoken

awkward /ˈɔːkwərd/ adv 1. embarrassing or difficult to deal with. 2. difficult to use or deal with because of its shape, size or position.

awkwardly /ˈɔːkwərdli/ adv 1. in an awkward way.

awkwardness /ˈɔːkwərdnəs/ noun 1. a feeling of being embarrassed. 2. difficulty.

award-winning /ˈɔːrɪdˌwɪnɪŋ/ adj. 44

awhile /ˈɔːwɪl/ adv for a short time.

azure /ˈɔːzər/ adj bright blue.
baby /ˈbeɪbi/ noun the second letter of the alphabet, between A and C.

BA abbr bachelor of arts © She has a BA in Italian and music. (NOTE: written after the name: Jane Bushell BA)

baba /ˈbæbə/ verb to make the sound that a sheep makes with its voice © noun the sound that a sheep makes with its voice

babble /ˈbeɪbəl/ noun 1. a little sound made by water as it flows © the babble of the stream 2. the sound of people talking together © a babble of voices in the next room

verb 1. (of water) to make a sound as it flows © We sat on the grass by a babbling brook. 2. to speak in a confused way © She babbled a few words and collapsed. © What’s he babbling on about?

babe /ˈbeɪb/ noun 1. a baby 2. an attractive young man or woman © She’s a real babe! 3. a girl (informal, sometimes offensive) © Come on, babe, let’s hit the town.

baboon /ˈbeɪbʊn/ noun a type of large African monkey

baby /ˈbeɪbi/ noun 1. a very young child © Most babies start to walk when they are about a year old. © I’ve known him since he was a baby. © to have a baby to give birth to a baby © She’s going into hospital to have her baby. © the baby of the family the youngest child in a family 2. a very young animal © a baby rabbit (NOTE: The plural is babies. If you do not know if a baby is a boy or a girl, you can refer to it as it. The baby was sucking its thumb.)

baby carrier /ˈbeɪbɪ kærɪər/ noun an object like a large flat bag with handles, for carrying a baby

bablyish /ˈbeɪbɪliʃ/ adj like a baby. Synonym childish

baby-sit /ˈbeɪbi sɪt/ verb to look after a child or children in a house, while their parents are out (NOTE: baby-sitting = baby-sit)

baby-sitter /ˈbeɪbi sɪtər/ noun a person who baby-sits

baby talk /ˈbeɪbi tɔlk/ noun a way of speaking like a baby

bachelor /ˈbeɪtʃələr/ noun 1. a man who is not married © He’s still a bachelor and I’m beginning to wonder if he’ll ever get married. 2. a person with a first degree from a university © a bachelor of arts © He left university in 1988 with a Bachelor of Science degree.

bachelor’s degree /ˈbeɪtʃələrz driːɡri/ noun a first degree from a university © back /ˈbeɪk/ noun 1. the part of your body which is not in front © She went to sleep lying on her back. © He carried his son on his back. © Don’t lift that heavy box, you may hurt your back. © do something behind someone’s back do something without telling the person who it affects © to turn your back on someone to turn round so that your back is towards someone, as a sign that you are annoyed © glad to see the back of someone pleased that someone has left © to put someone’s back up to annoy someone © have broken the back of the work have done most of the work 2. the opposite part to the front © He wrote his address on the back of the envelope. © She sat in the back of the bus and went to sleep. © The dining room is at the back of the house. © to know a place like the back of your hand to know a place extremely well © to put trousers on back to front to put trousers on the wrong way round 3. one of the players in a sports team who tries to prevent the other team from getting a point © The backs should stay back to defend the goal. © adj 1. on the opposite side to the front © He knocked at the back door of the house. © The back tyre of my bicycle is flat. 2. referring to the past © back pay © adv 1. towards the back © He stepped back from the edge of the platform. © She leant back in her armchair. © Can you please sit back, I can’t see the screen. 2. in the state that something was previously © Put the telephone back on the table. © She watched him drive away and then went back into the house. © She gave me back the money she had borrowed. © I’ll phone you when I am back in the office. 3. in the past © Back in the 1950s, life was much less complicated than it is today. © verb 1. to go backwards, to make something go backwards © He backed or backed his car down the drive. © to back away from to go backwards from something frightening © The little girl backed away from the dog.
backache /ˈbækˌkeɪ/ noun a pain in the back

backbenchers /ˈbækˌbɛntʃəz/ plural noun in the British Parliament, the seats where ordinary members of parliament sit

backbone /ˈbækbaʊn/ noun 1. the series of bones which connect together down the back of a person or an animal. If you’re careful, you ought to be able to lift the backbone off the fish before eating it. 2. strength of character. It takes someone with backbone to stand up to the government.

backdate /ˈbækˌdeɪt/ verb to put an earlier date on something

back door /ˈbæk ˈdɔr/ noun a door at the back of a house

backer /ˈbækər/ noun 1. a person who supports a project with money. One of the company’s backers has withdrawn. 2. a person who risks money by saying which horse, team, etc. will win a particular race or competition. Several backers lost thousands when the favourite fell at the last fence.

backfire /ˈbækfaɪr/ verb 1. (of a car) to make a loud noise in the engine. The motorbike backfired several times when I started it this morning. 2. (of a plan) to go wrong, to turn out exactly the opposite to what was expected. He was sure that everything would go according to plan and had never even thought it could backfire. All their holiday plans backfired when their children got chickenpox.

Backgammon /ˈbækˌɡæmən/ noun a board game for two people, in which they move their playing pieces after throwing two dice.

background /ˈbækɡraʊnd/ noun 1. a part of a picture which seems further away. The photograph is of a house with mountains in the background. His white shirt stands out against the dark background. Compare foreground. 2. past life or experience. Her background is in the restaurant business. 3. past details. He explained the background of the claim for damages.

background music /ˈbækɡraʊnd ˌmjuːzɪk/ noun music played quietly as part of a film or in a place such as a restaurant

backhand /ˈbækˌhænd/ adj referring to a way of hitting the ball in sports such as tennis in which the back of the player’s hand moves towards the ball. Noun a backhand shot.

Antonym: forehand

backhanded /ˈbækˌhændid/ adj which could be taken also as an insult

backing /ˈbækɪŋ/ noun 1. financial support. He has the backing of a French bank. 2. the action of going backwards. Backing your car round corners is always difficult.

backlash /ˈbækˌlɑʃ/ noun a reaction against something

backlog /ˈbækˌlɑʊɡ/ noun a lot of work which someone has not had time to do yet

back out /ˈbæk ˈaʊt/ verb 1. to make a car go backwards out of a place. He backed the car out of the garage into the main road. 2. to decide not to support a project. We had to cancel the project when the bank backed out.

backpack /ˈbækˌpæk/ noun a bag carried on your back. Synonym: rucksack

backpacker /ˈbækˌpækər/ noun a person who goes walking for pleasure, carrying a backpack

backpacking /ˈbækˌpækɪŋ/ noun the activity of going on a long distance walk, carrying a backpack

back pay /ˈbæk ˈpi/ noun a part of a salary which has not been paid

backpedal /ˈbækˌpɛdəl/ verb 1. (on a bicycle) to move the pedals backwards. 2. to change your point of view and do the opposite of what you had promised. The government is starting to backpedal over its pledge to cut taxes.

backroom /ˈbækˌrum/ noun a room at the back of an office, where secret work is done.

backroom boys /ˈbækˌrʊm ˈbɔɪz/ plural noun people, especially scientists, who do important work that the public do not know about

back seat /ˈbæk ˈsɛt/ noun 1. a seat in the back of a vehicle. A less important or active position in an organisation. 2. the key that driver advice

backside /ˈbækˌsaɪd/ noun the part of the body you sit on (informal)

backslash /ˈbækˌslɛʃ/ noun the part of a keyboard character (\) in the form of a line that slopes to the left

backspace /ˈbækˌspeɪs/ noun the key that you press on a keyboard in order to move one space back on a computer screen

backstage /ˈbækˌstɛdʒ/ adv 1. off the stage in a theatre. The actors gathered backstage to wait for the audience to settle down. 2. hidden from view. She did a lot of
work backstage to help the party win the election. 

adj hidden from view 

The football club has several backstage supporters who keep it afloat. 

He did a lot of backstage work to help the poor people of the town.

back street /'back strɛt/ noun a street away from the main streets.

He grew up in the back streets of the city.

adj referring to an activity that is done secretly or illegally

backstroke /'bækstrəʊk/ noun a swimming style where you lie on your back and move your arms backwards.

back-to-back /'bæk tə 'bæk/ adj, adv 1. with the back of one person or thing against the back of another. 

Stand back-to-back to see who is the tallest.

They put the chairs back-to-back.

2. happening one after the other.

back-to-back meetings

backtrack /'bæktræk/ verb 1. to go back 2. to say that you no longer agree with something that you did or said previously

3. back up /'bæk ʌp/ verb 1. to help or support someone.

Nobody would back her up when she complained about the service.

Will you back me up in the vote?

2. to make a copy of a computer file.

Don’t forget to back up your work before you go home in the evening.

3. to make a car go backwards.

Can you back up, please – I want to get out of the parking lot.

backup /'bækpaʊp/ adj supporting, helping.

We offer a free backup service to customers.

noun helper support

backup copy /'bækpaʊk 'kɒpi/ noun a copy of a computer disk to be kept in case the original disk is damaged or lost.

adj not as advanced as normal.

The little boy seems backward for his age.

with no advanced industry.

Some countries are still relatively backward.

3. towards the back, behind you.

He gave her a backward look and waved goodbye.

adv US same as backwards.

backwards /'bækwɔːdz/ adv from the front towards the back.

Don’t step backwards.

Tab is bat spelled backwards.

She looked backwards at the next person in the queue.

backwards and forwards in one direction, then in the opposite direction.

The policeman was walking backwards and forwards in front of the bank.

backwater /'bækwaʊtə/ noun a quiet country place, away from the capital city.

backyard /'bækjɑːd/ noun 1. an enclosed area behind a house, with a hard surface.

2. the area in which you live.

They have no idea of what’s going on in their own backyard.

3. US a piece of land behind a house (NOTE: The British term is garden.)

bacon /'bɛkən/ noun meat from a pig which has been treated with salt or smoke, usually cut into thin pieces.

bacon and eggs a breakfast meal of bacon and eggs that have been cooked in a pan on top of a cooker.

to save someone’s bacon to get someone out of a difficult situation.

bacteria /'bæktrɪərɪə/ plural noun very small living things, which can cause disease.

(bacteria) /'bæktrɪəriəl, 'bæktrɪəriələriəl/ bacterial, bacteriological

bacterial /'bæktrɪərɪəl/ adj referring to bacteria.

bacterial warfare /'bæktrɪəriəl 'wɔːrfeər/ noun war where bacteria are used to kill the enemy.

Bactrian camel /'bæktrɪən kəm(ə)l/ noun an Asian camel which has two humps.

bad /bæd/ adj 1. not good.

Eating too much fat is bad for you.

I think it would be a bad idea to go on holiday in November.

2. of poor quality.

He’s a bad driver.

She’s good at singing but bad at playing the piano.

3. unpleasant.

He’s got a bad cold.

She’s in a bad temper.

I’ve got some bad news for you.

The weather was bad when we were on holiday in August.

4. serious.

He had a bad accident on the motorway.

5. (of food) which is not fresh and has started to decay.

I think the pie is bad, so we had better not eat it.

The meat we bought yesterday is not fresh.

bad debt /'bæd dɪt/ noun an amount of money owed to a person or to a company, which will never be paid.

baddy /'bædi/ noun an evil character, e.g. in a novel or a film. Antonym: goody.

NOTE: The plural is baddies.

badger /'bædʒə/ noun a small animal, with short legs and a black and white mark on the ground.

Farmers say that cows can catch TB from badgers.

verb 1. to badger someone into doing something to keep on asking someone so often that in the end they do what you want.

She badgered me into giving her the key.

bad guy /'bæd gʌz/ noun an evil character in a story or film.

bad language /'bæd ˈlæŋɡwɪdʒ/ noun swearing and rude words.
badly /ˈbeɪdlɪ/ adv 1. not well ○ She did badly in her driving test. 2. seriously ○ He was badly injured in the motorway accident.
3. very much ○ His hair badly needs cutting.
(NOTE: badly – worse – worst)
bad-tempered /ˈbeɪtəmdɜːpəd/ adj feeling angry
baffle /ˈbeɪfl/ verb to criticise someone in a rude or unpleasant way (informal)
bag /beɡ/ noun 1. a container made of a substance such as paper or plastic, and used for carrying things ○ He put the apples in a paper bag. 2. to tell the cat out of the bag to tell a secret by accident (informal) ○ Her husband let the cat out of the bag and it was all over the newspapers the following morning. ○ It’s in the bag the deal has been agreed 2. an amount that can be contained in a bag ○ a bag of potatoes ○ a small bag of flour ○ bags of a large amount of (informal) ○ Let him pay the bill if he wants to – he’s got bags of money.
3. same as handbag ○ My keys are in my bag. 4. a suitcase or large bag used when travelling ○ I always pack my bags at the last minute. ○ to tell someone to pack their bags to tell someone to leave or to tell someone they have to leave their job (informal) ○ When he got home, she told him to pack his bags. 1. to catch, kill or destroy ○ We bagged a brace of pheasants. ○ He bagged three enemy planes. 2. ○ bags I go first let me go first, I claim the right to go first (informal)
bagel /ˈbeɡəl/ noun a small hard bread roll, shaped like a ring
backpack /ˈbeɪpkæk/ noun cases and bags which you take with you when travelling.
Synonym luggage
backpack check /ˈbeɪpkæktʃ/ noun the examination of passengers’ bags to see if they contain bombs or other dangerous objects
baggage handler /ˈbeɪɡɑːdʒ/ hændlə/ noun a person who works at an airport taking passengers’ bags on or off planes

badly

baked potato /ˈbeɪkt/ noun a potato which you bake in the oven, often cut open when it is cooked and filled with another food such as cheese or beans
baker /ˈbeɪkər/ noun a person whose job is to make bread and cakes

baker's dozen /ˈbeɪkədzˈdeɪzn/ noun thirteen

bakery /ˈbeɪkəri/ noun a place where bread and cakes are made for selling to the public

baking /ˈbeɪkɪŋ/ noun the action of cooking in an oven, especially bread and cakes

baking soda /ˈbeɪkɪŋ ˈsəʊdə/ noun sodium bicarbonate, used in baking to make cakes rise

balance /ˈbæləns/ noun 1. the quality of staying steady 2. the cat needs a good sense of balance to walk along the top of a fence. 3. to keep your balance not to fall over 4. to lose your balance to fall down 5. As he was crossing the river on the tightrope he lost his balance and fell. 6. money left in an account 7. I have a balance of £25 in my bank account. 8. money left to be paid 9. You can pay £100 down and the balance in three instalments.

balance of power in the region.

The balance of power in the region is to make bread and cakes

bald /bɔld/ adj 1. having no hair on the head 2. His grandfather is quite bald. 3. He is beginning to go bald. Compare hairless.

baldly /ˈbɔldli/ adv done or said in a plain and simple way

bald tyre /ˈbɔld 'taiər/ noun a tyre which has been worn smooth

ball /bɔl/ noun 1. a large block of a substance such as wool, paper or cotton

ball-bearing /ˈbælərɪŋ /ˈbærɪŋ/ noun 1. a small steel ball 2. I tried to mend my bicycle wheel and lost one of the ball-bearings.
ball boy 50

ring of small steel balls which allows a metal bar to turn easily. The ball bearings in the bicycle wheel had to be replaced.

ball boy /ˈbaɪl bɔɪ/ noun a boy who picks up the balls during tennis games

ballerina /ˌbaɪləˈrɪnə/ noun a woman ballet dancer

ballet /ˈbaɪlɛt/ noun 1. a type of dance, given as a public entertainment, where dancers perform a story to music; 2. a performance of this type of dance. We went to the ballet last night.

ballet dancer /ˈbaɪlɛt ˌdænsər/ noun a person who dances in ballet

ball game /ˈbaɪl ɡeɪm/ noun 1. a game played with a ball and football, tennis and other ball games. 2. US a game of baseball. The general way in which things are managed. A whole new ball game is a completely new situation. It’s opened up a whole new ball game.

ball girl /ˈbaɪl ɡɜːl/ noun a girl who picks up the balls during tennis games

ballistic /ˈbaɪlistɪk/ adj referring to ballistics

ballistics /ˈbaɪlistɪks/ noun the study of things which are shot through the air, such as bullets. The ballistic properties of bullets. The government has introduced legislation to forbid the possession of certain types of rifles, handguns and other firearms.

balloon /ˈbaɪlən/ noun a large ball which is blown up with air or gas. Verb to increase in size or amount

ballot /ˈbaɪlɔt/ noun a way of voting in which voters mark papers with a cross. To vote by marking papers with a cross. The union is balloting its members on the strike. To vote for something in the £10 – £15 price band.

ballot box /ˈbaɪlɔt bɔks/ noun a box for putting voting papers into.

ballot paper /ˈbaɪlɔt ˌpeɪpər/ noun a paper on which the voter marks a vote

ballpark /ˈbaɪlpɑːrkl/ noun US a place for playing baseball. The team’s gone to the ballpark.

ballpark figure /ˈbaɪlpɑːrk ˈfɪɡər/ noun a general figure which can be used as the basis for discussion

ballpoint /ˈbaɪlpɔɪnt/ noun a ball pen which has a small ball at the tip over which ink flows as you write. Don’t write in ballpoint, use a pencil.

ballroom /ˈbaɪlroʊm/ noun a large room for formal dances

ballroom dancing /ˈbaɪlroʊm ˈdɑːnsɪŋ/ noun formal dancing

ballyhoo /ˌbaɪlɪˈhuː/ noun excited and energetic publicity. The nurse put a bandage round his knee. His head was covered in bandages. To put a cloth around a wound or an injured part of the body. The nurse bandaged his knee.

bandage /ˈbændɪdʒ/ noun a cloth for putting around a wound or an injured part of the body. A bandage round his knee. To put a cloth around a wound or an injured part of the body. The nurse bandaged his knee.

balsa /ˈbaɪlsə/ noun a very light wood used for making models

Baltic /ˈbaɪltɪk/ noun the sea south of Sweden and Finland, and north of Poland. We spent the summer cruising along the Baltic coast.

ballustrade /ˌbaɪləˈstrɔːd/ noun a series of small pillars with a bar across the top, forming a wall around a balcony or formal garden

bamboo /ˈbaɪmˈbuː/ noun a tall tropical plant whose stems are used as supports or in making furniture

bamboo shoots /ˈbaɪmˈbuː ˈʃuːts/ plural noun young shoots of bamboo, eaten especially in Chinese cooking

ban /ˈbaɪn/ noun an order which forbids something. The government has introduced a ban on smoking in cinemas. Synonym prohibition verb to forbid. She was banned from driving for three years. (Note: banning – banned)

banal /ˈbaɪnəl/ adj quite ordinary and uninteresting. Synonym commonplace

banality /ˈbaɪnəlɪtɪ/ noun being ordinary. The banality of that sitcom drives me mad.

banana /ˈbaɪnənə/ noun 1. a long yellow, slightly curved fruit which grows in hot countries. She was peeling a banana. Can I have a banana milkshake? 2. to go bananas to get very annoyed. (Informal) When he saw what they had done to his car, he went bananas.

banana republic /ˈboʊnənə ˈrɪpublɪk/ noun a corrupt Central American state (disapproving)

banana split /ˈboʊnənə ˈspɪlt/ noun a dessert made of banana with ice cream, cream and chocolate sauce, usually served in a long dish

band /ˈbaʊnd/ noun 1. a group of people. Bands of drunken football fans wandered around the streets. 2. a group of people who play music together. The soldiers marched down the street, following the band. The dance band played all night.

3. a range of things taken together. He’s in the £50 – £60,000 salary band. We’re looking for something in the £10 – £15 price band. Verb to band together to form a group. They banded together to form a pressure group.

bandage /ˈbaʊndɪdʒ/ noun a cloth for putting around a wound or an injured part of the body. The nurse put a bandage round his knee. His head was covered in bandages. Verb to put a cloth around a wound or an injured part of the body. The nurse bandaged his knee.

bananas /ˈboʊnənəz/ noun 1. a game of baseball. The team’s gone to the ballpark. They baled their corn for the place on the committee.

bananas /ˈboʊnənəz ˈspɪlt/ noun a dessert made of banana with ice cream, cream and chocolate sauce, usually served in a long dish

bananas /ˈboʊnənəs/ noun something of small pillars with a bar across the top, forming a wall around a balcony or formal garden

bananas /ˈboʊnənəs ˈspɪlt/ noun a dessert made of banana with ice cream, cream and chocolate sauce, usually served in a long dish
someone away from a particular place

informal

thing makes a sudden noise

jump on the bandwagon
to do what every -

try) as a punishment

the country, or in a distant part of the coun-

on November 5th – she doesn’t like bangers.

Internet connection or other communication
electronic data that can be sent through an

tries of loud bangs.

banishment
/bænɪʃmənt/ noun the act of banishing or state of being banished. Syn-
onym expulsIon (NOTE: no plural)

banisters
/bænɪstrɪz/ noun a handrail on
top of a series of poles along the side of stairs

banjo
/bændʒoʊ/ noun a stringed instru-
ment with a round body and a long neck

(NOTE: The plural is banjos.)

bank
/bæŋk/ noun 1. a business which
holds money for its clients, which lends
money at interest and trades generally in
money 0 I must go to the bank to get some
money. 0 She took all her money out of the
bank to buy a car. 0 How much money do
you have in the bank? 2. land along the side
of a river 0 He sat on the river bank all day,
trying to catch fish. 0 There is a path along
the bank of the canal. 3. a long heap of earth,
sand, snow, etc. 0 The road was blocked by
banks of snow blown by the wind. 0 verb 1.
to put money away into a bank 0 I banked
the cheque as soon as it arrived. 0 Have you
banked the money yet? 2. to pile up in a long
mound 0 The snow was banked up along
both sides of the road.

bank account
/bæŋk əˈkaʊnt/ noun an arrangement which you make with a bank
to keep your money safely, and in which you
can deposit and withdraw money as you want
0 to open a bank account to start keeping
money in a bank 0 He opened a bank ac-
count when he started his first job. 0 to close
a bank account to stop having an account with a bank

bank holiday
/bæŋk 'hɒlɪdeɪ/ noun a special day when most people do not go to
work and the banks are closed

banking
/bæŋkɪŋ/ noun 1. the profession of working in a bank 0 He is planning a
career in banking. 2. the work that banks do
0 Some supermarkets now offer banking services.

bank manager
/bæŋk ˈmænɪdʒə/ noun the person in charge of a branch of a bank

banknote
/bæŋknəʊt/ noun a piece of pa-
kpaper money (NOTE: The US term is bill.)

bank on
/bæŋk ɒn/ verb to be sure that
something will happen. Synonym count on

bankroll
/bæŋkrɒl/ verb to pay for a pro-
ject (informal). Synonym finance

bankrupt
/bæŋkrʌpt/ adj not able to
pay your debts 0 He has been declared bank-
rupt. 0 noun a person who cannot pay his or
her debts 0 A bankrupt cannot be a member of parliament.
bankruptcy /ˈbæŋkrʌpti/ noun being bankrupt (NOTE: The plural is bankruptcies.)
COMMENT: 'Bankruptcy' and 'bankrupt' are applied to people, and 'insolvency' and 'in-solvent' are usually applied to companies.
bank statement /ˈbæŋk ˈsteɪmənt/ noun a written document from a bank showing the balance of an account
banner /ˈbænər/ noun 1. a long flag ○ They hung banners from the tops of buildings for the festival. 2. a large piece of cloth with a slogan on it ○ The demonstrators carried banners with the words 'Power to the People'.
banner headline /ˈbænər ˈhedlaɪn/ noun a newspaper headline printed in very large letters
banquet /ˈbæŋkwɪt/ noun a formal dinner for important guests
bantam /ˈbæntəm/ noun a small breed of chicken, most kinds being about half the size and weight of an ordinary chicken
bantamweight /ˈbæntəmˌweɪt/ noun a weight of boxer between flyweight and featherweight
banter /ˈbæntər/ noun talk with joking comments
banyan /ˈbænjaɪn/ noun a tropical tree with roots which come down from the branches
bap /ˈbæp/ noun a soft flat white bread roll
baptise /ˈbæptɪz/, baptize verb 1. to receive someone into the Christian religion in a ceremony involving sprinkling or covering with water 2. to give a baby a name when it is baptised. Synonym christen
baptism /ˈbæptɪzəm/ noun 1. a religious ceremony where someone, usually a baby, is welcomed into the Christian church and given a Christian name after being sprinkled with holy water ○ All the family came together for the baptism. Synonym christening 2. (a) baptism of fire the first time someone has faced a difficult situation ○ Giving a speech to the sales conference was her baptism of fire as sales manager. ○ bar /baːr/ noun 1. a long piece of something hard ○ The yard was full of planks and metal bars. 2. a solid rectangular piece of material ○ Put a new bar of soap by the bath. ○ She was munching a bar of chocolate. 3. a long piece of wood or metal which closes a door or window ○ behind bars in prison ○ He was put behind bars for several years. 4. the long metal or plastic key on a computer keyboard 5. a place in a hotel or pub where you can buy and drink alcohol ○ Let’s meet in the bar before dinner. ○ The regis met in the bar of the hotel. 6. a small shop where you can buy food 7. an obstacle, something which prevents something else happening ○ bankruptcy /ˈbæŋkrʌpti/ noun being bankrupt (NOTE: The plural is bankruptcies.)
Not having the right qualifications could be a bar to your promotion. 8. the profession of a barrister ○ to be called to the bar to become a barrister 9. a division within a piece of music ○ Let’s play the first few bars again. ○ prop except ○ All of the suppliers replied bar one. ○ All bar two of the players in the team are British. ○ verb 1. to block ○ The road was barred by the police. ○ The path is barred to cyclists. 2. to bar someone from doing something to prevent someone doing something ○ She was barred from entering the USA.
barb /ˈbɑːb/ noun a small tooth on a fish-hook or arrow
barbarian /ˈbærəriən/ noun a wild and uncivilised person
barbaric /ˈbɑːbərɪk/ adj cruel and uncivilised
barbarous /ˈbærərəs/ adj very cruel (formal)
1. barbecue /ˈbɑːbɪkjʊə/ noun 1. a metal grill for cooking out of doors ○ Light the barbecue at least half an hour before you start cooking. 2. a meal or party where food is cooked out of doors ○ We had a barbecue for twenty guests. ○ They were invited to a barbecue. ○ verb 1. to cook on a barbecue ○ Barbecued spare ribs are on the menu. ○ She was barbecuing sausages for lunch when it started to rain.
barbed wire /ˈbɑːbd ˈwɛər/ noun a type of wire with sharp spikes, used to make fences
barbell /ˈbɑːbɛl/ noun a long metal bar with a weight at each end which is used in weightlifting
barber /ˈbɑːbər/ noun a person who cuts men’s hair
barbiturate /ˈbɑːrbɪtjʊrət/ noun a drug which sends you to sleep
bar chart /ˈbɑːt/ noun a diagram where quantities are shown as thick columns of different heights. Also called bar graph
bar code /ˈbɑːk/ noun printed lines which can be read by a computer
bard /ˈbɑːd/ noun a poet (literary or humorous) ○ the Bard (of Avon) a literary name for William Shakespeare
bare /ˈbɑːr/ adj 1. with no clothes on ○ a bare living just enough to live
bareback 53 barometer

on ○ He makes a bare living selling T-shirts to tourists. ○ bare minimum the smallest amount needed ○ The flat is furnished with the bare minimum of furniture. ■ verb to make part of the body bare by removing clothes ○ Men should bare their heads on entering the church. Synonym expose (NOTE: Do not confuse with bear.)

bareback /ˈbɛəbæk/ adj, adv without a saddle

barefaced lie /ˈbɛəfɛst/ noun a crude or cynical lie

barefoot /ˈbɛəfʊt/ adj, adv without shoes ○ The children were barefoot. ○ She walked barefoot in the grass.

bareheaded /ˈbɛəhedid/ adj, adv not wearing a hat

barelegged /ˈbɛəlɛgd/ adj, adv not wearing clothes on your legs

barely /ˈbɛəli/ adv scarcely, almost not enough ○ She barely had enough money to pay for her ticket. ○ He barely had time to get dressed before the police arrived. ○ The noise in the foundry is barely tolerable. Synonym hardy

bargain /ˈbɑːɡɪn/ noun 1. an agreed deal ○ to strike a bargain to agree terms ○ We shook hands and the bargain was struck. ○ he drives a hard bargain he is a tough negotiator 2. ○ into the bargain as well as other things ○ The plane was late and they lost my suitcase into the bargain. 3. something bought more cheaply than usual ○ The car was a real bargain at £500. ■ verb 1. to negotiate terms ○ After bargaining with the doorman, we managed to get into the club. 2. to haggle, to discuss a price ○ If you bargain with the man in the antique shop, you’ll probably get something knocked off the price. 3. ○ to bargain for something to expect something to happen ○ I hadn’t bargained for him being away and leaving me to do all the work. ○ I got more than I bargained for the situation had unpleasant results which I did not expect

bargain basement /ˈbɑːɡɪnˈbɛəsmənt/ noun a department, sometimes in the basement of a shop, where you can buy things at cheap prices

bargain counter /ˈbɑːɡɪnˈkaʊntər/ noun a counter in a shop where things are sold particularly cheaply

bargain hunting /ˈbɑːɡɪnˈhʌntɪŋ/ noun the activity of looking for bargains in a shop

bargaining /ˈbɑːɡɪnɪŋ/ noun the discussing of prices or terms

bargain offer /ˈbɑːɡɪn ˈəfər/ noun goods which are put on sale at a reduced price

barge /ˈbɑːɡ/ noun a cargo boat on a river or canal ○ We watched the barges go past along the Rhine.

barge in /ˈbɑːɡ dʒ ˈɪn/ verb to arrive or intervene in an unwelcome way. Synonym rush

barge pole /ˈbɑːɡ dʒ ˈpɔʊl/ noun ○ I wouldn’t touch it with a barge pole I would advise you not to get involved in that (informal)

bar graph /ˈbɑːr ɡrɑːf/ noun same as bar chart

barista /ˈbɑːrɪstə/ noun someone who makes coffee in a coffee bar

baritone /ˈbɑːrɪtɔʊn/ noun a singer with a voice which is higher than a bass and lower than a tenor ○ The baritone sang a duet with the soprano. ■ adj higher than a bass and lower than a tenor ○ He has a rich baritone voice

barium /ˈbɛəriəm/ noun a chemical element which is a white metal

bark /ˈbɑːrk/ noun 1. the hard outer layer of a tree ○ the rough bark of a pine tree ○ The bark of silver birch trees comes off in strips. 2. the call of a dog ○ The dog gave a bark of greeting as we came into the house. ○ his bark is worse than his bite he is not as frightening as he seems ○ Don’t be afraid of Aunt Bessie – her bark is much worse than her bite. ■ verb 1. to scrape your skin ○ He barked his shin climbing over the wall. 2. to make a call like a dog ○ The dog barks every time he hears the postman. ○ to bark up the wrong tree to be mistaken ○ They don’t know what the problem is – they’re barking up the wrong tree.

barley /ˈbɑːlri/ noun a common cereal crop grown in temperate areas

barn /ˈbɑːrn/ noun 1. a large farm building used for storing produce, and also used in the USA for keeping animals ○ barnacle /ˈbɑːrnəkl/ noun a small shellfish which clings to things in the sea such as the bottoms of ships and wooden posts ○ barnstorming /ˈbɑːrnɔːstəmɪŋ/ adj full of wild political oratory

barnyard /ˈbɑːrnjɑːd/ noun the space round barns and other farm buildings. Synonym farmyard

barometer /ˈbɑːrəmətər/ noun an instrument which measures changes in atmospheric pressure and can be used to forecast the weather
barometric pressure

barometric pressure /ˈbærəmetrɪk/ noun atmospheric pressure shown by a barometer

baron /ˈbærən/ noun 1. a nobleman, of a low rank in the UK 2. the title given to a life peer in the UK 3. a powerful person (NOTE: Do not confuse with barren.)

COMMENT: Life peers and peeresses are barons and baronesses; barons are addressed as ‘Lord’ followed by their family name, and baronesses as ‘Lady’. In some European countries, the word is used as a form of address: so, Baron Smith is addressed as ‘Lord Smith’, but Baron Schmidt is addressed as ‘Baron’.

baroness /ˈbærənɪs/ noun 1. the wife of a baron 2. the title given to a female life peer

baronet /ˈbærənət/ noun a member of one of the lowest ranks of the aristocracy, of lower status than a baron

COMMENT: Baronets are addressed as ‘Sir’, followed by their Christian name and family name; their wives are addressed as ‘Lady’ followed by the family name (hence Sir John Smith’s wife is addressed as ‘Lady Smith’). The title passes to the heir but does not automatically qualify the holder for a seat in the House of Lords; baronets can be Members of Parliament.

baroque /ˈbærərk/ adj highly decorated European artistic, architectural and musical style of the late 17th and 18th centuries

barracks /ˈbærəks/ noun 1. a building where soldiers are housed ○ The soldiers marched into their barracks. 2. a big cold building ○ The school was housed in a barracks of a building. (NOTE: Barracks takes a singular or a plural verb.)

barrage /ˈbærɪdʒ/ noun 1. heavy gunfire, mass of things thrown ○ The enemy started an artillery barrage. ○ The police were met by a barrage of stones and bottles. ○ He faced a barrage of questions from reporters when he arrived at the airport. 2. a dam made of a wall of soil or stones which blocks a river ○ They built a barrage to help control the water level in the river.

barrel /ˈbærəl/ noun 1. a round wooden container for liquid ○ a barrel of beer ○ We sell wine by the barrel. □ he’s got me over a barrel he has put me in very awkward situation 2. an amount contained in a barrel ○ The price of oil has reached $30 a barrel. ○ The oil well produces thousands of barrels of oil per day. 3. the firing tube of a gun ○ You need to clean the barrel of your rifle very carefully.

barren /ˈbærən/ adj 1. (of land) which is not fertile and cannot grow crops ○ Barren land stretches for miles around the reactor site. 2. which cannot bear young ○ a barren cow 3. which does not produce fruit ○ One pear tree on its own will be barren – you need two trees to produce fruit. (NOTE: Do not confuse with barren.)

barricade /ˈbærɪkɪd/ noun a pile of something such as stones or burnt cars which is used to block a street ○ Protestants built barricades across several of the main streets.

Synonym blockade □ verb to build a barricade ○ Protestants barricaded the streets. □ to barricade yourself inside to block a door with furniture, etc., so that no one else can get inside ○ He barricaded himself inside the flat.

barrier /ˈbærɪə/ noun 1. a bar which blocks a passage ○ He lifted the barrier and we drove across the border. 2. something which stops something from progressing or happening, such as the spread of a disease or the import of goods

barrier reef /ˈbærɪə ˈrɪfəl/ noun a coral reef enclosing a lagoon

barricade /ˈbærɪkɪd/ verb unless something is the case

barrister /ˈbærɪstə/ noun a lawyer who can present cases in court. ○ bar Also called counsel (NOTE: The word barrister is not used in the USA.)

COMMENT: Barristers are members of one of the Inns of Court. They are instructed by solicitors, and never by the client whom they are representing. Important barristers are nominated to become QCs.

barrow /ˈbærəʊ/ noun 1. a wheeled hand-cart for selling fruit and vegetables 2. a mound of earth over the tomb of a prehistoric leader ○ Archaeologists are excavating an old barrow.

bartender /ˈbɑːtərənd/ noun a person who serves behind the bar

barter /ˈbɑːtər/ noun a system where goods are exchanged for other goods and not sold for money ○ The company has agreed a barter deal with Bulgaria. □ verb □ to barter something for something to exchange goods for other goods, and not buy them for money ○ They agreed a deal to barter tractors for barrels of wine.

basalt /ˈbæsəlt/ noun a black rock produced by volcanoes

base /beɪs/ noun 1. the bottom part ○ The table lamp has a flat base. 2. a place where you work from ○ He lives in London but uses Paris as his base when travelling in France. 3. one of the marked spots in baseball where a player is safe ○ Players have to run from base to base. □ to touch base with someone to get in touch with someone again (informal) ○ I’m calling because I wanted to touch base with you. □ verb to use as a base ○ The company is based in Paris, it is not
baseball /ˈbeɪsbol/ noun 1. an American game for two teams of nine players, in which a player hits a ball with a bat and players from the other team try to catch it. ○ We went to the baseball game last Saturday. 2. the hard ball used in playing baseball. ○ We lost yet another baseball in the river.

basement /ˈbeɪsmənt/ noun a floor in a building below ground level. Synonym cellar. Antonym attic.

baseball cap /ˈbeɪsbɔl kæp/ noun a soft cotton cap with a large peak.

baseline /ˈbeɪslain/ noun the line at the back of a tennis court, etc.

basement /ˈbeɪsmənt/ noun a floor in a building below ground level. Synonym cellar. Antonym attic.

base rate /ˈbeɪs rɛt/ noun a basic rate of interest set by a central bank on which other banks calculate the actual rate of interest on money they lend. (NOTE: The US term is prime rate.)

bash /bæʃ/ noun 1. a knock ○ I see your car has had a bash. 2. □ have a bash to try to do something (informal) ○ Waterskiing looks fun – do you think I could have a bash at it? 3. a party ○ Are you going to Jane’s bash tomorrow? (NOTE: The plural is bashes.) □ verb to hit hard ○ He bashed her over the head with a stick. ○ When she fell down she bashed her head on the chair. ○ She was bashing stakes into the ground with a mallet.

bashful /ˈbæʃfəl/ adj shy and embarrassed. Synonym shy.

basil /ˈbeɪsɪl/ noun a herb with strongly scented leaves which is used especially in Italian cooking.

basilica /ˈbeɪzɪlɪkə/ noun 1. an early form of Christian church, built as a long rectangle. 2. an important Catholic church ○ St Peter’s Basilica is the most important church in Rome.

basin /ˈbeɪzn/ noun a large bowl ○ wash basin a large bowl in the bathroom, used for washing your hands and face.

basis /ˈbeɪsɪs/ noun 1. the general facts on which something is based ○ What is the basis for these proposals? ○ on the basis of based on ○ The calculations are done on the basis of an exchange rate of 1.6 dollars to the pound. 2. the general terms of an agreement ○ She is working for us on a freelance basis. ○ Many of the helpers at the hospice work on a voluntary basis. (NOTE: The plural is bases /ˈbeɪsɪz/.)

bash /ˈbeɪʃ/ verb to lie happily in warm sunshine or in a pleasant atmosphere ○ basket /ˈbeɪskɪt/ noun a container made of thin pieces of wood, wire or grass woven together.

basketball /ˈbeɪskətˌbɔl/ noun 1. a game played by two teams of five players who try to throw the ball through an open net hung high up at each end of the playing area. 2. the ball used when playing basketball.

to basic /beɪsɪk/ adj referring to a low-pitched voice or music ○ He has a pleasant bass voice. Synonym deep. ○ bass /ˈbeɪs/ noun a type of edible freshwater fish.

bass /ˈbeɪs/ noun a type of edible freshwater fish.

bass clef /ˈbeɪs klef/ noun a sign showing that the notes are in a low range.

bassoon /ˈbæsʊn/ noun a long wooden wind instrument, with a low tone.

baste /ˈbeɪst/ noun 1. a person whose parents are not married ○ Technically speaking, many children are born bastards nowadays. 2. a nasty person or nasty thing (generally offensive) ○ The bastard walked out of the restaurant without paying. ○ The written driving test is a real bastard. □ adj with parents who are not married ○ the bastard son of the last duke.

bastion /ˈbeɪʃən/ noun 1. a part of a castle wall which sticks out from the face of the wall. ○ The gate was protected by bastions at each corner. 2. a place which protects some particular way of living ○ the country is a bastion of democracy the country is firmly democratic ○ Rome is famous as the bastion of Catholicism.

bat /beɪt/ noun 1. a piece of wood used for hitting a ball ○ a baseball bat ○ a cricket bat ○ he did it off his own bat he decided to do it himself, without asking anyone (informal). 2. a little animal, similar to a mouse, which can fly ○ Bats hang upside down. □ verb 1. to be one of the two batsmen or to be the team which is batting in a cricket match ○ England batted all day. ○ Vaughan is bat-
batch /bætʃ/ noun 1. a number of things made at one time

bated /ˈbætɪd/ adj □ with bated breath in anxious or excited anticipation ○ She waited with bated breath to see if she had passed the exam.

bath /bɑθ/ noun 1. a large container in which you can sit and wash your whole body ○ There’s a wash basin and a bath in the bathroom. (NOTE: The US term is bathtub or tub.) 2. the process of washing your whole body ○ My father has a cold bath every morning. □ to throw the baby out with the bath water to get rid of something good and useful at the same time as you are getting rid of something useless (informal) 3. □ swimming baths a large building with a swimming pool □ verb to wash all over ○ She’s bathing the baby. Synonym wash (NOTE: Do not confuse with bathe. Note also baths /bɑθz/ – bathing /ˈbæθɪŋ/ – bathed /ˈbæθt/.)
bathie /ˈbæθi/ verb 1. to go into water ○ Thousands of pilgrims come to bathe in the Ganges. 2. to wash a wound carefully ○ The nurse bathed his wound before applying a dressing. 3. US to have a bath ○ I just have enough time to bathe before my dinner guests arrive. □ noun the act of swimming in a pool, a river, or the sea (dated) □ We all went for an early-morning bathe before breakfast. (NOTE: Do not confuse with bath. Note also baths /bɑθz/ – bathing /ˈbæθɪŋ/ – bathed /ˈbæθt/.)
bather /ˈbæθər/ noun a person who is swimming. Synonym swimmer

bathing /ˈbæθɪŋ/ noun swimming or going into the sea, a river or a lake

bathing costume /ˈbæθɪŋ kɒstjuːm/,
bathing suit /ˈbæθɪŋ sət/ noun a piece of clothing worn when swimming (dated)
bathrobe /ˈbɑθrəʊb/ noun a loose coat of towelling, worn when you get out of a bath ○ She came out of the bathroom dressed in a pink bathrobe.

bathroom /ˈbɑθrʊm/ noun 1. a room in a house with a bath, a wash basin and usually a toilet ○ The house has two bathrooms. 2. a toilet (said instead of) ○ Where’s the bathroom? ○ Can I use your bathroom, please?
bath salts /ˈbɑθsɔlts/ plural noun scented crystals to put in a bath

bath towel /ˈbɑθtaʊəl/ noun a very large towel

bathub /ˈbɑθʌb/ noun US the container in which you sit and wash your body (NOTE: The British term is bath.)
bead /biːd/ noun 1. a little piece of wood, plastic or glass, with a hole in it, which is used to make a necklace or other decoration. (NOTE: She was wearing a string of red beads. O Beads are back in fashion again.) 2. a small
beady adj 1. small and round like beads. 2. Her eyes were bright and beady.

beagle /’biɡl/ noun a breed of dog used for hunting.

beak /biːk/ noun the hard part of a bird’s mouth. Synonym bill

beaker /’biːkə/ noun 1. a drinking cup with or without a handle, sometimes with a lid and spout if intended for very small children. 2. a glass jar used in chemical experiments. 3. a long block of wood or metal which supports a structure, especially a roof. 4. You can see the old beams in the ceiling.

bean /biːn/ noun 1. a long thin green vegetable, of which you eat the pod or seeds. 2. beans are good for someone to do something.

beard /biːrd/ noun 1. a hair growing on the chin. Synonym stubble.

bear /biːr/ noun 1. a large wild animal covered with fur. 2. a bear with a sore head in a very bad temper. 3. a bear with a sore head this morning. 4. a person who believes that shares prices will fall. Compare bull.

beaut 58 beat

drop of liquid. 2. Beads of sweat formed on his brow.

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beamed at him. 1. full of energy. full of beans.

beard /biːrd/ noun 1. a hair growing on the chin. Synonym stubble.

bear /biːr/ noun 1. a large wild animal covered with fur. 2. a bear with a sore head in a very bad temper. 3. a bear with a sore head this morning. 4. a person who believes that shares prices will fall. Compare bull.

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beat down
Here policemen on the beat have to go around in pairs. I verb 1. to make a regular sound. He was beaten by a gang of youths. II hung the carpet on the line and beat it with a stick to remove the dust. III the burglars beat a hasty retreat the burglars went away very quickly. IV don’t beat about the bush get to the point quickly. 2. to do better than someone else or than another team in a game. Our football team beat France 2 – 0. They beat their rivals into second place. Our football team beat France 2 – 0. We beat the Australians at cricket last year. 4. to stir eggs or another food vigorously. Beat the yolks of three eggs with a little cream. 5. beat it! go away! (informal) (NOTE: beating – beat – has beaten)

beat down /bɪtˈdɔːn/ verb 1. to make someone reduce a price I I beat down his price or I beat him down. 2. to fall hard on. The sun was beating down so we looked for some shade. II The rain beat down on the marchers.

beaten /ˈbɪt(ə)ni/ adj 1. defeated I The beaten team was very disappointed. 2. off the beaten track away from main roads. Luckily, our village is off the beaten track and so is very quiet.

beating /ˈbɪtɪŋ/ noun the act of hitting or defeating. Beating up. I Beating up a boy. II I Beat up the mixture in a big bowl. 2. to attack someone. Three muggers beat him up and stole his wallet.

beat-up /ˈbɪt ap/ adj wrecked and useless (informal). Synonym battered. Antonym pristine

Beaulieu /ˈbjuəliː/ noun a light French red wine from Burgundy

beautician /bjuˈtʃɪʃən/ noun a person who works in a beauty parlour. I beautiful /ˈbjuːtɪfl/ adj very nice, especially to look at. The beautiful colours of the autumn leaves. Mr Smith and his three beautiful daughters. They have a beautiful house in the country. II What beautiful weather!

beautifully /bjuˈtɪflli/ adv in a very pleasing way

beautify /bjuːtɪfaɪ/ verb to make someone or something beautiful

beauty /ˈbjuːti/ noun 1. the quality of being beautiful. II the beauty of the maples against the background of the blue lake. 2. a beautiful woman; a beautiful thing. At 18 she was a real beauty. His motorbike is a beauty – I must buy one like it. II Look at these apples, they’re real beauties.
leads a life full of difficulties.

3. A manifesto.

2. You rent a cottage the bedding is usually provided. When you rent a cottage the bedding is usually provided.

2. A soft material such as hay for an animal to sleep on.

bed linen /ˈbed.lɪn/ noun sheets and pillows used on a bed

bedraggled /ˈbrə.dʒəld/ adj dirty, untidy and wet. Synonym unkempt

bedridden /ˈbed.rɪd/ adj forced to stay in bed because of illness

bedrock /ˈbed.rɒk/ noun 1. The bottom layer of rock under the earth's crust. 2. A basic principle of Marxism is the bedrock of the party's manifesto.

bedroom /ˈbed.руm/ noun a room where you sleep. My bedroom is on the first floor. The hotel has twenty-five bedrooms.

bedside /ˈbed.sayd/ noun the side of a bed

bedside manner /ˈbed.sайд.ˈmэ.nər/ noun the way in which a doctor behaves towards a patient, especially a patient who is in bed

bed-sitting room /ˈbed.sətɪŋ ruːm/ a combined bedroom and living room which is rented

bed sore /ˈbed.sər/ noun an inflamed patch of skin which you get from lying in bed

bedspread /ˈbed.spred/ noun a decorated cloth put over a bed

bedtime /ˈbed.tіm/ noun the time when you go to bed. It's past your bedtime if it's later than the time when you normally go to bed

bee /bi/ noun an insect which makes honey, and can sting you if it is annoyed

COMMENT: In a bee colony, the main female bee is the queen; the other females are the workers, and the males are the drones.

beech /biːtʃ/ noun 1. same as beech tree

2. wood from this tree a beech table. The floor is made of beech.

NOTE: Do not confuse with beach.

beech tree /ˈbiːtʃ ˈtriː/ noun a common hardwood tree. Beech trees are common on the chalk hills in the south of England.

beef /biːf/ noun 1. meat from a cow a plate of roast beef and Yorkshire pudding. 2. A grumble (informal) It's one of her regular beefs.

verb (informal) to beef about to grumble about something. What's he beefing on about, tell him to shut up! to beef up to make something bigger or stronger. We will have to beef up our advertising budget.

beefburger /ˈbiːf.bɜːɡə/ noun a cake of grilled minced beef, usually served in a roll

beefy /ˈbiːfi/ adj. 1. big and muscular. 2. A strong, beefy looking man. Synonym brawny

beehive /ˈbiː.hʌv/ noun a box for bees to make a nest in

beehive /ˈbiː.ɪv/ noun a person who keeps bees for their honey

beeline /ˈbiː.ˈlɛɪn/ noun a straight line to make a beeline for to go straight towards

beefing on about, tell him to shut up!

beep /bip/ noun an audible warning sound

verb to beep to make a beep. The computer beeped when I hit the wrong key.

beep # Synonym peep

beeper /ˈbiːpə/ noun same as bleeper

beer /ˈbiːr/ noun 1. An alcoholic drink made from grain and water. British beer is flavoured with hops. Can I have a glass of beer? (NOTE: no plural) 2. A glass or bottle of beer

beef /ˈbiːf/ noun same as sugar beet

beet /ˈbiːt/ noun an insect with hard covers on its wings

beetroot /ˈbiːtrʌt/ noun a vegetable with a dark red root, eaten cooked, usually in a salad as red as a beetroot very red in the face. He went as red as a beetroot when we asked him about his girlfriend.

befall /ˈbɛfəl/ verb to happen to (archaic or literary) (NOTE: befailing – befell – has been fallen)

befit /ˈbɛft/ verb to suit (NOTE: befettling – befitted)

before /ˈbrɛf/ adv earlier I didn't see him last week, I saw him the week before.

Who didn’t you tell me before? The prep earlier than that. They should have arrived earlier now.

You must be home before 9 o'clock. G comes before H in the alphabet. before that earlier than that. The police got there be-
beforehand

... before you start to answer exam questions. Before you sit down, can you switch on the light?

Synonym afterwards

Antonym shun

beg (beg/ verb 1. to ask for things like money or food. She sat begging on the steps of the station. Children were begging for food. 2. to ask someone in an emotional way to do something or give something. His mother begged him not to go. He begged for more time to find the money. to beg a favour of someone to ask someone to do something for you. 3. I beg your pardon! excuse me, forgive me. The beggar! a person who lives by asking for money or food. There are lots of beggars outside the railway stations. Lucky beggar! lucky person (informal dated). He just won the lottery — lucky beggar!

begging (beg/noun the act of asking for food or money. It’s going begging no one wants it. This last sandwich is going begging.

begin (begin/ verb to start. The children began to cry. She has begun to knit a red pullover for her father. The house is beginning to warm up. His surname begins with an S. The meeting is due to begin at ten o’clock sharp. to begin again to start a second time. He forgot to save his file and had to begin keyboarding all over again. (NOTE: beginning — begin /begin/ — has begun /begin/)

beginner /begin/ noun a person who is starting. Synonym novice

beginning /begin/ noun the first part. The beginning of the film is rather boring. Synonym start

begin with /begin/ verb to begin with at first. to Begin with, I travelled by train but now I cycle every day.

begudge /beg/ verb to feel resentful because of something someone has or does. Synonym resent

begun /begin/ begin behalf /behalf/ noun on behalf of acting for someone. She is speaking on behalf of the trade association. He was chosen to speak on behalf of the other workers on the shop floor.

behave /behave/ verb to act in a certain way with someone. He behaved very pleasantly towards his staff. She was behaving in a funny way. to behave (yourself) to be good. If you don’t behave yourselves, children, you won’t have any ice cream.

behaved /behaved/ suffix referring to behaviour. a well-behaved child

behaviour /behaviour/ noun a way of doing things. His behaviour was quite normal. Local people complained about the behaviour of the football fans. (NOTE: The US spelling is behavior.)

behavioural /behavioural/ adjective referring to human behaviour. (NOTE: The US spelling is behavioral.)

behead /behead/ verb to cut off someone’s head. Synonym decapitate

behind /behind/ verb at the back of. They hid behind the door. I dropped my pen behind the sofa. He was second, only three metres behind the winner. She’s behind the rest of class she is not as advanced as the others. In time 2, responsible for. The police believe they know who is behind the bombing campaign. Supporting. All his colleagues were behind his decision. We’re behind you! add 1. at the back. He was first, and the rest of the runners were a long way behind. He left his wallet behind he forgot to take his wallet with him when the others went out. He stayed behind to watch TV when he stayed at home when the others went out later than you should be. I am behind with my correspondence. The company has fallen behind with its deliveries. noun the part of the body which you sit on. There was some water on the chair and my behind’s all wet. I’ll kick his behind if he doesn’t get a move on. He’s so lazy! — he needs a good kick up the behind.

behold /behold/ verb 1. to see (old) The happiness on the little children’s faces was marvellous to behold. 2. lo and behold! used to introduce something you think is surprising. We had been waiting for hours for a bus when, lo and behold, three came together.

beige /beige/ adjective very pale brown. He was wearing a beige pullover.

being /being/ adjective for the time being. Temporarily, for now. We will leave the furniture as it is for the time being. The association came into being in 1946. A human. Synonym existence

belated /belated/ adjective coming or happening later than it should. Synonym late.

belch /belch/ verb allowing air in the stomach to come up through the mouth. He finished his meal and let out a loud belch. Synonym burp (NOTE: The plural is belches.)

verb 1. to make air in the stomach come up through the mouth. He wiped his mouth and belched. 2. to pour out of
beleaguered /bəˈliːguərd/ adj surrounded by difficulties or by enemies. Dark smoke belched from the power station. 3. to belch out to send out large amounts of smoke, flames or flames. 4. The power station was belching out dark smoke.

beleaguered /bəˈliːguərd/ adj surrounded by difficulties or by enemies.

belfry /bɛlfri/ noun a church tower where bells are (NOTE: The plural is belfries.)

Belgian /bɛlkjən/ adj referring to Belgium. 1. Belgian chocolates are very popular in England. 2. All Belgian motorists are lit up at night. 3. noun a person from Belgium. 4. There were two Belgians at the meeting, and two of them were Belgians.

belie /bɪˈliː/ verb 1. to hide. 2. His brusque manner belies his gentle nature. 3. to show that something is false. 4. His exam results belied his teachers' reports.

belief /bɪˈliːf/ noun feeling sure that something is true. 1. His firm belief in the power of law. 2. Her strong belief in God. 3. it is my belief I believe. 4. It's my belief that the problems have been grossly exaggerated.

believe in to believe in. 1. to be sure that something exists. 2. To the best of my belief, no one else has seen it.

believer /bɪˈliːvər/ noun a person who believes in a particular religion or idea. Synonym supporter

Belisha beacon /bɛliʃə/ bɛˈliːʃə/ noun a flashing light at a zebra crossing

bell /bɛl/ noun 1. a metal object shaped like a cup, which makes a ringing noise when hit. 2. They rang the church bells at the wedding. 3. An object designed to make a ringing noise, especially an electric device. 4. The alarm bell rings if you touch the door. 5. The postman rang the door bell. 6. You ought to have a bell on your bicycle. 7. that rings a bell that reminds me of something. 8. Does the name Forsyth ring a bell? 9. to give someone a bell to phone someone (informal) 10. I'll give you a bell when we've sorted out the details.

belligerent /bəˈlɪdʒərənt/ adj 1. wanting to go to war, or being at war. 2. The country has turned increasingly belligerent towards its neighbours. 3. aggressive, wanting to argue with other people. 4. Ask the manager about it tomorrow, he's in a belligerent mood at the moment. Synonym compliant noun a country that is at war. 5. The belligerents refused to accept the ruling of the international mediators.

bellow /bɛləʊ/ noun a loud deep cry. 1. The deer raised its head and gave a loud bellow. 2. to make a loud cry. 3. He bellowed with pain. 4. The bull was bellowing in the farmyard. 5. to shout. 6. He bellowed to the swimmers to come back to the beach.

bells /bɛlz/ plural noun a device used to blow air onto a fire (NOTE: no singular: to show one item, say 'a pair of bells'.)

belly /bɛl/ noun 1. the stomach or abdomen. 2. the chest. 3. a pain in the abdomen or stomach. 4. She had a bellyache after eating green apples. 5. to complain about something

bellyache /bɛləʊk/ noun a pain in the abdomen or stomach. 1. Nothing seems to make her happy – she's always bellyaching about something.

belly button /bɛlɪˈbtn/ noun same as navel (informal)

belong /bɛlnəŋ/ verb 1. to be in the usual or expected place. 2. That book belongs on the top shelf. 3. to be happy to be somewhere or with a group of people. 4. Within a week in my new job I felt I belonged.

belong to something to belong to something. 1. to be a member of an organisation. 2. They still belong to the tennis club.

belongings /bɛlnɪŋz/ plural noun personal property.

beloved /bɛlˈvəʊd/ adj which is loved.

bellow lower down. 1. Standing on the bridge we looked at the river below. 2. These toys are for children of two
belt /bɛlt/ noun 1. a strap which goes round your waist to hold up a skirt or trousers o She wore a bright red belt. o This silver belt comes from Thailand. 2. a person who wears a particular coloured belt worn when playing judo, karate, etc. o He’s a black belt. 3. a zone around something n verb 1. to travel fast o The car was belting along the motorway at over 100 miles an hour. 2. o to belt out to sing very loudly o The fans were belting out football songs.

bend /bend/ noun 1. a simple liquid 2. a bend in a road, line, etc. o The road bends sharply after the bridge. o There’s a sudden bend in the road. o There are dangerous rocks beneath the river flowing beneath. Synonym under-neath. Antonym above n prep 1. under o There are dangerous rocks beneath the surface of the lake. o The river flows very fast beneath the bridge. 2. not suitable, not important enough o He thinks it is beneath him to make the coffee himself.

benefactor /ˌbenifækˈtər/ noun a person who gives money to an organisation such as a charity. Synonym patron

beneficient /ˌbenifиˈsent/ adj helping or showing kindness to others (literary)

beneficial /ˈbenifɪʃəl/ adj which helps. Synonym helpful. Antonym detrimental

beneficiary /ˌbenɪˈfɪʃri/ noun 1. a person who inherits something in a will o The main beneficiaries were his three children. 2. someone, or a group, who is helped by something o Who will be the main beneficiaries of this new law? (NOTE: The plural is beneficiaries.)

benefit /ˈbenɪfɪt/ noun 1. an advantage o What benefit would I get from joining the club? o for someone’s benefit specially for someone o You are not doing it just for my benefit, are you? 2. payment by the state o unemployment benefit o maternity benefit n verb 1. to be useful to someone o The book will benefit anyone who is planning to do some house repairs. 2. o to benefit from by something to get an advantage from o British tourists will benefit from the strong pound. o Pensioners can benefit from free bus passes.

Benelux /ˈbenəlaks/ noun Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg together as a group

benevolence /ˌbenəˈvɒləns/ noun being good and kind. Antonym malevolence

benevolent /ˌbenəˈvɒlənt/ adj good and kind. Antonym malevolent

benign /ˈbeniŋ/ adj 1. kind and pleasant 2. o a benign growth a harmless or non-cancerous growth o At first they thought the growth was benign, but in fact it was malignant.

bent /bent/ adj 1. curved o These nails are bent so we can’t use them. 2. o to be bent on to be very keen on doing something o He is bent on buying the car even if he can’t afford it. 3. dishonest o a bent police officer n noun a natural ability for doing a particular activity o a scientific bent o She discovered a bent for nursing. Synonym aptitude

benzy /ˈbɛnt/ adj bent

benzene /ˈbenзɪn/ noun a simple liquid hydrocarbon used in making plastic and petrol
bequeath /ˈbɪkwɪθ/ verb ☞ to bequeath something to someone to leave property or money to someone in a will. Synonym leave. Antonym inherit

berate /bəˈret/ verb to criticise in an angry tone (literary). Synonym rebuke. Antonym praise

bereaved /bəˈriːvd/ adj who has a close relative or friend who has died. We sent our condolences to the bereaved families. Synonym mourning. noun the bereaved family and friends of a person who has died. The priest was trying to console the bereaved after the funeral.

bereavement /bəˈriːvment/ noun the loss of a friend or relative through death

bereft /bəˈrɛft/ adj bereft of without (formal). He was left bereft of all income when his business collapsed. The children were bereft of medical care.

berries /ˈberi/ noun a small fruit (NOTE: The plural is berries. Do not confuse with bery.)

berserk /ˈberzhərk/ adj to go berserk to get angry and out of control. When he heard that she had sold his collection of stamps he went berserk.

berth /bɜːθ/ noun 1. a place where a ship stays in a harbour. There are no berths free – the ferry will have to wait at anchor outside the harbour for a while. 2. to give someone or something a wide berth to avoid someone or something. Dad is in a bad mood – I’d give him a wide berth if I were you. 3. a bunk bed on a ship or train. Do you want the upper or lower berth? verb (of a ship) to stay in a harbour. The ship won’t berth until late this evening.

beseech /bɛsɪtʃ/ verb (literary) ☞ to beseech someone to do something to ask someone earnestly to do something (formal). She beseeched them to think again. Do not do this, I beseech you.

beset /bɛsɛt/ adj ☞ beset with surrounded with difficulties or problems. The move to new offices was beset with problems.

beside /bɛsɛd/ prep. 1. at the side of someone or something. Come and sit down beside me. The office is just beside the railway station. It’s beside the point; it’s got nothing to do with the main subject. Whether or not the coat matches your hat is beside the point – it’s simply too big for you. 2. to be beside yourself with to be in a very agitated or excited state because of something. The parents were beside themselves with worry when their daughter did not come home from school.

beside himself with grief.

besides /bɛsɪdz/ prep as well as. They have two other cars besides the big Ford. Besides the football team, our town also has a hockey team.

besiege /bɛsɪdʒ/ verb to surround a building, a town or city to be besieged with something to receive many demands, enquiries, letters, etc. The bookshop was besieged with enquiries about the new dictionary.

besotted /bɛsətɪd/ adj ☞ besotted with someone madly in love with someone. I don’t see what he sees in her, but he’s completely besotted. She’s besotted with her new baby.

best /best/ adj 1. very good, better than anything else. She’s my best friend. He put on his best suit to go to the interview. What is the best way of getting to London from here? best regards, best wishes a greeting sent to someone. Give my best wishes to your father.

best part of for most of. She’s been in bed for the best part of a week.

best 1. the thing which is better than anything else. The picture shows her at her best. do your best to do as well as you can. She did her best, but didn’t win.

all the best wishes for the future. We wished them all the best in their marriage.

best 2. to make the best of something to take any advantage you can from something. They say it will rain this afternoon, so we’d better make the best of the sunshine while it’s here.

the best of a bad job to do something in spite of terrible conditions. It was raining when we stopped for a picnic, so we made the best of a bad job and had our sandwiches in the car.

the best of it is that the most interesting or funniest part of the story is that The best of it was that she didn’t recognise him in his Father Christmas outfit.

the best of my knowledge as far as I know.

best wishes for the best part of the story.

The children were all in their Sunday best.

best in the best way. The engine works best when it’s warm.

best man /ˈbest ˈmæn/ noun the man who helps the bridegroom at a wedding
around to see if we can get a better price.

2. We will shop between noon and three.

It is very likely that he will come first in a race or which side will win a competition, etc. He placed a bet on his friend’s horse but lost his bet when the horse came last. I’ve got a bet on England to win the next World Cup. It is a safe bet it is very likely to happen. It is a safe bet that if we decide to go camping it will rain. I bet you to risk money by which horse you think will come first in a race or which team will win, etc. He bet me £10 the Prime Minister would lose the election.

2. to be sure of something I bet you she’s going to be late. Do you want to go to the pub? – You bet!

The bus goes between Oxford and London.

The parcel weighs between four and five kilos. Cherries cost between £2 and £3 per kilo. In between the middle, with things on both sides, showing a difference. She’s colour-blind – she can’t tell the difference between red and green.

We should improve our situations for the better.

She stared through the window at the traffic report on the news. A person who bets on the race. To get the better of someone to beat someone. No one can take the better of him at poker. For the better which makes the situation better. He’s earning more money now, and his financial situation has changed for the better. He took a turn for the better his health began to improve.

Better off to better yourself to improve your social position. He studied hard because he wanted to better himself.

Betray /bɛtə/ noun to harm someone by telling their secrets to an enemy, or of not doing what you had promised to do. Synonym disloyalty. Antonym loyalty.

Betrayal /bɛtərɪəl/ noun the act of giving someone’s secrets to an enemy, or of not doing what you had promised to do. Synonym disloyalty. Antonym loyalty.

Betrayed /bɛtərɪd/ noun a person you are engaged to marry (formal or humorous). Slightly more common today is the adverb form.

Better /bɛtər/ adjective, good when compared to something else. The weather is better to-day than it was yesterday. His latest book is better than the first one he wrote. She’s better at maths than English. Brown bread is better for you than white. We will shop around to see if we can get a better price.

Better off. You bet! But I think it would be beyond my means. Fields beyond.

Better of it when he heard the traffic report on the news. A person who bets on the race. To get the better of someone to beat someone. No one can take the better of him at poker. For the better which makes the situation better. He’s earning more money now, and his financial situation has changed for the better. He took a turn for the better his health began to improve. Better off to better yourself to improve your social position. He studied hard because he wanted to better himself.

Beverage /bɪˈvɛrɪdʒ/ noun drink (formal). Bewail /bɛˈweɪl/ verb to complain about something (formal). Synonym lament.

Bewilder /ˈbʌɪləd/ verb to puzzle someone. Synonym confuse.

Bewildered /ˈbʌɪlərd/ adjective confused or puzzled.

Bewildering /ˈbʌɪlərɪŋ/ adjective confusing or puzzling.

Bewildermment /bɪˈwɜːdəmment/ noun a state of confusion or of being puzzled. Antonym clarity.

Bewitch /bɪˈwɪtʃ/ verb 1. to charm someone. 2. to cast a spell on someone.

Beyond /bɪˈjɒnd/ verb 1. further away than. The post office is beyond the bank. It is beyond my means it is too expensive for me to buy it. I’d love to buy a sports car, but I think it would be beyond my means.

Better off to better yourself to improve your social position. He studied hard because he wanted to better himself.
bicentenaries

sometimes called a bicentenary

A bicentenary is an anniversary of 200 years. Synonym bicentennial.

Bicentenaries (NOTE: Do not confuse with biannual.)

A bid (NOTE: Do not confuse with bidet) is an offer to buy something at an auction. Synonym offer to buy something to the highest bidder to sell something to the person who makes the best offer.

biennial /biənˈɛnɪəl/ adj 1. (of a plant) which flowers in its second year of growth and then dies every two years. Synonym biennial event.

bidding /ˈbɪdɪŋ/ noun 1. a command. Synonym bid

bide /baid/ verb 1. to wish.

bidet /ˈbɪdɛt/ noun a small low bath for washing your bottom

biography /ˈbaɪərədʒɪəri/ noun a list of publications about a special subject. Synonym bibliography.

biblical /ˈbaɪblikl/ adj referring to the Bible.

bibliography /ˈbaɪbliərəˈɡrafi/ noun a list of publications about a special subject. Synonym bibliography.

biblical /ˈbaɪblikl/ adj referring to the Bible.

bicycles /ˈbaɪsɪklz/ noun a muscle formed of two parts, especially the muscle in the front of the upper arm. Synonym biceps.

bicycle /ˈbaɪsɪkl/ noun a vehicle with two wheels which is ridden by one person who makes it go by pushing on the pedals and steers with the handlebars. Synonym bike.

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bicycle /ˈbaɪsɪkl/ noun a vehicle which some scientists think was the beginning of the universe.
big cheese /big `tʃiːz/ noun an important person (informal). Synonym nobody
big deal /big `diːl/ noun 1. an important business transaction ○ It’s one of the biggest deals we have ever signed. 2. □ big deal! that’s not a very good deal (used sarcastically) ○ He offered me £20 for the car – big deal!
big game /big `germi/ noun large animals such as lions and tigers which are hunted for sport (NOTE: no plural)
bigheaded /big`hedɪd/ adj too proud of yourself (informal). Synonym conceited
big money /big `mʌni/ noun a lot of money (informal)
big name /big `nɛm/ noun an important person (informal). Synonym unknown
bigot /big`ɒt/ noun a person with a narrow-minded attitude to religion or politics
bigoted /big`ɒtɪd/ adj with very strong and unreasonable ideas about something. Synonym prejudiced
bigotry /big`ɔtri/ noun an attitude where you dislike something strongly for no particular reason. Synonym prejudice
big shot /big `ʃɔt/ noun an important person (informal). Synonym nobody
big time /`big tɛm/ noun being at the top level in show business (slang) ○ He toured the country doing conjuring tricks, and then suddenly hit the big time with a TV show.
big toe /big `təʊ/ noun the largest of the five toes
bigwig /big`wɪg/ noun an important person (informal)
big /bɪg/ noun 1. a thick black brownish-yellow fluid produced by the liver, which helps to digest fatty substances ○ angry or bitter feelings (literary). Synonym bitterness
bilge /bɪlʤ/ noun 1. dirty water in the bottom of a ship 2. nonsense ○ He’s just talking bilge!
bilingual /bɪlˈɪŋgwəl/ adj using two languages □ a bilingual dictionary a dictionary which gives translations from one language into another ○ He carries a bilingual German-Spanish glossary with him. ○ she is bilingual in French and Spanish equally well
bill /bɪl/ noun 1. a piece of paper showing the amount of money you have to pay for something ○ The total bill came to more than £200. ○ Ask the waiter for the bill. ○ Don’t forget to pay the gas bill. ○ Does the bill include VAT? (NOTE: The US term in a restaurant is check.) 2. the hard part of a bird’s mouth ○ The bird was picking up food with its bill. Synonym beak 3. US a piece of paper money ○ a 10-dollar bill (NOTE: The British term is note: a 10-pound note) 4. a proposed act of parliament which, if passed by parliament, becomes law ○ Parliament will consider two bills this week. ○ He has drafted a bill to ban the sale of guns. 5. □ to fit the bill to be suitable ○ Thanks – that will fit the bill perfectly.
billboard /bɪlˈbɔːd/ noun especially US a large outdoor panel for posters (NOTE: The British term is hoarding.)
billfold /bɪlˈfɔːld/ noun US a small flat leather case for credit cards and banknotes, carried in your pocket (NOTE: The British term is wallet.)
billiards /bɪlɪədʒ/ noun a game played on a table, where two players with long cues hit their own white ball against a red ball or the opponent’s ball, scoring points. Compare snooker (NOTE: billiards loses the ‘s’ when it is used before another noun: a billiard table.)
billing /bɪlˈɪŋ/ noun 1. the position a performer has on an entertainment programme or advertisement 2. the advertising or promoting of a performance, event or product 3. the preparing and sending out of bills to customers
billion /ˈbɪljən/ noun 1. one thousand million ○ The government raises billions in taxes each year. 2. one million million (dated) 3. a great many ○ Billions of Christmas cards are sent every year. (NOTE: In American English billion has always meant one thousand million, but in British English it formerly meant one million, and it is still sometimes used with this meaning. With figures it is usually written bn: $5bn say ‘five billion dollars.’)
billionaire /ˌbɪljəˈnɛər/ noun a person who is worth one billion pounds or dollars
Bill of Rights /bɪl oʊ ˈraɪts/ noun the first ten amendments to the constitution of the United States, which refer to the rights and privileges of individual citizens
billow /bɪˈlau/ noun 1. a very large wave 2. a mass of moving smoke ○ We could see billows of smoke rising from the volcano. □ verb 1. to become full of air ○ The sails of the yachts billowed in the breeze. 2. to move in large waves ○ Smoke billowed out of the building.
billy goat /ˈbɪli gət/ noun a male goat
(b)ote: A female goat is a nanny goat.

bimbo /ˈbɪmbəʊ/ noun an attractive but rather stupid girl (informal, offensive)

bimonthly /ˌbɪmənθˈli/ adj every two months; twice a month • noun a magazine appearing every two weeks
in /bɪn/ noun 1, a metal box for keeping things in • Do n’t throw your litter on the floor – pick it up and put it in the bin. • verb to throw something away into a rubbish bin. • He just binned the demand for payment. Synonym throw away (NOTE: binning – binned)

binary /bɪnərɪ/ system/ noun a system for representing information which only uses the numbers 1 and 0

bind /bænd/ verb 1, to tie • They bound her to the tree with ropes. 2, to force someone to do something • The contract binds him to make regular payments. 3, to put a cover on a book • The book is bound in blue leather. 4, to bind someone over to make someone promise to obey the law for a period of time • He was bound over to keep the peace for two months. • bound (NOTE: binding – bound)

binder /ˈbændər/ noun 1, a person, a machine or a company that puts the parts of a book together. • The book has been printed and is now at the binder’s. 2, a stiff cover for papers • Write to the publisher to get a free binder for your magazines.

binning – binned

binder /ˈbændər/ adj (of a contract) that you must obey by law • This contract is binding on both parties. Synonym compulsory • noun the cover of a book • The book has a leather binding.

binge /bɪndʒ/ noun a time when someone drinks too much alcohol, eats too much or does something else too much • After last night’s binge he had to stay in bed. • She went on a chocolate binge which lasted the whole summer. • Shopping binges are not uncommon during sales time. Synonym spree • verb to binge on something to eat or drink too much of something • I felt sick after binging on chocolate.

bingo /ˈbɪŋɡəʊ/ a game of chance, where each player has a card with numbers on it. Numbers are called out, and when you have marked off a whole row of numbers, you win. • She goes to play bingo every Friday night. • He won quite a lot at bingo. • verb showing surprise • He opened the envelope and bingo! A key fell out.

bin liner /ˈbɪn lɪnər/ noun a plastic bag for putting inside a rubbish bin

bino /bɪnəʊkˈjuːlərz/ plural noun powerful glasses for looking at things which are too far away to see clearly. Synonym field glasses (NOTE: binoculars has no singular. If you want to indicate one item, say ‘a pair of binoculars’)

binocular vision /ˌbɪnəʊkˈjuːlər vɪzn(ə)/ noun the use of both eyes to see things, and therefore to judge distance

bionomial /ˌbɪənəˈnɪmɪəl/ adj having two parts separated by a + or a – sign

binomial classification /ˌbɪənəˈnɪmɪəl klaˈsɪfɪkʃ(ə)n/ noun a way of classifying plants and animals, using two names

binocular vision /ˌbɪnəʊkˈjuːlər vɪzn(ə)/ noun the use of both eyes to see things, and therefore to judge distance

binning – binned

biography /ˌbɪəgəˈrəfi/ noun the story of someone’s life (NOTE: The plural is biographies)

biographical /ˌbɪərəˈɡrɑːfɪkl/ adj referring to the story of someone’s life. Synonym factual

biographical /ˌbɪərəˈɡrɑːfɪkl/ adj referring to the story of someone’s life. Synonym factual

biological /ˌbaɪələˈdʒɪkl/ adj 1, referring to living things • the biological balance in the North Sea. 2, using harmful bacteria • biological warfare

biological mother /ˌbaɪələˈdʒɪkl ˈmʌðə/ noun the woman who gave birth to a child

biologist /ˌbaɪələˈdʒɪkl ˈlɑːdʒɪst/ noun a scientist who does research in biology

biology /ˌbaɪələˈdʒɪkl/ noun the study of living things

biopsy /ˌbaɪərˈpsɪ/ noun an operation to remove a small piece from someone’s body for examination (NOTE: The plural is biopsies)

bioterrorism /ˌbaɪətərˈɛrɪz(ə)m/ noun terrorism that uses biological or chemical weapons
bipartisan /ˌbaipɑːrˈtaɪn/ adj accepted by the Opposition as well as by the Government.

bipartite /ˌbaɪˈpɑːrtɪt/ adj with two sides taking part.

birch /bɜːtʃ/ noun a northern tree with small leaves and a white outer layer which comes off in strips (the birch forests of Russia). (Note: The plural is birches.)

verb dated to beat someone with thin sticks from a tree as a punishment. He was sentenced to be birched.

bird /bɜːd/ noun 1. an animal with wings and feathers. Most birds can fly, but penguins can’t. She keeps a little bird in a cage.

2. a little bird told me someone told me the secret, but I can’t tell you who it was.

3. a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush be satisfied with what you have, rather than hoping for something better which may never come.

bird of prey /bɜːd əv /vertstrokeinferiorb/epsilonreversed/lengthmarkd əv /vertstrokesuperiorpre/noun a small wild animal with long hair, which used to be common in Europe and North America. (Note: The plural is birds of prey.)

bird’s-eye view /bɜːdz əˈvaɪ/ noun a view from high up looking down.

birdwatching /bɜːdˈwɔtʃɪŋ/ noun looking at birds for pleasure, or for scientific purposes.

Biro /ˈbɪrəʊ/ trademark a ballpoint pen. (Note: The plural is Biros.)

birth /bɜːθ/ noun the act of being born. He was a big baby at birth.

verb dated to give birth to have a baby. She gave birth to a boy last week.

be or she is French by birth he or she is French because his or her parents are French.

birth certificate /bɜːtʃ ˌsɛrˈtɪfɪkət/ noun an official paper showing the date on which someone was born, together with details of the parents.

birth control /bɜːtʃ ˈkɔnˌtrɔːl/ noun the practice of trying to avoid becoming pregnant.

birthday /bɜːθdeɪ/ noun the date on which you were born. April 23rd is Shakespeare’s birthday. My birthday is on 25th June. What do you want for your birthday?

I’ll be 10 years old next birthday on my next birthday I will be 10 years old. In your birthday suit with no clothes on.

birthday cake /bɜːθdeɪ ˈkɛrk/ noun a cake made specially for a birthday, usually decorated with icing and candles.

birthday card /bɜːθdeɪ ˈkɑrd/ noun a card which you send someone to wish them a happy birthday.

birthday party /bɜːθdeɪ ˈpɑrti/ noun a party held for a birthday.

birthday present /bɜːθdeɪ ˈprezənt/ noun a present given to someone for their birthday.

birthmark /bɜːθmɑrk/ noun a mark on the skin which a baby has from birth, and which usually cannot be removed.

birthplace /bɜːθpleɪs/ noun 1. the place where someone was born. They visited Shakespeare’s birthplace in Stratford. 2. the place where something was invented.

China was the birthplace of gunpowder.

birth rate /bɜːθ ˈreɪt/ noun the number of children born per thousand of the population.

biscuit /ˈbɪskɪt/ noun a small, flat, usually sweet, hard cake. (Note: The US term is cookie.)

bisect /ˈbɪsɛkt/ verb to cut into two equal parts.

bisexual adj ˈbɪsɪˈjuːəl sexually attracted to both men and women. A bisexual person.

bishop /ˈbɪʃəp/ noun 1. a Christian church leader. The bishop of London.

2. a bishop’s move in chess, a piece which moves diagonally.

bison /ˈbaɪsən/ noun a large wild animal with long hair, which used to be common in Europe and North America. (Note: The plural is bison. An North American bison is also called a buffalo.)

bistro /ˈbɪstrəʊ/ noun a small restaurant. (Note: The plural is bistros.)

bit /bɪt/ noun 1. a little piece. He tied the bundle of sticks together with a bit of string.

2. Would you like another bit of cake?

to come to bits to fall apart. The chair has come to bits.

3. to take something to bits to take something apart in order to repair it.

He’s taking my old clock to bits.

thrilled to bits very pleased. I love someone to bits to love someone very much.

4. a bit of to the painting is a bit too dark. She always plays that tune a bit too fast.

Let him sleep a little bit longer. Can you wait a bit, I’m not ready yet. Have you got a piece of wood a bit bigger than this one?

5. a bit much not fair. Being told it was my fault when I wasn’t even there is a bit much.

bit by bit not all at the same time, little by little.

He paid back the money he owed, bit by bit. He inched forward, bit by bit, towards the edge of the cliff.

Not the slightest bit not at all. She didn’t sound the slightest bit
thing is not fair

metal which is put in a horse’s mouth, in or-

of time

bitter end

NOTE: usually no plural;

2. terly regrets what he said.

5. tem can handle

that you eat

bitter December night

bitchier–bitchiest

black box

bitterness of the lemons.

Add some more sugar if you want to hide the

bitterness of the lemons. 2. angry feelings

His bitterness at being left out of the England
team was very obvious.

bitter-sweet /ˈbitərˌswit/ adj 1. smelling or
tasting both bitter and sweet 2. causing
feelings of both happiness and sadness

bitty /ˈbɪtə/ adj made up of unconnected
puns (NOTE: bitty – bittier – bittiest)

bitumen /ˈbɪtəmən/ noun a black sub-
stance which comes from petrol

driv, used for making holes 6. a piece of
metal which is put in a horse’s mouth, in or-

to control it. ■ champ ■ verb ■ bite

bitch /batʃ/ noun 1. a female animal, espe-
cially a female dog. They have two dogs – a
male and a bitch. ◊ The bitch has given birth
to five puppies. 2. an unpleasant woman (of-
ensive slang) ◊ That bitch is going round
spreading rumours about me. (NOTE: [all
senses] The plural is bitches.) ■ verb to
complain (slang) ◊ What’s she bitching
about now?

bitchy /ˈbɪtʃɪ/ adj making unpleasant re-
marks about someone (slang). Synonym
catty. Antonym kind (NOTE: bitchy –
bitchier–bitchiest)

bite /bait/ noun 1. a small amount of food
that you eat ◊ All I had for lunch was a bite
of bread and cheese. ◊ She took a big bite
out of the sandwich. 2. a place where some-
one has been bitten (NOTE: Do not confuse
with byte.) ■ verb 1. to cut someone or
something with your teeth ◊ The dog tried
to bite the postman. ◊ She bit a piece out of
the pie. 2. (of an insect) to sting a person or
animal ◊ She’s been bitten by a mosquito.
(Note: biting – bit /ˈbɪt/ – has bitten
/ˈbɪt(ə)n/)”

bite-sized /ˈbæt saɪzd/ adj small enough
to put in your mouth

biting /ˈbætɪŋ/ adj 1. very cold ◊ A biting
wind blew across the valley. 2. (of a criti-
cism) very severe ◊ He ended his review with
some biting remarks about the costumes.

bitten /ˈbɪtn(ə)n/ ◊ bite

bitter /ˈbɪtə/ adj 1. not sweet ◊ This black
coffee is too bitter. 2. angry because some-
thing is not fair ◊ She was very bitter about
the way the company treated her. ◊ to the
bitter end to the very end ◊ They resisted
the changes to the bitter end. 3. very cold ◊ a
bitter December night ◊ bitter weather com-
ing from the Arctic. ■ noun ordinary pale
British beer which is not sweet ◊ A pint of
bitter, please. (NOTE: usually no plural; bit-
ters means glasses of bitter. Two bitters
and a packet of crisps, please.)

bitterly /ˈbɪtəli/ adv 1. strongly ◊ He bit-
terly regrets what he said. 2. ◊ bitterly cold
very cold ◊ It was bitterly cold in the tent.

bitterness /ˈbɪtərnəs/ noun 1. bitter taste ◊
Add some more sugar if you want to hide the
bitterness of the lemons. 2. angry feelings ◊
black cab conversations between pilots and the control tower.

black cab /bˈklæk/ noun a London taxi.

blackcurrant /ˈblækərənt/ noun 1. a small black fruit which is usually eaten cooked or a jar of blackcurrant jam. The blackcurrants need more sugar — they’re very sour. 2. the small bush this fruit grows on. I planted six blackcurrants in the garden.

black economy /ˈblæk ɪˌkɒnnəmi/ noun the illegal buying and selling of goods and services which allows people to avoid paying taxes.

blacken /ˈblækən/ verb to make black or to blacken someone’s reputation to say things which harm someone’s reputation. In order to blacken his reputation, the newspapers said that he was having an affair with his secretary.

black eye /ˈblæk ˈaj/ noun bruising and swelling around an eye, caused by a blow.

blackhead /ˈblækəhed/ noun a blocked area which shows up as a very small black dot on the skin.

black hole /ˈblæk ˈhəul/ noun an area in space which pulls light into it.

black ice /ˈblæk ˈaɪs/ noun a dangerous layer of thin ice on a road.

blackleg /ˈblækliɡ/ noun an employee who goes on working when there is a strike.

blacklist /ˈblæklist/ noun a list of things or people that are not approved of. His name is on the blacklist.

black magic /ˈblæk mədʒiک/ noun magic used for evil purposes.

blackmail /ˈblækmɛl/ verb 1. to threaten to do something harmful to someone unless they do what you want. They tried to blackmail the government into releasing prisoners of war. 2. to make someone give you money by threatening to tell people a secret that they have. Her former cook tried to blackmail her.

blackmail /ˈblækmeɪl/ noun a person who blackmails someone.

black mark /ˈblæk ˈmɑrk/ noun a bad record.

black market /ˈblæk ˈmɑrkɛt/ noun buying and selling goods in a way which is not allowed by law.

black marketer /ˈblæk mɑrkɛr/ noun a person who sells things on the black market.

blackness /ˈblæknes/ noun the state of being completely black or dark.

black out /ˈblæk ˈaut/ verb 1. to become unconscious. I suddenly blacked out and I can’t remember anything more. 2. to make all the lights switch off over a large area. The storm blacked out half the town.

blackout /ˈblækəut/ noun 1. an occasion on which you become unconscious. He must have had a blackout while driving. 2. a period when there is no electricity, or when there are no lights. The snowstorm caused a blackout.

black pepper /ˈblæk ˈpɛpər/ noun pepper from whole dried pepper seeds. (Note: Pepper from berries which have had the outer layer removed is white pepper.)

black sheep /ˈblæk ʃiːp/ noun the black sheep of the family the member of the family who behaves badly. Everyone turned up for the funeral except Eugene, the black sheep of the family.

blacksmith /ˈblæksmɪθ/ noun 1. a person who works with red-hot iron, making it into different shapes with a hammer. She asked the blacksmith to make her a new garden gate. 2. a person who repairs and fits horse-shoes. The blacksmith was shoeing a horse.

black spot /ˈblæk spɔt/ noun a place on a road where accidents often happen.

black tie /ˈblæk ˈtɛɪ/ noun a formal style of dress for men that includes a smart black jacket and a black bow tie.

bladder /ˈblædər/ noun 1. the bag-shaped organ inside the body where urine collects before being passed out of the body. She is taking antibiotics for a bladder infection. 2. any bag-shaped organ inside the body. The light bag full of air inside a football.

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only yourself to blame no one else is responsible for what happened. You have only yourself to blame if you missed the chance of a free ticket. □ to be to blame for to be responsible for something. The manager is to blame for the bad service.

blameless /ˈbliːməls/ adj not guilty. Synonym innocent

blameworthy /ˈblɛmwaʊərli/ adj deserving to be blamed for something. Synonym responsible

blanch /ˈblæntʃ/ verb 1. to cook for a short time in boiling water. □ Blanch the asparagus for two minutes. 2. to put fruit or vegetables in boiling water to remove the skin. □ Blanch the tomatoes first. 3. to cover growing plants so that they become white. □ Celery needs to be blanched by covering it with earth to get really white stems.

blank /ˈblæŋk/ adj 1. dull and boring; and often not giving any information. □ He gave a bland reply. 2. without much flavour. □ Some people don’t like avocados because they find them too bland. □ The sauce needs more herbs – it’s far too bland.

blanched at the news. When she mentioned the money he owed, he didn't seem to know anything about it.

blanche /ˈblæŋk/ noun 1. an empty space on a piece of paper. □ She took a blank piece of paper and drew a map. 2. □ He looked blank. □ He didn’t seem to know anything about it. □ When she mentioned the money he owed, he just looked blank. □ blank cassette or tape a cassette or tape which has nothing recorded on it. □ noun 1. an empty space on a piece of paper. □ Just fill in the blanks on the form. 2. □ my mind is a blank I can’t remember anything about it. □ to draw a blank to get no result. □ When she tried to trace her father, she drew a blank. 3. same as blank cartridge. □ The police fired blanks into the crowd of protesters.

point-blank /ˈpɔɪnt bleɪŋk/ blank cartridge /ˈblæŋk kærətrɪdʒ/ noun a cartridge from a gun which does not have a bullet in it.

blank cheque /ˈblæŋk tʃek/ noun 1. a cheque which has not been filled in. □ a book of blank cheques. 2. a cheque which has been signed, but without any details. □ Her father gave her a blank cheque for her birthday and told her to fill in any amount she liked. 3. total freedom to do anything. □ The planners have been given a blank cheque to do what they like with the town centre.

blanket /ˈblæŋkɪt/ noun 1. a thick cover which you put over you to keep warm. □ He woke up when the blankets fell off the bed. □ She wrapped the children up in blankets to keep them warm. 2. a thick layer. □ a blanket of snow covered the fields. □ The motorway was covered in a blanket of fog.

blanket refusal /ˈblæŋkɪt rɪˈfjuːzn/ noun a general refusal to accept various things.

blankly /ˈblæŋkli/ adv not showing any reaction.

blank out /ˈblæŋk ˈaʊt/ verb to cover up something which has been written or drawn.

blank verse /ˈblæŋk ˈvɜːs/ noun poetry which does not rhyme.

blame /blɛm/ noun 1. being rude about God, religion or established principles. □ blandishments □ blandishments are nice things that people say to you to try and make you do what they want. □ blandishments or blandishments are nice things that people say to you to try and make you do what they want.

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blank cartridge /ˈblæŋk kærətrɪdʒ/ noun a cartridge from a gun which does not have a bullet in it.
bleached by the sun.

a mobile phone or bleeper

to be the first to do something

on something

/ L50263

electronic sound

/ L50263

blank.

computer made a bleep and the screen went
closed from lack of sleep.

It runs out of paper.

Synonym

goes on.

to call someone on

 pager has just bleeped.

/ L50263

lamb.

/ L50263

the body

/ L50263

bleeding

/ L50263

bleeding

/ L50263

bled after he cut himself while shaving.

His chin

bleed

bleed

(uneasy)

bleeding

/ L50263

bleed

bleed

bleed

bleed

bleed

bleed

bleed

bleeding

bleeding

bleeding

bleeding

bleep

bleep

bleep

bleep

bleep

bleep

bleep

bleep
blind alley  

blind people who cannot see  
The town hall has excellent facilities for the blind.  
verb to make someone unable to see  
She was blinded by the bright lights of the oncoming cars.  
adv flying blind  

flying blind  

blind alley  

blind /ˈblɛnd/  
noun 1. a path which is closed off at one end  
2. a job or position with no opportunity for progress  

blind date  

blind /ˈblɛnd/  

diet  

blind  

a social meeting arranged with someone you do not know  

blindfold /ˈblɛndfʊld/  
noun  

a cloth put over someone’s eyes to prevent them from seeing  
Her kidnappers did not let her take off the blindfold.  
verb to put a blindfold over someone’s eyes to prevent them from seeing  
He was blindfolded and bundled into the back of a car.  
adv wearing a blindfold  
verb to put a blindfold on his host bewildered everyone present.  

blind /ˈblɛnd/  

adj so bright or strong as to stop you seeing properly  

blindly  

verb without being able to see  

blind man’s buff  

blind /ˈblɛnd/  

man  

a children’s game, where one person wears a blindfold and tries to catch the others  

blindness /ˈblɛndnəs/  
noun the state of not being able to see  
The disease can cause blindness.  
NOTE: Some people avoid this term as it can cause offence and prefer visual impairment.)  

blind spot /ˈblɛnspɔt/  
noun  

an area at the side of a vehicle which the driver cannot see in the mirrors  

blinking  

verb 1. the action of quickly shutting and opening your eyes  
He heard the news without a blink.  
2. on the blink  

not working, out of action (informal)  

The telephone’s on the blink.  
verb 1. to close your eyes very quickly  
He blinked when the light was switched on.  
verb 2. (of lights) to go on and off  

The alarm light is blinking.  

blinker /ˈblɛŋkər/  

adj 1. not interested in unusual things or ideas  
with blinkers  

blinker /ˈblɛŋkəz/  

plural noun shades which cover the sides of a horse’s eyes, to prevent it looking sideways  
Our horse seems less nervous if it has blinkers.  
NOTE: The US term is blinders.)  

blip /ˈblɪp/  

noun 1. a small flashing dot on a computer screen  
A blip appeared on the radar screen.  
2. a temporary bad result  
We hope that this month’s bad export figures are only a blip.  

bliss /ˈblɪs/  
noun great happiness.  
Synonym ecstasy  
Antonym despair  
NOTE: no plural  

blockbuster  

blissful /ˈblɪsf(ə)l/  

adj very pleasant or happy  

blister /ˈblester/  
noun a swelling on the skin containing liquid, caused by rubbing or burning, or by a disease such as chickenpox  
can’t run – I’ve got a blister on my heel.  
verb to make a swelling on a surface  
The heat had blistered the paint.  
verb to blister someone  
The hands were blistered in the fire.  

blistering /ˈblɪstərɪŋ/  

adj 1. very hot  
Walking in the blistering desert is impossible.  
2. very fast  
The defence could not keep up with blistering pace of the winger.  
(NOTE: Some people avoid this term as it can cause offence.)  

bliethe /ˈblɛθi/  

adj not worrying about anything  

blistely  

verb without worrying about anything  

blitz /ˈblɪts/  

noun 1. bombing by planes  
She was born during the London Blitz.  
2. to have a blitz on something  
to make a sudden effort to do something (informal)  
We’ll have to have a blitz on this pile of orders.  
verb to bomb something  
The factories were blitzed by the enemy bombers.  

blizzard /ˈblɪzdər/  
noun a snowstorm with strong wind  

bloated /ˈblɑːtɪd/  

adj 1. fatter or fuller than usual  
After the Indian meal she felt bloated.  
2. swollen with air  

Blown-up corpses lay in the streets.  

blob /ˈblɒb/  
noun a small spot of sticky stuff or thick liquid  

block /ˈblɒk/  

noun a political group of states.  
Synonym alliance  

block /ˈblɒk/  

noun 1. a large building  
They live in a block of flats.  
2. US a section of buildings surrounded by streets  
He lives two blocks away.  
3. a large piece  
Blocks of ice were floating in the river.  
4. a group of things together  
They booked a block of seats in the middle of the plane.  
verb to prevent something passing along something  
The pipe is blocked with dead leaves.  

The crash blocked the road for hours.  

What can I take for my blocked nose?  
Synonym obstruction  

blockade /ˈblɒkkeɪd/  
noun preventing supplies arriving  
The fishermen decided that a blockade of their harbour would help them in their fight with the EU.  
verb to prevent supplies coming in  
The fleet blockaded the port for several months.  

blockage /ˈblɒkædʒ/  
noun something which blocks; the state of being blocked.  
Synonym obstruction  

blockbuster /ˈblɒkbʌstə/  
noun a very successful big book or film
COMMENT: Blood is classified in various ways. The most common classifications are by factors in the red blood corpuscles (factors A and B) and by the Rhesus factor. Blood can therefore have either factor A and B) or both factors (Group AB) or neither factor (Group O), and each of these groups can be Rhesus negative or positive.

bloodstream /blʌstrɪm/ noun the flow of blood round the body
bloodsucker /blʌdˈsʌkə/ noun 1, an animal such as a leech which sucks blood ○ After walking through the jungle she found several bloodsuckers on her legs. 2, a person who tries to make you spend a lot of money ○ These banks are just bloodsuckers.

blood test /blʌd test/ noun a laboratory test of a small amount of blood to see what it contains
bloodthirsty /ˈblʌdθɪrsti/ adj 1, cruel 2, full of details about people killing or injuring each other. Synonym cruel

blood transfusion /ˈblʌd trənfsən/ noun an act of putting blood which has been given by another person into a patient’s body

blood type /ˈblʌd tʌɪp/ noun the grouping of blood into a certain type

blood vessel /ˈblʌd vos(ə)l/ noun 1, any tube, artery or vein, which carries blood round the body ○ The wound is bleeding profusely because a blood vessel has been cut. 2, to burst a blood vessel to get violently angry ○ The boss will burst a blood vessel when he hears the news.

bloody /ˈblʌdi/ adj 1, with much blood ○ a bloody battle. 2, covered with blood ○ After the fight his face was all bloody. 3, adj, adv used as a mild swear word to express anger and annoyance (informal) ○ Stop that bloody noise!

bloody-minded /ˈblʌdɪ ˈmaʊndɪd/ adj deliberately unhelpful (informal). Synonym uncooperative

bloom /bluːm/ noun 1, a flower ○ apple trees are in full bloom the apple trees are covered in flowers 2, the soft, smooth skin of a peach, or the dust on the skin of a grape 3, the bloom of youth the healthy appearance of a young person ○ She is not exactly in the first bloom of youth. 4, a layer of algae covering the surface of water ○ verb 1, to produce flowers 2, to be very healthy ○ The country’s economy is blooming.

bloomer /ˈbluːmə/ noun a mistake

bloomers /ˈbluːməz/ plural noun old-fashioned wide knickers

blooming /ˈbluːmɪŋ/ adj 1, full of brightness and life ○ She’s positively blooming. 2, awful (informal) ○ It’s a blooming shame that his mother won’t let him come out to play football!

blossom /ˈblɒs(ə)m/ noun the mass of flowers on trees ○ The hedges are covered with hawthorn blossom. ○ The trees are in full blossom. Synonym flower ○ verb 1, to flower ○ The roses were blossoming round the cottage door. 2, to be very healthy or...
blot
happy ○ She’s blossomed since she got married.

blot /blɔt/ noun a drop of ink ○ The boy with blots of ink on his shirt is my kid brother. ○ The painting he sent to the art show was just a series of coloured blots.
verb 1. to apply blotting paper to wet ink to dry it 2. he blotted his copybook he ruined his reputation ○ He blotted his copybook when writing the essay by kissing the chairman’s wife. (NOTE: blotting – blotted)

blotch /blɒtʃ/ noun a large area of colour. Synonym blot

blotchy /ˈblɒtʃi/ adj (of the face) covered with red marks (NOTE: blotchy – blotchier – blotchiest)

blot out /,blɔt ˈaʊt/ verb to hide something completely
○ blot /blɔt/ noun 1. a knock or punch ○ He received a blow to the head in the fight. 2. a shock, which comes from bad news ○ The election result was a blow to the government.
verb 1. to make air move ○ The wind had been blowing hard all day. ○ Blow on your soup if it’s too hot. ○ to blow your nose to clear a blocked nose by blowing down it into a handkerchief ○ She has a cold and keeps having to blow her nose. 2. to blow a fuse to burn out a fuse by making too much electricity flow through it (NOTE: blowing – blow /blɔʊ/ – has blown /bləʊn/)
verb 1. to go away by blowing ○ His hat blew away. 2. to make something go away by blowing ○ The wind will blow the fog away.

blow-by-blow /ˈbləʊ biˈbləʊ/ adj describing an event in great detail
verb 1. to make something fall down by blowing ○ Six trees were blown down in the storm. 2. to fall down by blowing ○ The school fence has blown down.

blow-dry /ˈbləʊ draɪ/ verb to dry someone’s hair with a hair dryer (NOTE: blow-dried) noun the act of drying hair with a hair dryer ○ I went to have a shampoo and blow-dry.

blowlamp /ˈbləʊlæmp/ noun a piece of equipment with a strong gas flame for removing old paint
verb 1. blow /bləʊ/ blow
verb 2. blow off /,bləʊ ˈɔf/ verb to make something go away by blowing
verb 3. blow out /,bləʊ ˈaʊt/ verb to make something go out by blowing ○ She blew out the candles on her birthday cake. Synonym extinguish

blowout /ˈbləʊʌut/ noun 1. a very large meal (informal) 2. the bursting of a tyre

blue chip shares

blow over /,bləʊ ˈəʊvə/ verb 1. (of a storm or an argument) to end ○ We hope the quarrel will soon blow over. 2. to knock something down by blowing ○ The gale blew over several trees.

blowtorch /ˈbləʊtɔːtʃ/ noun same as blow lamp

blow up /əˈbləʊp/ verb 1. to make something bigger by blowing into it ○ He blew up balloons for the party. ○ Your front tyre needs blowing up. 2. to destroy something with explosives ○ The soldiers blew up the railway bridge. 3. to make a photograph bigger ○ The article was illustrated with a blow-up picture of the little girl and her stepfather. 4. to make something seem more important than it really is ○ The story has been blown up by the papers.

BLT abbr a bacon, lettuce and tomato sandwich

blubber /ˈbluβər/ noun the fat of a whale or seal ○ Whales were killed and their blubber melted down. verb to cry noisily ○ Stop blubering, it’s only a little scratch.

bludgeon /ˈblʌdʒən/ noun a heavy stick for hitting ○ Bands of rioters carrying bludg- eons and axes roamed the streets.
verb 1. to beat with a heavy stick ○ The young student was bludgeoned and left for dead. 2. to bludgeon someone into doing something to force someone to do something ○ He was bludgeoned into agreeing with the proposal.
verb 2. to blow up ○ He was bludgeoned into agreeing with the proposal. ○ blue /blu/ adj 1. coloured like the colour of the sky ○ He wore a pale blue shirt. ○ They live in the house with the dark blue door. ○ All their children have got blue eyes. 2. sad ○ When you’re feeling blue just sing a song and you’ll feel better. ○ noun 1. the colour of the sky ○ She was dressed all in blue. ○ Have you a cloth of a darker blue than this? ○ the boys in blue the police (informal)
noun 2. out of the blue suddenly ○ Out of the blue came an offer of a job in Australia. ○ s rot

bluebell /ˈbluːbɛl/ noun a wild plant with blue flowers like a series of little bells
blueberry /ˈbluːbərɪ/ noun a wild fruit, which is dark blue when ripe, eaten raw with sugar and cream, or cooked in pies and jams (NOTE: The plural is blueberries.)

blue-blooded /ˌbluː ˈblʌtɪd/ adj from a royal or upper-class family

blue bottle /ˈbluːbɔt/ noun a large buzzing fly with a shiny dark blue body

blue cheese /ˈbluːts ˈfɪz/ noun a cheese with blue mould in it

blue chip shares /ˈbluː ʃɛrəz/, blue chips /ˈbluː ʃɛps/ plural noun low-risk shares in good companies
blue-eyed boy noun a person whom someone likes more than any-
one else (informal)

blue jeans noun popular blue trousers made of denim, a type of
strong cotton (NOTE: usually called jeans)

blue moon noun once in a
blue moon very rarely  I only see them once in a blue moon.

blueprint noun 1. a photo-
graphic print of a plan which consists of blue lines on a white background or blue lines on a blue background 2. here's the blueprint of the new engine. 2. a plan for doing something 3. the deal will act as blueprint for future cooperation.

blue /blu/ plural noun sad songs from the southern US  Bessie Smith, the great blues singer. Synonym sadness. Antonym happiness

blue whale noun a very large whale, the largest mammal that exists

bluff /blu/ noun 1. a threat to do something which you know you will not carry out 2. Don't believe what he says, it's all just bluff.

blunt /blu/ adjective

1. blunt manner
2. blunt-minded
3. bluntly
4. blunt object
5. blunt instrument
6. blunt tool
7. blunt-ended
8. blunt [verb] to become blunt or become more blunt.
9. blunt [noun] a short piece of text on something which is for sale, encouraging to buy it.

blue /blu/ noun an uncertain image  He was hit on the head, and everything became a blur.

blur /blu/ verb to become un-
clear, to make unclear  His vision became blurred. [NOTE: blurring – blurred]

blurf /blu/ noun a short piece of text on
something which is for sale, encouraging to
buy it

blurred /blu/ adjective not clear

blurt out /blu/ [verb] to give away a secret suddenly, without intending to

blush /blu/ noun a red colour of the skin 1. the blush of a peach 2. blush tinge her cheeks pink.

at first blush at first sight

blush /blu/ adjective 1. a red colour applied to the cheeks

bluster /blu/ noun 1. loud violent talk

2. His threat of legal action is just bluster.

3. a sudden strong wind

4. to speak loudly and angrily

5. He went blustering on about taking us to court.

boar and two sows.

blow

blow /blu/ verb

1. to call someone's bluff

2. to call bluff your way

3. to blow your way to get somewhere by pretending to be someone

4. He bluffed his way into the first-class cabin.

blush /blu/ adjective 1. a short piece of text on
something which is for sale, encouraging to
buy it.

2. a sudden strong wind

3. loud violent talk

4. to speak loudly and angrily

5. He went blustering on about taking us to court.

6. (of wind) to blow hard

7. blowing strongly.

8. Synonym windy

board game noun

any game in which players move pieces on a board

board game noun

boat

boa constrictor noun a large snake found in South America, which kills animals by wrapping itself round them and squeezing them

boar and two sows.

boar /bo/ noun a male pig  We have a boar and two sows. [NOTE: Do not confuse with bore.]

board /bo/ noun

1. a large flat piece of something such as wood  The floor of the bedroom was just bare boards.

2. a blackboard

3. The teacher wrote on the board.

4. The price includes board and lodging.

boarder /bo/ noun a pupil who lives at his or her school. [NOTE: Do not confuse with boarder.]

board game /bo/ noun any game in which players move pieces on a board
boarding card /ˈbɔːrdɪŋ kɑːd/ noun a card which allows you to go on board a plane

boarding pass /ˈbɔːrdɪŋ paːs/ noun same as boarding card

boarding school /ˈbɔːrdɪŋ skɔːl/ noun a school where the children live during term time

boardroom /ˈbɔːrdruːm/ noun a room where directors meet

board up /ˈbɔːd/ verb to cover things such as windows and doors with boards

boast /ˈbɔːst/ noun the act of talking about things that you are proud of □ Their proudest boast is that they never surrendered. Synonym brag 2. to have something good □ The house boasts a conservatory and patio. □ The town boasts an 18-hole golf course.

boastful /ˈbɔːstfʊl/ adj saying how good or successful you are. Synonym arrogant □ It's a shame about the redundancies, but if the firm goes bust we'll all be in the same boat.

boater /ˈbɔːtə/ noun a flat straw hat

boating /ˈbɔːtnɪŋ/ noun the activity of going in small boats for pleasure

bob /ˈbɒb/ noun a woman's or girl's hair style, where the hair is cut fairly short so that it is the same length all round □ She had her hair in a bob. ■ verb to move up and down □ Pieces of wood were bobbing about on the water. (NOTE: bobbing – bobbed)

bobby /ˈbɒbi/ noun a male police officer (dated informal) (NOTE: The plural is bobbies.)

bobblehead /ˈbɔbəlˌhid/ noun a device designed for travelling on snow, and used for racing down a special track (NOTE: The US term is bobsled.)

bode /ˈbɔːdi/ verb to be but does not the head and arms and legs □ He was beaten on the arms and the upper part of her body. (NOTE: The plural is bodies.) 3. the main part of anything □ The car has an all aluminium body. □ The body of the text is printed in black. (NOTE: The plural is bodies.) 5. strength of flavour □ The wine has a good body.

bodily /ˈbɔːdlɪ/ adj referring to the body □ The main bodily functions are those of important organs such as the heart, the lungs, etc. Synonym physical □ to cause someone grievous bodily harm to attack someone, causing serious injury. ■ adv moving the whole of someone's body at the same time □ They carried him out bodily they lifted him up and carried him out

body /ˈbɒdi/ noun 1. the whole of a person or of an animal □ He had pains all over his body. □ The dead man's body was found in the river. □ Bodies of infected cows were burnt in the fields. (NOTE: The plural is bodies.) 2. the main part of an animal or person, but not the head and arms and legs □ She was beaten on the arms and the upper part of her body. (NOTE: The plural is bodies.) 3. the main part of anything □ The car has an all aluminium body. □ The body of the text is printed in black. (NOTE: The plural is bodies.) 4. a group of people □ She is a member of several environmental bodies. (NOTE: The plural is bodies.) 5. strength of flavour □ The wine has a good body.

body language /ˈbɒdi ˈleɪjʊɡwɪd/ noun movements of the body which show what someone is thinking

bodywork /ˈbɔːdɪwɜːk/ noun the metal outer covering of a car

bog /ˈbɒɡ/ noun a marshland. Synonym swamp

bog down /ˈbɒɡ daʊn/ verb (informal) to get bogged down to get stuck □ The negotiations are getting bogged down over the question of salaries.

bogey /ˈbɒgɪ/ noun 1. same as bogeyman 2. (in golf) using one more stroke than the usual number to get the ball into a hole □ He had a bogey at the fifth hole.

bogeyman /ˈbɒɡɪˌmæn/ noun an imaginary creature that frightens children. Also called bogey (NOTE: The plural is bogeymen.)

boggle /ˈbɒɡəl/ verb (informal) □ to boggle at something to be unsure about being able to do something □ He boggled at the idea of crossing the Atlantic in such a small boat. □ the mind simply boggles I can't imagine how this can be done □ When I think how much work we have to do by next Friday, my mind simply boggles or it makes the mind boggle. □ mind-boggling
bog standard

bog standard /ˈbɒɡ ˈstændəd/ adj ordinary, or lacking special features. Synonym false. Antonym genuine

bohemian /ˈboʊhɪmɪən/ adj referring to a relaxed way of life, often considered typical of artists. He led a very bohemian existence in Paris as a young man. She brought along some of her bohemian friends. Synonym unconventional. Antonym conformist. n noun a person who lives in a very relaxed way of life, often thought typical of artists. He's a bohemian at heart, but he has to do a proper office job to feed his family.

boil /bɔɪl/ verb 1. (of water or other liquid) to form bubbles and change into steam in which you see that the water's boiling. Don't let the milk boil.

boil down /bɔɪl daʊn/ verb 1. to be reduced through boiling. Let the sauce boil down until it is quite thick. 2. to be reduced to. If all boils down to whether he will accept the deal now or not.

boiler /ˈbɔɪlər/ noun a piece of equipment for heating water for a building's central heating system.

boiler suit /ˈbɔɪlər sət/ noun a one-piece item of clothing, often worn over other clothes. Also called overalls.

boiling /ˈbɔɪlɪŋ/ adj 1. that has started to boil (i.e. for water, at 100°C) Put the potatoes in a pan of boiling water. 2. very hot. It is boiling in this room. adv same as boiling hot.

boiling hot /ˈbɔɪlɪŋ hɒt/ adv very hot. It was a boiling hot day.

boiling point /ˈbɔɪlɪŋ pɔɪnt/ noun 1. the temperature at which a liquid boils, i.e. when it turns into steam or gas at 100°C is the boiling point of water. 2. a point at which a situation becomes very serious. The UN must do something quickly because the situation has reached boiling point.

boil over /bɔɪl ˈəʊvər/ verb (of liquid) to rise up when boiling and run over the side of the pan.

bolsterous /ˈbɒstərəs/ adj energetic and noisy.

bold /bɔld/ adj 1. in strong colour or design. She likes bold colours. The wallpaper is a bold design of dark green leaves. 2. brave. She was bold enough to say 'no' to the Prime Minister. May I be so bold as to ask if you are free for dinner this evening? n noun a printing type with thick black letters. The main words in this dictionary are set in bold.

boldly /ˈbɔldli/ adv in a brave way

boldness /ˈbɔldnəs/ noun daring or bravery.

bollard /ˈbɒlərd/ noun 1. a low post for a ship's rope to be tied to, or one in the road to indicate where traffic should go. The police have put bollards across the road. 2. a low post in the road showing where traffic should go.

Bollywood /ˈbɔɪliwʊd/ noun the Indian film industry (informal).

bolster /ˈbɒlstər/ noun a long round pillow. You often find bolsters in French hotels.

verb to make something better or stronger. The money from the village fête has bolstered the church funds. Learning that he will be out of hospital next week has bolstered his spirits. Synonym boost. Antonym undermine.

bott /bɔɪlt/ noun 1. a long piece of metal with a screw, fastened with a nut. The legs of the table are secured to the top with bolts. 2. a long piece of metal which is pushed into a hole to bar a door. She peered through the window and after a long pause pulled back the bolt. 3. a flash of lightning. He had taken shelter under a tree that was hit by a bolt of lightning. It came as a bolt from the blue. It was a complete surprise 4. to make a bolt for to rush towards something. At the end of the show everyone made a bolt for the door. To make a bolt for it to run away. When the guards weren't looking two prisoners tried to make a bolt for it. 5. verb, to run fast; to escape. The horse bolted 2. to fasten something with a bolt. He bolted the door when he went to bed. The tables are bolted to the floor. 3. to eat quickly. Don't bolt your food.

bott upright /ˈbɔɪlt ˈəprərət/ adv sitting with your back very straight.

bomb /bɒm/ noun 1. an explosive weapon, dropped from an aircraft or placed by hand. The bomb was left in a suitcase in the middle of the station. They phoned to say that a bomb had been planted in the main street. Enemy aircraft dropped bombs on the army base. 2. it went like a bomb it was very successful. It costs a bomb if costs a lot of money. verb 1. to drop bombs on something. Enemy aircraft bombed the power station. 2. to go very fast. We bombed down the motorway to Bristol.
booby prize /bjuːbi praɪz/ noun a silly prize given to the last person in a competition

bonfire /ˈbɒnfər/ noun an outdoor fire

Bonfire Night /ˈbɒnfər nɑːt/ noun 5th November, when the attempt by Guy Fawkes to blow up the Houses of Parliament in 1605 is remembered in Britain with fireworks

bonkers /ˈbɒŋkəz/ adj (informal) appearing to be crazy or strange. Synonym irrationa

bomber /ˈbɒmbər/ noun one of the solid pieces in the body, which make up the skeleton.

Bone in the thigh is called the femur.

bone /bəʊn/ noun one of the solid pieces in the body, which make up the skeleton.

Bone is more usual to say bonds are a very safe form of investment.

bond /bɔnd/ noun 1. a document showing in an investment in which someone lends money to the government. 2. a contract between two people. There is a close bond between her and her sister. 3. a contract. His word is his bond.

He's made yet another boob!

boob /bʊb/ noun 1. a woman's breast (informal). She doesn't like having big boobs.

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boobytrap /'bʊbi'træp/ noun a hidden bomb
boobytrapped /'bʊbi'træpt/ adj full of boobytraps
boogie /'bɔːɡi/ verb to dance to disco music
1. book /bʊk/ noun 1. sheets of printed paper attached together, usually with a stiff cover ○ I'm reading a book on the history of London. ○ He wrote a book about butterflies.
   2. sheets of paper attached together □ a book of matches a set of cardboard matches attached together in a paper cover ○ He collects books of matches.
   □ book of tickets several tickets fastened together in a small paper cover □ a book of matches a set of cardboard matches attached together in a paper cover ○ He collects books of matches.
2. I've booked you on the 10 o'clock flight to New York. 2. who enjoys reading books, and reads a lot 2. a loud deep noise, like a bang ○ There was such a loud boom that everyone jumped.
3. boomerang /bʊˈməræŋ/ noun 1. a curved piece of wood, invented in Australia, which twists as it flies and returns to you when you throw it in a special way ○ verb (of a plan) to go wrong or turn out exactly the opposite to what was expected ○ The plan boomeranged, and he ended up being sued for damages. Synonym rebound
boont /bʊnt/ noun a very useful thing ○ The car has been a real boon to her since the bus company stopped the service to their village. Synonym advantage. Antonym disadvantage
boor /bʊə/ noun rude and badly-behaved man (dated). Synonym lout
boorish /bʊˈərɪʃ/ adj rude and badly behaved
boost /bʊst/ noun help or increase ○ It gave a boost to our sales. ○ verb to help to increase something or make something better ○ The TV commercial should boost our sales.
booster /ˈbʊsta/ noun 1. a thing which gives extra help or support. 2. a device, especially a mechanical one, that gives extra force to a motor or engine.

booster injection /ˈbʊstər ɪnˈdʒɛkʃən/ noun an extra injection of vaccine given some time after the first one so as to make sure it is still effective.

booster rocket /ˈbʊstər rʊkət/ noun a powerful engine which gives extra power to a spacecraft.

boot /bʊt/ noun 1. a strong shoe which covers your foot and your ankle. 2. the boot on the other foot; the opposite.

Boots to wear when skiing.

boots /bʊts/ plural noun 1. boots to wear when skiing. 2. a place outdoors where a person may have a meal.

bottle /ˈbɒtl/ noun 1. a small round or enclosed space for one person to stand in or sit on. 2. a person who makes or sells goods illegally.

boot-up /ˈbʊt- up/ verb to make a computer start working.

bore /bɔːr/ noun 1. a person who is not very interesting. 2. what a bore! what a nuisance. 3. a measurement of the inside of a pipe or channel.

bore-three holes /bɔːr- three holes/ verb to make a round hole in something.

Bordeaux /ˈbɔːdɔ/ noun wine from the Bordeaux region in the west of France. (NOTE: There are both red and white Bordeaux wines. Red Bordeaux wine is also called claret.)

border /ˈbɔːrdər/ noun 1. a line between countries or regions. 2. a border line case.

Bordeaux claret /ˈbɔːdɔ kʌlət/ noun a wine from the Bordeaux region in the west of France.

borne /bɔːrn/ past tense of bear.

born /bɔrn/ past participle of bear.

born in the 1950s /bɔrn in deɪz/ born in the 1950s.
born-again Christian

last week. ● She's a born comedian she has always been very good at telling jokes. ○ I wasn't born yesterday. I'm not as stupid as you think (informal) ● birth

born-again Christian /bɔːn əˈɡɛn ˈkristʃən/ noun a person who has been converted to Christianity, after not having been very religious before.

borne /bɔːrn/ bear

borrow /ˈbɒrəʊ/ verb 1. to take something for a short time, usually with the permission of the owner. ○ She borrowed three books from the school library. ○ He wants to borrow one of my CDs. ○ Can I borrow your car to go to the shops? 2. to take money for a time, usually paying interest. ○ He borrowed £10 from me and never paid it back. ○ Companies borrow from banks to finance their business. ○ She borrowed £100,000 from the bank to buy a flat. Compare lend

borrower /ˈbɒrəʊər/ noun a person who borrows something, especially money.

borrowings /ˈbɒrəʊɪŋz/ plural noun money which is borrowed.

bosom /ˈbɒz(ə)m/ noun 1. a woman's breasts. 2. in the bosom of among ○ He retired to live in the bosom of his family.

bosom companion /ˈbɒz(ə)m kəmˈpænɪən/ bosom friend /ˈbɒz(ə)m frend/ noun a great friend.

boss /bɒs/ noun the person in charge or the owner of a business. ○ If you want a day off, ask the boss. ○ I left because I didn't get on with my boss.

Antonym subordinate (NOTE: The plural is bosses.) ● verb ○ to boss someone about, around to tell someone what to do all the time ○ She's always bossing her little brother about. ○ Stop bossing me around!

bossy /ˈbɒsɪ/ adjective always telling people what to do.

Antonym meek (NOTE: bossier – bossiest)

bosun /ˈbɒs(ə)n/ noun (at sea) a person in charge of boats and sails (NOTE: more correctly spelled boatswain)

botanical /ˈbɒtənɪk(ə)l/ adjective referring to plants.

botanical gardens /ˈbɒtənɪk(ə)l ˈɡɑrdnz/ plural noun gardens which are set up for the scientific study and display of plants.

botanical name /ˈbɒtənɪk(ə)l ˈneɪm/ noun the scientific Latin name of a plant.

botanist /ˈbɒtənɪst/ noun a scientist who studies plants.

botany /ˈbɒtəni/ noun the science and study of plants.

botch /bɒtʃ/ verb to do or make something badly (informal)

both /bɔːθ/ adjective, pronoun 1. two people or things together ○ Hold on to the handle with both hands. ○ Both my shoes have holes in them. ○ Both her brothers are very tall. ○ She has two brothers, both of them in Canada. ○ She and her brother both go to the same school. ○ I'm talking to both of you. 2. for emphasis ○ She is both clever and modest.

bother /ˈbɒðər/ noun trouble or worry ○ We found the shop without any bother. ○ It was such a bother getting packed that we nearly didn't go on holiday. ● verb 1. to annoy or to cause trouble ○ Stop bothering me. I'm trying to read. ○ to be hot and bothered to be annoyed and nervous about something. 2. to bother to do something to take the time or trouble to do something ○ Don't bother to come with me to the station – I can find my way easily.

Botex /ˈbɒtɛks/ trademark botulinum toxin type A, a substance that is injected under the skin to remove wrinkles from the face.

bottle /ˈbɒt(ə)l/ noun 1. a tall plastic or glass container for liquids ○ He opened two bottles of red wine. ○ She drank the water straight out of the bottle. ○ He bought his wife a bottle of perfume on the plane. 2. hot water bottle a rubber bottle filled with hot water, for warming the bed. 3. courage (informal) ○ He hasn't got the bottle to do it.

bottled /ˈbɒtləd/ adjective ○ to bottle out to decide not to do something because you are afraid (informal) ○ He was ready to jump but bottled out at the last minute.

bottle bank /ˈbɒtl(ə) bæŋk/ noun a place where you can throw away empty bottles for recycling.

bottleneck /ˈbɒt(ə)nlɛk/ noun 1. a narrow part of a road where traffic often gets stuck. ○ The roadworks have created a bottleneck and caused jams all through the town. 2. a place where things such as production or supplies are held up ○ There's a bottleneck in the invoicing department and this holds up our deliveries.

bottle opener /ˈbɒt(ə)l əˈpəʊnz/ noun a tool for taking the tops off bottles.

bottom /ˈbɒt(ə)m/ noun 1. the lowest point ○ The ship sank to the bottom of the sea. ○ Turn left at the bottom of the hill. ○ Is there any honey left in the bottom of the jar? ○ He's bottom of his class he gets the worst marks ○ to get to the bottom of a problem to find the real cause of a problem ○ prices
have touched rock bottom prices are at their lowest point ever. 2. the far end. 3. Go down to the bottom of the street and you will see the post office on your left. 4. The greenhouse is at the bottom of the garden. 5. the part of the body on which you sit. 6. Does my bottom look big in these trousers? 7. behind. 8. the lower part of two-piece clothing. 9. I can’t find my bikini bottom. 10. from the bottom of my heart. 11. I am standing on the bottom rung of the ladder.

bottom gear [ˈbotəm] ‘guː’ noun the lowest gear of a vehicle, used when going slowly, or when climbing hills. Synonym unlimited. Antonym restricted.

bottom line [ˈbotəm] ‘laɪn/ noun 1. the last line on a profit-and-loss account indicating the total profit or loss. 2. a fact which must be accepted. 3. The bottom line is that we will have to sell our flat.

botulism [ˈbɒtʌlɪzəm] noun a type of food poisoning caused by bacteria in badly-preserved food.

bouquet [ˈbʊkɪt] noun a small private room for a lady.

bouffant [ˈbʌfɒnt] ‘adj (of hair) brushed up and away from the head

bough [ˈbɔʊ] noun a branch of a tree. (NOTE: Do not confuse with bow.)

bought [bɔt] verb bought ledger noun an account book in which purchases are recorded. Also called purchase ledger.

boulevard [ˈbʊluˈvɑːd/ noun a large road in a town, usually with trees along it.

bouncing [ˈbaʊnsɪŋ] ‘adj 1. which bounces. 2. (of a baby) healthy.

bouncy [ˈbaʊnsɪ] ‘adj 1. which bounces. 2. a big bouncy red ball. 3. full of energy. 4. It’s so tiring working with her because she’s so bouncy. (NOTE: bouncy – bouncer – bounciest.)

bound /ˈbaʊnd/ noun a big jump. 1. in leaps and bounds very fast. 2. bound for on the way to. 3. bound to help her. 4. They are bound to be late. 5. unable to move.

verb to leap, or move fast. She bounded into the room. He bounded out of his chair. The dog bounded into the bushes.

boundaries [ˈbaʊndəriz] plural noun the lines or limits that separate areas. The white fence marks the boundary between our farm and his. 1. the boundaries of knowledge. 2. to hit a boundary. 3. the boundaries of human knowledge. 4. to leap.
bovine /ˈbəvɪn/ adj 1. referring to cows 2. slow and stupid □ to have a bovine look to look stupid

bowel movement /ˈbəʊəl ˌmʌvˈmənt/ noun the action of getting rid of solid waste from the body

bowler /ˈbəʊlər/ noun 1. a person who plays bowls 2. (especially in cricket) a person who throws the ball to the batsman □ a fast bowler 3. same as bowler hat

bowl /ˈbəʊl/ noun 1. a wide container for foods or liquids 2. a large bowl 3. a rower who sits nearest to the bow of the boat □ a bowler hat 4. a box of chocolates for her birthday.

bowler hat /ˈbəʊlər ˈhæt/ noun a hat with a rounded top
Box office

Box office /ˈbɒksˈɒfɪs/ noun an office where you buy tickets in a theatre.

Boy /bɔɪ/ noun 1. a male child. ○ A boy from our school won the tennis match. ○ I knew him when he was a boy. 2. a son. ○ Her three boys are all at university.

Boy band /ˈbɔɪ bænd/ noun an all-male pop group aimed at a teenage audience.

Boycott /ˈbraʊkt/ noun the act of refusing to deal with someone. ○ The boycott of the company lasted three months. ■ verb to refuse to deal with someone. ○ We are boycotting all food imports from that country.

Boyfriend /ˈbɔɪfriend/ noun a man or boy that someone is having a romantic relationship with. ○ She’s got a new boyfriend. ○ She brought her boyfriend to the party. Antonym girlfriend.

Boyhood /ˈbɔɪhʊd/ noun the time of life when someone is, or was, a boy. Synonym childhood.

Boyish /ˈbɔɪɪʃ/ adj looking or acting like a boy. Synonym youthful.

Boy Scout /ˈbɔɪ skɔʊt/ noun 1. in the US, a member of the Boy Scouts of America, an organisation aiming to develop good character and physical fitness, often through community and outdoor activities. 2. a man who is considered to be naive.

Brace /breɪs/ noun 1. a support which helps your teeth to grow straight. ○ She wears a brace on her teeth. 2. a support for part of the body which has been injured, for example 3. ○ a brace of two, a pair of ○ a brace of grouse. ○ We bought a brace of pheasants. ■ verb ○ to brace yourself for to prepare yourself for something unpleasant. ○ When the phone rang, she braced herself for the shock of hearing his voice again. ○ The pilot told us to brace ourselves for a crash landing.

Bracelet /ˈbreɪslɛt/ noun a piece of jewellery worn round your wrist or arm.

Braces /ˈbreɪsiz/ plural noun 1. straps over your shoulders to hold up your trousers. ○ He wore bright red braces with his jeans. (NOTE: The US term is suspenders.) 2. a brace for the teeth.

Bracing /ˈbreɪstɪŋ/ adj cool and making you feel healthy. Synonym invigorating.

Bracken /ˈbrækən/ noun a plant with large wide leaves that grows in forests. (NOTE: No plural.)

Bracket /ˈbrækt/ noun 1. a piece of metal or wood which is attached to a wall to support a shelf. ○ The shelf is held up by two solid brackets. 2. a printing sign usually used in pairs, [ ], ( ), < >, or { }, used to show that a piece of text is separated from the rest. ○ The words in brackets can be deleted.
brandy /ˈbreɪndʒi/ adj very intelligent (informal) (NOTE: brandier – brandiest)
braise /ˈbreɪz/ verb to cook food in a pot with very little liquid

brake /breɪk/ noun a device for stopping a vehicle or making it go slower ○ Put the brake on when you go down a hill. ○ The brake aren't working! Synonym restraint.
Antonym incentive ■ verb to slow down by pressuring a vehicle's brakes ○ The driver of the little white van braked, but too late to avoid the dog. Synonym decelerate
brake lights /brɛık ləts/ plural noun red lights at the back of a car which light up when you put the brakes on
braking distance /breɪkɪŋ ,dɪstæns/ noun the distance a car travels after the driver puts on the brakes, before it stops completely (NOTE: Do not confuse with break)
bramble /ˈbreɪmbl/ noun a wild blackberry bush
branch /breɪn/ noun the outside part of wheat seeds (NOTE: no plural)
  1. branch /breɪn/ noun 1. a thick part of a tree, growing out of the trunk ○ He hit his head against a low branch. 2. a local office of an organisation ○ He's the manager of our local branch of Lloyds Bank. ○ The store has branches in most towns in the south of the country. 3. a section of river leading away from the main part ○ The town is built on a branch of the Nile. ■ verb to divide into two or more parts
branch off /ˈbreɪntʃ/ verb to come off a main road
branch out /ˈbreɪntʃ/ verb to start to do something different, as well as what you normally do
brand /breɪnd/ noun 1. a product with a name ○ a well-known brand of soap 2. a mark burnt with a hot iron on an animal to show who owns it ○ verb 1. to describe someone or something publicly as bad ○ He was branded as a thief. ○ The minister was publicly branded a liar in the newspaper. 2. to mark an animal with a hot iron ○ The cattle were corralled before being branded.
branded /ˈbreɪndɪd/ adj sold with a company name or trademark, usually considered a mark of quality
brandish /ˈbreɪndɪʃ/ verb to wave something about
  1. brand name /ˈbreɪnd nɪm/ noun the name of a product
  2. brand-new /ˈbreɪnd ˈnjuː/ adj completely new
brandy /ˈbreɪndɪ/ noun 1. an alcoholic drink made from wine ○ I was given a bottle of excellent brandy. 2. a glass of this drink ○ He ordered three brandies.

brash /brɑʃ/ adj confident and loud (technical)
brass /brɑs/ noun 1. a mixture of copper and zinc ○ The doctor has a brass name plate on his door. ○ verb to get down to brass tacks to discuss the basic problem ○ a medieval metal plate set in the floor of a church, showing where someone is buried
brass band /brɑs bænd/ noun a band of people playing brass instruments
brassiere /ˈbreɪziə/ noun a woman's undergarment covering the breasts (NOTE: usually called a bra)
brat /bræt/ noun a badly-behaved child
bravado /ˈbrævədɔ/ noun confident actions to show how brave you are. Synonym audacity. Antonym cowardice (NOTE: no plural)
  1. brave /ˈbreɪv/ adj full of courage ○ It was very brave of him to dive into the river to try to rescue the little girl. Synonym courageous. Antonym cowardly (NOTE: braver – bravest)
  2. bravely /ˈbrævil/ adv with courage, in a brave way
bravery /ˈbrævəri/ noun being brave when in a dangerous situation. Synonym courage. Antonym cowardice (NOTE: no plural)
brave /ˈbræv/ interj showing approval
bravura /ˈbrævʊərə/ noun showing great skill and confidence in performing. Synonym boldness. Antonym timidity
brawl /ˈbrɔl/ noun a wild fight ○ Coming out of the pub, he got into a brawl with some soldiers. Synonym scuffle ■ verb to fight wildly ○ After the match ended spectators were brawling on the terraces. Synonym fight
bray /brɛ/ verb to make a loud noise like a donkey
brass /brɑs/ noun 1. made of brass ○ What you say is a brass lie. ○ verb to brazen it out to get through a difficult situation by seeming to be sure of yourself ○ In spite of what the papers said, he managed to brazen it out.
brass nut /ˈbræz nʌt/ noun a large sweet nut from a tropical tree
  1. breach /brɪtʃ/ noun the act of breaking the law or a promise ○ This is a breach of the undertaking they made last year. ○ in breach of without respecting ○ In breach of their agreement, they started negotiating with our rivals behind our backs. ■ verb 1. to go against rules ○ The pay settlement has
breach of contract

breached the government's guidelines. 2. He was arrested for breaching the peace. 2. to make a hole 2. The enemy guns breached the town's defences. 3. The flood waters have breached the dyke.

breach of contract /'brɪʃ ə ˈkɔntrækt/ noun the breaking of the conditions of a contract. 2. the company is in breach of contract the company has failed to do what was agreed in the contract.

breach of the peace /'brɪʃ ə ðə ˈpɪς/ noun an offence involving uncontrolled behaviour.

bread /breɪd/ noun food made from flour and water baked in an oven 2. Can you get a loaf of bread from the baker's? 2. She cut thin slices of bread for sandwiches.

bread and butter /breɪd ən ˈbɑːtə/ noun slices of bread covered with butter (informal).

bread bin /ˈbreɪd bɪn/ noun a metal box for keeping bread in.

breadcrumbs /ˈbreɪdkræmz/ plural noun little pieces of dried bread.

breaded /ˈbreɪdɪd/ adj covered with breadcrumbs.

breakdown /ˈbreɪkwən/ noun a very low standard of living.

breath /breθ/ noun 1. a measurement of how wide something is 2. The breadth of the vacant plot of land is over 300m. 2. We walked the length and breadth of the field and found no wild strawberries. 2. fullness or completeness 2. His answers show the breadth of his knowledge of the subject.

breakfast /ˈbreɪkfast/ noun the first meal of the day 2. I had a boiled egg for breakfast. 2. to eat your first meal of the day 2. We breakfasted on dried fruit and cheese.
breakfast TV 89

breakfast TV /ˈbrekfəst tiː/ noun television shown at breakfast time
○ break in /ˈbrek ˈɪn/ verb 1. to break someone or an animal in to train someone or an animal ○ He rode a mustang which he’d broken in himself.
break-in /ˈbrek in/ noun a burglary breaking and entering /ˈbreikɪŋ and ˈɛntərɪŋ/ noun the crime of going into someone’s property to steal

breaking point /ˈbreikɪŋ pɔɪnt/ noun the point at which a situation reaches a crisis

breakneck /ˈbreiknek/ adj □ at breakneck speed extremely fast
break off /ˈbreik ˈɒf/ verb 1. to make something come off by breaking; to come off ○ He broke a piece off his pie and gave it to his dog. ○ The handle broke off the cup in the dishwasher. ○ Several branches broke off in the wind. 2. to stop something suddenly ○ He broke off in the middle of his story. ○ They broke off the discussions. ○ They were going to get married, but she broke it off.
break out /ˈbreik ˈɔut/ verb 1. to start ○ War broke out between the countries in the area. ○ to break out into a rash to have a rash which starts suddenly 2. to escape ○ Three prisoners broke out of jail.
breakout /ˈbreikəut/ noun an escape from a prison

breakthrough /ˈbreikθruː/ noun a sudden success
○ break up /ˈbreik ˈʌp/ verb 1. to come to pieces ○ The oil tanker was breaking up on the rocks. 2. to stop being together ○ We broke up last year. ○ Their marriage broke up after 25 years. 3. to stop being in a group ○ The meeting broke up at 3 p.m. ○ The group broke up when the lead singer started singing solo. 4. □ school breaks up next week the school holidays start next week
breakup /ˈbreikʌp/ noun the process of coming to pieces or separating

breakwater /ˈbreikwɔrə/ noun a wall that is built into the sea as a protection against the action of strong waves
○ breast /breɪst/ noun 1. one of two parts on a woman’s chest which produce milk 2. the chest or front part of the top of the body 3. meat from the chest part of a bird ○ Do you want a wing or a slice of breast? ○ We bought some chicken breasts to make a stir-fry.
breastbone /ˈbreɪstbɔʊn/ noun the bone which is in the centre of the front of the chest and to which most of the ribs are attached. Also called sternum
breast cancer /ˈbreɪst kənsər/ noun a disease that causes dangerous lumps to grow in the breast

breastfeeding /ˈbreɪstfɹɪdɪŋ/ noun the practice of giving milk from the breast to a baby, as opposed to giving milk from a bottle
breast pocket /ˈbreɪst ˈpəkɪt/ noun a pocket on the inside of a jacket

breast stroke /ˈbreɪst strɔʊk/ noun a style of swimming where the swimmer is face downwards, pushing the arms out in front and bringing them back to the sides while the feet are kicking

breath /breθ/ noun 1. air which goes into and out of the body through the nose or mouth ○ You should smell his breath – he must have eaten garlic last night. ○ out of breath, gasping for breath having difficulty in breathing ○ He ran all the way to the station, got there out of breath, and then saw the train leaving. ○ to get your breath back to breathe normally again, after exercise ○ First get your breath back, then tell me all about it. ○ to hold your breath to keep air in your lungs to go under water, as a test or because you are afraid that something will happen ○ She held her breath under water for a minute. ○ we’re all holding our breath to see if he wins we’re all waiting anxiously to see if he wins □ to take a deep breath to breathe in as much air as you can ○ Take a deep breath for the X-ray. □ to take someone’s breath away to surprise someone very much ○ The huge size of the ruins took my breath away. ○ under your breath quietly ○ He cursed under his breath. 2. □ a breath of wind a slight movement of air ○ There wasn’t a breath of wind all day. ○ a breath of fresh air 1. fresh air after being enclosed in a room ○ I’m going out for a walk. I need a breath of fresh air. 2. something new and exciting ○ The new director is a welcome breath of fresh air.
breathalyser /ˈbreθəlæɪzə/ trademark a device which tests how much alcohol is in a driver’s blood

breathe /briːð/ verb to take air into the lungs or let it out ○ I want to listen to your chest, so breathe in and then out when I tell you to. ○ Do you know how fish breathe? ○ breathe deeply to take in a large amount of air ○ he’s breathing down my neck all the time he’s always watching how I’m working ○ to breathe a sigh of relief to breathe deeply because danger has passed ○ She breathed a sigh of relief when the police car drove away.
breather /ˈbreɪθər/ noun a time when you can rest (informal). Synonym rest

breathing /ˈbreɪθɪŋ/ noun the process of taking air in and out of the lungs. Synonym inhalation
breathing apparatus

breathing apparatus /'breɪθɪŋ əp-pə-rətəs/ noun equipment such as a mask and oxygen cylinder which can help a person to breathe.

breathing space /'breɪθɪŋ speɪs/ noun a period when you can rest between activities. Synonym respite.

breathless /'breθlɪs/ adj out of breath; finding it difficult to breathe.

breath test /'breθ tɛst/ noun a test for a driver to see if he has been drinking alcohol.

breech birth /'briʃ bɜːθ, 'briːk de-liːvəri/ noun a birth where the baby’s bottom appears first.

breeches /'brɪʃ ez/ plural noun knee-length trousers which fasten just below the knee. Have you got a pair of riding breeches to lend me?

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breeding /'breɪdɪŋ/ noun 1. the practice of raising animals or plants. 2. to keep animals which produce young ones. 3. she is a good girl of breeding.

breeder /'brɪdər/ noun a person who breeds animals or plants.

breeding ground /'breɪdɪŋ ɡraʊnd/ noun 1. a place where an animal breeds. The area is the breeding ground of several rare birds. 2. stagnant water is a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

breeze /'brɪz/ noun a slight wind. A cool breeze is welcome on a hot day like this. 2. a stiff breeze a strong wind. There was a stiff breeze blowing from the south.

breeze block /'brɪz ˈblɪnk/ noun a concrete building block, much larger than a brick.

bridge

happy-go-lucky /'heɪpi ˈgəʊ lʌki/ a breezy youth looking as if he didn’t have a care in the world.

brethren /'brɪðrən/ plural noun the members of a group, or only the male members of a group, especially a religious group.

brevity /'brɪvəti/ noun (of time) the quality of being very short.

brew /bruː/ verb 1. to make beer. They’ve been brewing beer in this town for over two hundred years. 2. to make tea or coffee. Let’s brew some tea before we sit down and talk.

briar /'brɪər/ noun a wild rose bush.

bribe /bruːb/ noun an illegal payment to someone to get something done. He offered the witness a bribe to say nothing.

bribery /'brɪbəri/ noun the act of bribing.

bric-a-brac /brɪk ə ˈbræk/ noun attractive little objects which are not very valuable.

brick /brɪk/ noun 1. a hard block of baked clay used for building. You’ll need more than eighty bricks to build a wall. 2. to drop a brick to say something embarrassing.

bricks /brɪks/ plural noun a woman who is getting married or has just got married. Synonym wife.

bridegroom /'brɪdɡrʊm/ noun a man who is getting married or has just got married. Synonym husband (NOTE: often just called the groom).

bridesmaid /'brɪdzməʊd/ noun a girl who is one of the bride’s attendants at a wedding.

bridge /brɪdʒ/ noun 1. a road or path built over a road or river so that you can walk or drive from one side to the other. There are a dozen bridges across the River Thames in London. 2. the part of a ship where
bridgehead /ˈbrɪdʒhed/ noun the first position held by an attacking force who have crossed a stretch of water.

bridging loan /ˈbrɪdʒɪŋ ˈloʊn/ noun a large amount of money lent to someone to pay for a new house when his old house has not yet been sold (NOTE: The US term is bridge loan.)

bridle /ˈbrɪdl/ noun straps put round a horse’s head. She had some difficulty in putting the bridle on the horse.

bridle your emotions to control your emotions. (NOTE: Do not confuse with bridled.)

bridle at /ˈbrɪd(ə)l ət/ verb to take offence at something.

bridlepath /ˈbrɪd(ə)lpæθ, ˈbrɪd(ə)lwi/ noun a path for horse riders.

brief /briːf/ adj short. He wrote a brief note that the meeting was very brief.

Tell me what happened, but be brief as we don't have much time.

brief in brief in a few words. We have food for only a few days, in brief, the situation is very serious.

instructions given to a professional person. His brief was to overhaul the accounts system.

verb 1. to give information or instructions to someone. He briefed the staff on the latest stage in the negotiations.

She was briefed to look for new office premises.

2. to give a case to a lawyer and explain the details.

My solicitor will brief the barrister tomorrow morning.

briefcase /ˈbrɪfksɛs/ noun a thin case for carrying papers or documents.

briefing /ˈbrɪfɪŋ/ noun a meeting where information is given.

verb 1. to brief.

briefly /ˈbrɪflɪ/ adv for a short time.

briefs /ˈbrɪfs/ plural noun short underwear for men or women. Before the medical, the doctor asked him to strip down to his briefs.

NOTE: for one item say a pair of briefs.

brigade /ˈbrɪɡɡeɪd/ noun a section of an army. The general sent an infantry brigade to the region.

brigadier /ˈbrɪɡədɪər/ noun an army officer in charge of a brigade.

bright /ˈbrɪt/ adj 1. shining strongly. She has a bright little boy. 2. Both their children are very bright. 3. She’s the brightest of the class. 4. clear and sunny. There will be bright periods during the afternoon. 5. cheerful. She gave me a bright smile. 6. to look on the bright side of things to be optimistic. 7. However had the situation is, she always tries to look on the bright side of things.

brighten /ˈbrɪtən/ verb to make something bright, or to become bright.

brighten up /ˈbrɪtən əp/ verb 1. (of a person) to become more cheerful. She brightened up when she saw him.

2. (of weather) to become sunnier. The weather is brightening up.


The streets were brightly lit for Christmas.

2. cheerfully. She smiled brightly as she went into the hospital.

brill /ˈbrɪl/ noun a type of flat white sea fish which can be eaten. (NOTE: The plural is brill.)

adj very good (informal) It was an absolutely brill evening. Listen to this brill idea!

brilliance /ˈbrɪlɪəns/ noun the fact of being very clever.

brilliant /ˈbrɪlɪənt/ adj 1. extremely clever. He’s the most brilliant student of this year.

2. very good. The graphics on this website are brilliant.

3. shining brightly. She stepped out into the brilliant sunshine.

brilliantly /ˈbrɪlɪəntli/ adv in a brilliant way.

brim /brɪm/ noun 1. the edge. The glass was filled to the brim.

2. the flat part around a hat. A hat with a wide brim.

brim over /brɪm əʊvər/ verb to overflow.

NOTE: brimming – brimmed.

bring /brɪŋ/ verb to come with someone or something to this place.

She brought the books to school with her.

3. He brought his girlfriend home for tea.

Are you bringing any friends to the party? (NOTE: bringing – brought /bɹʌt/)

bring about /brɪŋ əˈbɔːt/ verb to make something happen. Synonym generate.

Antonym prevent.

bring along /brɪŋ əˈlɒŋ/ verb to bring someone or something with you.

bring-and-buy /brɪŋ ənd ˈbaɪ/.

bring-and-buy sale /brɪŋ ənd ˈbaɪ ˈseɪl/ noun a type of market where people bring or buy homemade or secondhand goods.

bring back /brɪŋ ˈbæk/ verb to carry something back.

bring down /brɪŋ ˈdaʊn/ verb 1. to carry something down to here.

Can you bring down the television from the bedroom? 2. to
bring forward

make something less ○ We've brought down all our prices.

bring forward /brɪn ˈfɔːrwd/ verb to arrange something to be done at an earlier date than had been planned

bring off /brɪŋ ˈɒf/ verb to succeed in doing something ○ We finally brought it off we did it successfully in the end

bring on /brɪŋ ˈɒn/ verb to produce something. Synonym cause ○ you brought it on yourself you have yourself to blame for what happened to you

bring out /brɪŋ ˈaʊt/ verb to make something come out ○ to bring out the main colours in the painting

bring up /brɪŋ ˈʌp/ verb 1. to look after and educate a child ○ He was born in the USA but brought up in England. ○ He was brought up by his uncle in Scotland. 2. to mention a problem ○ He brought up the question of the noise. 3. to vomit something ○ She's got a stomach upset and brought up all her breakfast.

brink /brɪŋk/ noun the edge ○ on the brink of very close to ○ The company is on the brink of collapse. ○ She was on the brink of a nervous breakdown.

brisk /brɪsk/ adj fairly fast (NOTE: brisker ~ briskest)

brisket /brɪsket/ noun a piece of beef which comes from the breast of the animal

briskly /brɪskli/ adv fairly fast and brightly

bristle /brɪst(ə)/ noun 1. one of the short stiff hairs on plants, or some animals such as pigs ○ You could see the bristles on the back of the sow’s neck. 2. bristles short stiff hairs on a brush ○ The bristles of my toothbrush are coming off – I must get a new one.

bristly /brɪstli/ adj covered with short stiff hairs. Synonym spiky

Brit /brɪt/ noun a person from the United Kingdom (informal)

British /brɪtʃ/ noun same as Great Britain

● British /brɪtʃ/ adj referring to the United Kingdom ○ a British citizen ○ the British army ○ The British press reported a plane crash in Africa. ○ The ship was flying a British flag. ○ the British government the government of the United Kingdom ○ plural noun ○ the British the people of the United Kingdom

Briton /brɪt(ə)n/ noun a person from the United Kingdom

brittle /brɪt(ə)/ adj hard and breaking easily into pieces

broach /ˈbraʊʃ/ verb to start talking about a problem

broader /ˈbredər/ adj 1. very wide ○ a broad river. 2. (of a person’s accent) not standard and very noticeable ○ spoke with a broad northern accent

broadband /ˈbredbænd/ adj able to manage large amounts of data quickly ○ a broadband connection

broadcast /ˈbredkɑːst/ noun a radio or TV programme ○ The company is on the air from outside Buckingham Palace. Synonym transmission ★ verb 1. to send out a programme or message on radio or TV ○ The programme will be broadcast on Monday at 8 p.m. ○ The police broadcast an appeal for information. 2. to tell everyone ○ don’t broadcast the fact keep the information secret ○ adj sent by radio or television ○ They were listening to enemy broadcast messages.

broadcaster /ˈbredkɑːstər/ noun a person who works on radio or TV but is not an actor. Synonym presenter

broadcasting /ˈbredkɑːstiŋ/ noun the process of sending out programmes or messages on radio or TV

broad daylight /ˈbrɔːrd ˈdeɪlaɪt/ noun (as an emphasis) a time during the day when people can be seen clearly

broaden /ˈbrɔːdn/ verb 1. to make something wider, or to become wider ○ Part of their plan is to broaden the road. ○ The river broadens to form a small lake. 2. to broaden the mind to increase knowledge ○ Travel broadens the mind.

broadly /ˈbrɔːdlı/ adv widely. Synonym approximately ○ broadly speaking in general, without going into specific details ○ Broadly speaking, boys are taller than girls at that age

broad-minded /ˈbrɔːmd ˈmɛntid/ adj not shocked by other people’s behaviour or words. Synonym tolerant

broadsheet /ˈbredʃiːt/ noun a newspaper with large pages (NOTE: Small format newspapers are called tabloids.)

broadside noun /ˈbredsaɪd/ a strong spoken or written attack ○ adv 1. with one side facing towards something 2. generally

Broadway /ˈbredweɪ/ noun a street in New York, where the major theatres are located ○ The play was a big hit on Broadway but flopped in London. ○ off Broadway at smaller New York theatres

brocade /ˈbraːkɪd/ noun a thick cloth with a raised pattern

broccoli /ˈbrɔkəli/ noun a vegetable of which the green, purple or white flower buds are eaten (NOTE: no plural)
broke /broke/ adj with no money (informal). Synonym bankrupt. Antonym wealthy.
broke /broke/ noun a chicken sold for roasting.
broken /broke/ adj 1. pieces. She tried to mend the broken vase. 2. not working. They came to mend the broken TV. 3. not complete. broken home a family where the parents have separated. 4. (of a foreign language) with hesitations and mistakes, and often in a foreign accent. He only spoke broken English when he arrived, but was soon speaking fluently.
brokency /verb to break
brokendown /broke’down/ adj not working.
brokenhearted /broke’nheartid/ adj very sad. Antonym overjoyed.
broker /broukər/ noun a dealer in shares or insurance. Synonym trader.
brokerage /broukərdʒ/ noun a commission.
brokery /broukər/ noun an umbrella.
broil /broul/ noun to grill food.
brown /braʊn/ adj 1. a large wild animal found in mountain areas. Synonym bear.
brown /braʊn/ noun a heavy shoe with a patterned leather top. He bought himself a pair of heavy brogues to wear in the country.
browbeat /broubɛt/ verb to intimidate; to browbeat.
browbeat /broubɛt/ noun a piece of women's jewellery fastened to clothes with a pin.
browbeat /broubɛt/ noun a family of young birds or small children. Some birds raise only one brood of chicks a year.
broad /braʊd/ noun a family of young birds or small children. Some birds raise only one brood of chicks a year.
brood /braʊd/ noun a family where the parents have separated.
broom /bruːm/ noun 1. a brush with a long handle, used to clean floors. She swept the kitchen with a broom.
brooch /bruʃ/ noun a piece of women's jewellery fastened to clothes with a pin.
brooch /bruʃ/ noun a small river. They jumped over the brook and walked on up the hill. Synonym stream.
broom /bruːm/ noun 1. a brush with a long handle, used to clean floors. She swept the kitchen with a broom.
brood /braʊd/ noun a brood of chicks a year.
broider /broydə/ verb to work with thread or yarn to make decorative patterns.
broiler /brʊələ/ noun a broiler
brolly /brolə/ noun an umbrella.
brooch /bruʃ/ noun a piece of women's jewellery fastened to clothes with a pin (NOTE: The plural is brooches.)
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brood /braʊd/ noun a family of young birds or small children. Some birds raise only one brood of chicks a year. Simon and his brood came for lunch yesterday. brood /braʊd/ noun to think anxiously about something a lot. He's in the garden, brooding as usual. She’s brooding over the possibility that she might lose her job.
broaden /brudэн/ verb to broaden, to extend. Synonym enlarge
broaden /brudэн/ verb to broaden, to extend.
brochure /brʊʃər/ noun a small thin book. Synonym booklet.
broaden /brudэн/ verb to broaden, to extend.
brood /braʊd/ noun a family of young birds or small children.
bruise /braʊz/ noun 1. a painful area on the skin, following a blow. She had bruises all over her arms. verb 1. to make a bruise. She bruised her knee on the corner of the table. 2. to bruise easily to get bruises easily because your skin is delicate. She bruises easily, even a little blow gives her a bruise. Peaches are delicate fruit – they bruise easily.

brushing /braʊzɪŋ/ noun an area of bruises. The baby has brushing on the back and legs.

bruise /braʊz/ noun 1. a tool made of a handle and hairs or wire, used for jobs such as cleaning or painting. You need a stiff brush to get the mud off your shoes. She used a very fine brush to paint the details. He was painting the front of the house with a large brush. (NOTE: The plural is brushes.) 2. the act of cleaning with a brush. She gave the coat a good brush.

brute /braʊt/ noun a violent person. He’s a brute and not being very polite.

brutality /braʊtəlɪ/ noun violent actions. Synonym cruelty (NOTE: usually no plural; to indicate a plural you can say acts of brutality.)

brutally /braʊtlɪ/ adv in a cruel and violent way.

bubble /ˈbʌbl/ noun 1. air or gas contained in a liquid. Bubbles of gas rose to the brush for several miles. 4. a near miss, when something nearly happens to harm you. They had a brush with death on the motorway. 5. a short argument or fight with someone. He’s had several brushes with the police recently. 6. the tail of a fox. verb 1. to clean with a brush. He brushed his shoes before going to the office. Always remember to brush your teeth before you go to bed. 2. to go past something touching it gently. She brushed against me as she came into the cafe.

browsed /braʊzd/ verb 1. to look through a book, newspaper or magazine, without reading it properly. 2. to wander around looking at things for sale. Do you need any help? No, I’m just browsing. 3. to look through several magazines at the doctor’s surgery.

download /ˈdɒlnəʊ/ verb 1. to clean something off with a brush. He brushed the mud off his boots. 2. to ignore something because it is not very important. So far he has managed to brush off all the complaints about his work.

brownfield /braʊnflɪd/ adj referring to land that previously had industrial building on it but is now available for housing.

brown sugar /ˈbraʊn ˈsʌgə/ a type of sugar which has been processed so that it remains pale brown in colour.

brown rice /ˈbraʊn rʌs/ noun rice which still has its outer covering.

brownstone /ˈbraʊnstoʊn/ noun an imaginary sign of approval for something good you have done (informal).

brownie /ˈbraʊni/ noun a type of cake usually with nuts.

to brush up /braʊʃʌp/ verb 1. to improve knowledge better.

brusque /ˈbraʊsk/ adj rude, dirty and abrupt and not being very polite. Synonym abrupt.

browse /braʊz/ verb 1. (of animals) to eat grass. The snow has gone, and the cows are browsing in the fields again. 2. (of a person) to wander around looking at things for sale. Do you need any help? No, I’m just browsing.

brusque /ˈbraʊsk/ adj using very few words and not being very polite. Synonym abrupt.

bush /baʊʃ/ noun 1. bushes or low trees. They walked through the bush. 2. a dense area of bushes or low trees. The public has lost confidence in the act of cleaning with a brush.

bushes /ˈbaʊʃiz/ noun a type of plant that Brussels sprouts grow on. Brussels sprout /ˈbrəʊzəsprɔʊt/ noun 1. a green vegetable like a very small cabbage. The plant that Brussels sprouts grow on.

brownfield 94 bubble

brownfield /bræufiːld/ adj referring to land that previously had industrial building on it but is now available for housing.

brownie /brəʊni/ noun a small chocolate cake usually with nuts.

Brownie /brəʊni/ noun a member of the branch of the Guides for younger girls.

brownie points /brəʊni ˈpɔɪnts/ plural noun an imaginary sign of approval for something good you have done (informal).

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bubble gum /ˈbʌbl ɡʌm/ noun 1. a type of chewing gum that can be blown from the mouth into large bubbles, popular aimed at the younger teenage market and usually considered to be lacking in originality. 2. (informal) a dark grain, usually considered to be lacking in originality.

buck /bʌk/ noun 1. a male of certain animals such as the hare, rabbit, deer or goat. 2. (of a religion) a Buddhism temple. Synonym Buddhist

buck the trend verb to behave in a surprisingly different way.

budget /ˈbʌdʒət/ noun 1. an amount of money that can be spent on something. 2. the budget the government’s plans for spending and tax. 3. to become bent. Antonym expensive

budgetary /ˈbʌdʒətərɪ/ adj referring to a budget. Synonym financial.
Budget travel /ˈbʌdʒɪt ˈtrævl/ noun
cheap travel
Budget /ˈbʌdʒɪt/ noun same as budgerigar (informal)
Buff /bʌf/ adj of a pale brown colour ○ The document you’re looking for is in a buff folder.  n noun 1. a pale brown colour ○ This type of envelope comes in blue, green and buff only. 2. an enthusiast ○ This is the best dictionary for crossword buffs. 3. o in the buff naked (informal) ○ Give me time to dress. I’m in the buff just now. ○ They all stripped to the buff and plunged into the lake. ▶ verb to make something shine ○ Young recruits have to spend hours buffing their boots. Synonym polish
Buffalo /ˈbʌfəloʊ/ noun 1. same as water buffalo ○ The old man was walking behind a plough pulled by a pair of buffaloes. 2. a large wild animal with long hair, like a large bull, which used to be common in North America but is reduced in numbers. Also called bison (NOTE: The plural is buffaloes or buffalo, for a group, you say a herd of buffalo.)
▶ buffalo /ˈbʌfəʊ/ noun 1. a shock-absorbing pad ○ The cushion acts as a buffer between the two pieces of machinery. ○ The train failed to stop and crashed into the buffers. 2. something placed between two powerful forces, which prevents problems occurring between them ○ The UN tried to establish a buffer zone between the two factions.
Buffer state /ˈbʌfər stɛt/ noun a small country between two large opposing states
Buffer /ˈbʌfər/ noun /ˈbʌfər/ 1. a meal where the food is in dishes on a table, and each person helps himself ○ The hotel serves a buffet breakfast. 2. a sideways ▶ verb to push someone or something around in an uncontrolled way ○ She stood on the deck, buffeted by the wind.
Buffet car /ˈbʌfɛt kɑː/ noun the part of a train where you can buy drinks and snacks. Compare restaurant car
Buffoon /ˈbʌfuːn/ noun someone who acts in a funny or stupid way (dated). Synonym clown
▶ bug /bʌɡ/ noun 1. an insect ○ What are these bugs on the roses? 2. a germ ○ She got a stomach bug on holiday. 3. an error in a computer program ○ You need a special program to remove the bugs in the system. ▶ verb 1. to plant a hidden microphone ○ They met in Hyde Park because he was afraid his flat had been bugged. 2. to annoy someone ○ What’s bugging him? (NOTE: bugging – bugged)
Bugbear /ˈbʌgbɪr/ noun something that upsets or annoys someone. Synonym problem
Bugging device /ˈbʌɡɪŋ dɪsɪˈvɛr/ noun a hidden microphone
Buggery /ˈbʌɡeri/ noun 1. a little electric car for one or two people ○ Beach buggies have very large tyres so that they can drive on sand. ○ Some people hire buggies when they play golf. 2. a light folding chair with wheels for pushing a baby in ○ She pushed the buggy across the busy road.
Bugle /ˈbʌɡli/ noun a brass musical instrument similar to a trumpet, mainly used in the army
▶ build /bild/ noun the shape of the body ○ She’s a girl of slender build. ○ He has the same build as his father. Synonym shape ▶ verb to make something by putting things together ○ The house was only built last year. ○ They are planning to build a motorway across the field. ○ The children built sand castles on the beach. ○ He built his business from scratch. (NOTE: building – built /bɪlt/) ∆ builder /ˈbɪldaɪ/ noun a person who builds buildings
Building /ˈbɪldɪŋ/ noun 1. something which has been built, such as a house, railway station or factory ○ The flood washed away several buildings. ○ His office is on the top floor of the building. 2. used in names of large office blocks ○ the Shell Building 3. the action of constructing something ○ The building of the pyramids must have taken many years.
Building blocks /ˈbɪldɪŋ bloʊks/ plural noun 1. small pieces of wood, used by children to build structures such as castles ○ Most children like to play with building blocks. 2. one of the parts which form a whole ○ Printed books are the essential building blocks of a national library.
Building site /ˈbɪldɪŋ sɪt/ noun a piece of land where a large building is being built
▶ building society /ˈbɪldɪŋ səˌsɜːti/ noun an organisation which pays interest on people’s savings and lends money to people buying houses or flats
Build up /bɪld / verb to increase ○ The pressure is building up on him to resign. ○ Gas built up rapidly in the boiler until it exploded. 
Build-up /ˈbɪld ʌp/ noun 1. the preparations for something 2. a gradual increase in something ○ a build-up of traffic 3. a flattering description of someone or something ○ We’d expected someone funnier after all the build-up.
Built /bɪlt/ suffix made or constructed
Built-in /ˈbɪlt ɪn/ adj made as part of a room or machine
Built-up area /ˈbɪlt ʌp ˈeərə/ noun area of a town where there are many buildings.
believes that stock market prices will rise.

dozed the old farm buildings.

flower grow the missing toy underneath.

horns to try to deal with a difficult problem

to bulge with to be fat

cable or advertising events

bulb /bəlb/ noun 1. a fat underground part of some plants, from which leaves and flowers grow. She planted daffodil bulbs all round the house. 2. a glass ball which gives electric light. You'll need a ladder to change the bulb.

bulbous /bəlbəs/ adj fat and round. Synonym rounded

bulge /bəldʒ/ noun a swelling. There's a little bulge in the carpet – I guess we'll find the missing toy underneath. Synonym protuberance

bulking /bʊlkɪŋ/ adj sticking out

bulimia /bjuːˈlimiə/ noun a psychological condition where the patient eats too much and is incapable of controlling their eating.

bulky /bʌlkɪ/ adj large amount in bulk.

bullock /bʊlˈlɒk/ noun a male animal.

bulldoze /ˈbʊldəʊz/ verb 1. to knock down or to clear using a bulldozer. They bulldozed the old farm buildings. 2. to force or he bulldozed his proposal through the committee he forced the committee to agree to his proposal

bulldozer /ˈbʊldəʊzə/ noun a large powerful tractor with a curved plate in front for pushing or moving earth

bullet /ˈbjuːlɪt/ noun a piece of metal fired from a hand gun. He loaded his gun with bullets. Two bullets had been fired.

bulletin /ˈbʒʊlɪtɪn/ noun information on a situation

bulletin board /ˈbʒʊlɪtɪn ˈboʊrd/ noun 1. US a board on which notices can be placed (NOTE: The British term is noticeboard.) 2. (on the Internet) a system of sending messages or advertising events. She advertised the concert on the bulletin board.

bullet point /ˈbjuːltɪnt poʊnt/ noun a printed symbol before a word or other item in a list

bullet-proof /ˈbjuːlɪtrɪˈpruf/ adj made so that bullets cannot go through

bullfight /ˈbʊlfɔft/ noun an entertainment in Spain, where a man fights a bull

bullfighter /ˈbʊlfɛtʃər/ noun a man who fights bulls

bullfight

bullfinch /ˈbʊlfɪntʃ/ noun a small finch with red breast

bullfrog /ˈbʊlfəgrɒ/ noun a large frog

bullion /ˈbʊliən/ noun gold or silver bars

bullish /ˈbʊliʃ/ adj feeling that the stock market is likely to rise

bull market /ˈbʊl ˈmɑrkɪt/ noun a period when prices on the stock market rise as people buy shares because they think share prices will rise still further. Antonym bear market

bulls eye /ˈbʊlz ˈeɪ/ noun 1. the centre of the target which you try to hit in sports such as archery, darts or rifle shooting. This target is not easy, the bull's eye is very small. 2. a direct hit in the centre of a target. No one scored a bull's eye. 3. a large striped peppermint sweet. He bought a packet of bull's eyes

bully /ˈbʊli/ noun a person who hurts or is unkind to weaker people. (dated) He's a bully and is always trying to frighten smaller children. Synonym tormentor (NOTE: The plural is bullies.)

bullying /ˈbʊlɪŋ – ˈbʊliəd/ verb unkind to someone who is weaker. She was bullied by the other children in school. Synonym intimidate (NOTE: bullying – bullied)

bum /bʌm/ (informal) noun 1. a person's bottom. He just sits on his bum all day, doing nothing. 2. US a person who sits around doing nothing. Can't you bums find something to do? 3. a person who is very keen on something o a ski bum o verb o to bum something off someone to ask someone for something. He always trying to bum cigarettes off his friends. o Can I bum a cigarette?

bum bag /ˈbʌm bæɡ/ noun a small bag attached to a belt for keeping valuables in

bumblebee /ˈbʌmbəli/ noun a large brown furry bee

bumbling /ˈbʌmbliŋ/ adj confused and inefficient (informal)

bumf /ˈbʌmf/ noun paper, usually useless documents. What's all this pile of bumf on my desk?

bump /bʌmp/ noun 1. a slight knock. The boat hit the landing stage with a bump. 2. a raised place. Drive slowly, the road is full of bumps. 3. a raised place on your body, where something has hit it. He has a bump
bump

on the back of his head. **verb** to hit something or a part of the body **o** He’s crying because he bumped his head on the door.

**bumper** /ˈbʌmpər/ **adj** very large **o** a bumper crop of corn **o** We’re publishing a bumper edition of children’s stories. **o** Last year was a bumper year for sales of mobile phones. Synonym **plentiful** **noun** a protective bar on the front and back of a car **o** He backed into a lamp post and dented the rear bumper. **o** There was a mile-long traffic jam with cars standing bumper-to-bumper.

**bump into** /ˈbʌmp ˈɪntu/ **verb** 1. to hit slightly **o** Be careful not to bump into the wall when you’re reversing. 2. **o** to bump into someone to meet someone by chance **o** I bumped into him at the station.

**bump off** /ˈbʌmp ˈɒf/ **verb** to murder someone (slang). Synonym **kill**

**bump start** /ˈbʌmp ˈstrɑːt/ **verb** to start a car engine when the battery is flat by putting it into gear and then pushing it **o** We bumped start the car and drove to town to get a new battery. **noun** the process of starting a car engine when the battery is flat by putting it into gear and then pushing it **o** Two passers-by gave me a bump start. Compare **jump start**

**bumpy** /ˈbʌmpi/ **adj** not smooth (NOTE: **bumpier – bumpiest**)

**bun** /bʌn/ **noun** 1. a little round bread or cake **o** Hamburger is made of minced beef fried and served in a bun. **o** The icing on these buns is too sweet. 2. hair tied up in a knot **o** She wears her hair in a bun.

**bunch** /bʌntʃ/ **noun** 1. a group of things taken together **o** He carries a bunch of keys attached to his belt. **o** He brought her a bunch of flowers. **o** I work with a nice bunch of people. 2. several small fruits on the same stem **o** a bunch of grapes **o** a bunch of bananas **o** the pick of the bunch the best out of the group 3. a group of people taken together **o** They’re a nice bunch of people. **o** Bunches of people were waiting on street corners. **o** A bunch of racing cyclists came round the corner. (NOTE: The plural is **bunches**.) **verb** to form a group **o** There were three candidates with excellent results, with the rest bunched together at the 50% mark.

**bundle** /ˈbʌnd(ə)l/ **noun** a parcel of things wrapped up or tied up together **o** A bundle of clothes was all she possessed. **o** He produced a bundle of papers tied up with green string. **o** She left her clothes in a bundle on the floor. **bundle of nerves** a very nervous person (informal) **verb** 1. to put things somewhere quickly without being careful **o** He bundled the papers into a drawer. **o** She bundled the children off to school. **o** The police bundled him into the back of their van. 2. to sell a software programme at the same time as you sell hardware, both sold together at a special price **o** The word-processing package is bundled with the computer.

**bun** /bʌn/ **noun** something which is used to block a hole, as in a wine cork **verb** to throw (informal) **o** Don’t keep that paper – just hung it in the wastepaper basket.

**bungalow** /ˈbʌndʒəl/ **noun** a house with only a ground floor

**bungee-jumping** /ˈbʌŋʒi ˈdʒʌmpɪŋ/ **noun** a sport which consists of jumping from a high point such as a bridge when attached by your ankles to a long elastic cable, so that instead of hitting the ground, you bounce up into the air.

**bungle** /ˈbʌŋɡəl/ **verb** to do something badly (informal)

**bundler** /ˈbʌŋɡlər/ **noun** a person who has done a job badly (informal)

**bunion** /ˈbʌnjən/ **noun** a swelling of the first joint of the big toe

**bunk** /bʌŋk/ **noun** 1. a bed attached to a wall, especially in a ship **o** He climbed up into his bunk and fell asleep. **o** Do you want the top bunk or the bottom one? 2. **o** to do a bunk to run away (informal) **o** As soon as they saw the police van, they did a bunk across some waste land.

**bunk beds** /ˈbʌŋk ˈbeds/ **plural noun** two beds one on top of the other, with a ladder to climb to the top one **o** We put the children in bunk beds because they take up less space.

**bunker** /ˈbʌŋkər/ **noun** 1. a room with especially strong walls, often underground **o** The soldiers defended the bunker for several days. **o** As the enemy approached, the ministers hid in a bunker under the presidential palace. 2. an open pit filled with sand placed on a golf course to trap balls and make difficulties for the players

**bunny** /ˈbʌni/ **noun** a child’s name for a rabbit (informal) (NOTE: The plural is **bunnies**.)

**Bunsen burner** /ˈbʌnsən ˈbɜːnə/ **noun** a piece of equipment with a small gas flame, used in laboratories

**bunting** /ˈbʌntɪŋ/ **noun** 1. a type of small singing bird (NOTE: The plural is **buntings**.) 2. strings of small flags **o** They draped bunting across the front of the building. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning)

**buoy** /ˈbjuː/ **noun** a floating marker in the sea, or in a lake or river **o** Light buoys show the harbour’s entrance at night. **o** The canoes will race around the buoys at the end of the lake. **verb** 1. to buoy someone up to cheer someone up **o** A win in the quarter-finals kept the fans buoyed up.

**buoyancy** /ˈbjuːənsɪ/ **noun** the quality of being able to float
buoyant /ˈbɔːrənt/ adj 1. which can float easily, which helps something float easily o The raft became waterlogged and was no longer buoyant. o Salt water is more buoyant than fresh water. 2. full of confidence o She left the meeting in a very buoyant mood.

bureaucracy /bjʊərəˈkræsɪ/ noun a group of officials working for central or local government at his age something of a burden. o to make someone’s life a burden

red burgundy with your quails?

burgeoning /bɜːrəˈjʊniŋ/ adj growing fast

burial /ˈberɪəl/ noun a ceremony of burying a dead person

burial ground /ˈberɪəl grɔːnd/ noun a piece of land where people are buried when they are dead. Synonym cemetery

burn /bɜːrn/ verb (of a person) strong and solid. Synonym brawny (NOTE: burler = burliest)

burn down /bɜːrn dɔːn/ verb 1. to destroy something completely by fire o They were playing with matches and burnt the house down. 2. to be destroyed completely by fire o The building had burnt down before the firemen arrived.

burner /bɜːrnər/ noun a piece of equipment with a flame for heating something o to put something on the back burner to delay dealing with something o All decisions about the project have been put on the back burner.

burning /ˈberɪŋ/ adj 1. very hot o The baby must have a temperature, which is burning. o Careful, the pan is burning hot. 2. painful, as though being touched by something hot o She had a burning pain in her left eye. 3. very keen o He had a burning desire to go to Egypt. 4. o burning question an important matter, which is likely to cause a lot of argument o Who will be the new mayor, that is the burning question at the moment.

burn out /ˈbɜːrn aʊt/ verb 1. to destroy the inside completely by fire o The restaurant was completely burnt out. 2. o to burn yourself out to work so hard that you cannot work any more o She burnt herself out setting up her own business.

burnt /bɜːnt/ adj black with fire

burnt-out /ˈbɜːnt aʊt/ adj completely tired physically or emotionally through too much hard work, stress, or fast living
burp /bɑːp/ noun the noise when bringing up air from the stomach. ○ When the baby stops drinking, pat him gently on the back until he makes a burp. ■ verb 1. to make a burp ○ There is nothing like a fizzy drink to make you burp. 2. to to burp a baby to make a baby burp by gently patting on the back ○ Have you burped the baby yet?

burrow /ˈbɜːrəʊ/ noun a rabbit hole. ○ The rabbits all popped down into their burrow when we came near. ■ verb to dig underground ○ Moles have burrowed under the lawn.

grras /bɜːsər/ noun a person in charge of the finances of a school or college

bursary /ˈbɜːsəri/ noun money given to some students to help them pay for their studies.

burst /bɜːst/ noun 1. a sudden loud sound ○ There was a burst of gunfire and then silence. ○ Bursts of laughter came from the office. 2. a sudden effort or activity ○ He put on a burst of speed. ○ In one of her periodical bursts of efficiency she sorted out the old stock. ■ verb to explode suddenly ○ A water main burst in the High Street. ○ When she picked up the balloon it burst. ○ the river burst its banks the river flooded ○ to be bursting at the seams to be very full, not to have any more space ○ The schools are bursting at the seams.

bursting /ˈbɜːstɪŋ/ adj 1. eager to say something ○ He was bursting to tell everyone the news. 2. full of an emotion ○ She was bursting with pride at her children’s success.

burst into /ˈbɜːst ɪntuː/ verb 1. to enter unexpectedly, in a rush ○ She burst into the meeting waving a bundle of papers. 2. to start to do something suddenly ○ She opened the letter and burst into tears. ○ The building burst into flames.

burst out /ˈbɜːst ˈaʊt/ verb 1. to suddenly start ○ She burst out laughing. 2. to say something loudly ○ He burst out into a string of insults. 3. to leave quickly ○ She burst out of the shop, and started running down the street.

Burry /ˈbɜːri/ verb to put into the ground ○ He was buried in the local cemetery. ○ Squirrels often bury nuts in the autumn. ○ to bury your face in your hands to hide your face in your hands, because you are embarrassed or sad ○ to bury your head in the sand to pretend that a danger or problem does not exist (informal) ○ to bury the hatchet to make peace with someone after an argument.

bus /bʌs/ noun a large motor vehicle which carries passengers ○ He goes to work by bus. ○ She takes the 8 o’lock bus to school every morning. ○ We missed the last bus and had to walk home. ○ The number 6 bus goes to Oxford Street.

busboy /ˈbʌsbɔɪ/ noun US a boy or young man who helps a waiter in a restaurant by clearing dishes, bringing water, etc.

bush /bʌʃ/ noun 1. a small tree ○ An animal was moving in the bushes. ○ A holly bush with red berries. ○ bushes. 2. the bush (in Africa, India, etc.) land covered with bushes or low trees ○ They walked through the bush for several days before finding a village.

bushel /ˈbʌʃ(ə)l/ noun a measure of dry goods, such as grain (equal to 56 pounds)

bush telegraph /bʌʃ ˈtelɪɡrɑːf/ noun information which is passed by people talking to each other, usually on the phone (informal) Synonym luxuriant. Antonym sparse (NOTE: bushier – busiest)

busily /ˈbɪz(ə)li/ adv in a busy way. Synonym actively. Antonym lazily

business /ˈbɪznəs/ noun 1. an occupation or trade, the work of buying or selling things ○ She works in the electricity business. ○ They do a lot of business with France. ○ on business working ○ The sales director is in Holland on business. 2. a company ○ She runs a photography business. ○ He runs a secondhand car business. (NOTE: The plural is businesses.) 3. an affair or concern ○ It’s none of your business it’s nothing to do with you

business card /ˈbɪznəs ˈkɑːd/ noun a card showing a businessman’s name and the name and address of the company he works for

business class /ˈbɪznəs ˈklɑːs/ noun travel which is less expensive than first class

business hours /ˈbɪznəs həʊrəz/ plural noun the time when a business is open, usually 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is businesses)

businesslike /ˈbɪznəslɪk/ adj practical and efficient

businessman /ˈbɪznəsmən/ noun a man who is engaged in business, or who runs a business (NOTE: The plural is businessmen.)

business park /ˈbɪznəs ˈpɑːk/ noun a group of small offices or small industrial buildings built together

businessperson /ˈbɪznəs, prəˈsən/ noun a person who works in business, or who runs a business

business plan /ˈbɪznəs ˈpleɪn/ noun a plan of the future development of a business

business woman /ˈbɪznəs, ˈwʊmən/ noun a woman who is engaged in business, or who runs a business (NOTE: The plural is businesswomen.)

bush /bʌʃ/ verb to entertain people in the street.
busker /bæskər/ noun a person who sings or plays a musical instrument, to entertain people in the street

busking /bæskɪŋ/ noun the practice of singing or playing a musical instrument to entertain people in the street

bus lane /bæs lɛn/ noun a part of a road where only buses may go

busman’s holiday /bæsmənz ‘holɪdeɪ/ noun spare time which is spent doing something similar to your normal job (informal)

bus pass /bæspɔs/ noun a special ticket allowing you to use a bus at a cheaper rate, or without paying at all

bus shelter /bæʃ ˈʃɛltə/ noun a construction with a roof where you can wait for a bus

bus station /bæstʃəˈneɪʃən/ noun a place where coaches or buses begin or end their journeys

bus stop /bæstʃəpɔ/ noun a place where a bus stops and passengers can get on or off

bust /bʌst/ noun 1. a sculpture of the head and shoulders ○ Have you seen the bust of the Prime Minister? ○ a woman’s breasts ○ adj (informal) 1. broken ○ The washing machine’s bust. 2. to go bust to fail, to be bankrupt ○ Thousands of people lost their savings when the bank went bust. ○ verb to break (informal) ○ She’s bust my precious vase! ○ He hit the ball hard and it bust a window. (NOTE: busting – busted or bust)

bustle /bʌstl/ noun 1. a situation where people are hurrying around ○ It’s nice to sit quietly at home after the bustle of the office. 2. a pad at the back of a Victorian dress ○ verb to bustle around doing things ○ She bustled around the kitchen getting dinner ready.

bustling /bʌstliŋ/ adj very busy

bust-up /bʌst ˈʌp/ noun (informal) 1. the breaking up of something such as a relationship or an organisation 2. a fight or bad argument ○ busy /bʌzi/ adj working on something, doing something ○ He was busy mending the dishwasher. ○ I was too busy to phone my aunt. ○ The busiest time for shops is the week before Christmas. ○ the line’s busy at the moment someone is using the phone line ○ the street is busy a street is full of pedestrians and traffic ○ verb ○ to busy yourself with something to occupy yourself, to keep yourself busy doing something ○ My sister likes to busy herself with the garden now she’s retired.

busybody /ˈbɪzɪbɒdi/ noun a person who is too interested in what other people do (informal) (NOTE: The plural is busbodies.) ○ busy /ˈbʌsi, ˈbʌzɪ/ coming before a contr.

butter /ˈbʌtə/ noun a yellow fat made from cream, used on bread or for cooking ○ Could you pass the butter, please? ○ Don’t spread the butter too thick. ○ Fry the mushrooms in butter. (NOTE: no plural; some butter; a knob of butter) ○ to spread butter on something ○ She was busy buttering slices of bread for the sandwiches. ○ to butter someone up to flatter someone, to praise someone without really believing it to be true (informal) ○ Just butter up the boss a bit – tell him how good his golf is.

buttercup /ˈbʌtəkʌp/ noun a common yellow flower found in fields

butter-fingers /ˈbʌtəˌfɪŋɡəz/ noun a person who often drops things (informal)

butterfly /ˈbʌtəflai/ noun 1. an insect with large brightly-coloured wings which comes out in daylight ○ Butterflies come out in the sunshine. 2. to have butterflies in the stomach to feel very nervous (informal) ○ She had butterflies in the stomach before the interview.

butterfly stroke /ˈbʌtəflai strɔk/ noun a style of swimming where the two arms are lifted forwards at the same time and pushed down into the water while kicking the legs.
buttermilk

buttermilk /ˈbʌtəmilk/ noun the thin milk left after butter has been made from cream

butterscotch /ˈbʌtəskɔtʃ/ noun a sweet made from butter and sugar

butt /bat/ verb to interrupt

buttock /ˈbʌtək/ noun one of the sides of someone's buttocks

buttocks /ˈbʌtəks/ plural noun the part of the body on which you sit

button /ˈbʌtən/ noun 1. a little round disc for fastening clothes that you push through a buttonhole.  
• The wind is cold — do up the buttons on your coat.  
• A button’s come off my shirt.  
2. a little round disc which you push to operate something such as a bell  
• Press the ‘up’ button to call the lift.  
• Push the red button to set off the alarm.  
• verb to fasten with buttons  
• He buttoned (up) his coat because it was cold.

button-down collar /ˈbʌtən(ə)n/ daun ‘k neighbours noun a shirt collar held down with a button at each point

buttonhole /ˈbʌtə(ŋ)hol/ noun 1. a hole through which a button goes when it is fastened  
• You’ve put the button in the wrong buttonhole.  
2. a flower worn in a little buttonhole on a collar  
• He wore a buttonhole to the office every day.  
• verb to stop someone and start talking to him (informal)

button mushroom /ˈbʌtəmjuʃəm/ noun a small round white mushroom

buttress /ˈbʌtərəs/ noun a wall or strong pillar built against another wall to support it  
• There are three buttresses on the side wall of the church. (NOTE: The plural is buttresses.)  
• verb to support  
• You’ll need more evidence than that to buttress your argument. Synonym strengthen

buxom /ˈbʌksəm/ adj (of a woman) plump and attractive (humorous) (NOTE: only used of women)

buy /bəʊ/ verb to get something by paying money  
• I bought a newspaper on my way to the station.  
• She’s buying a flat.  
• She bought herself a pair of ski boots.  
• What did you buy your mother for her birthday?  
• (NOTE: buying — bought (bought))  
• noun something bought. Synonym purchase  
• a good buy something which you have bought which is worth the money spent  
• That camera you bought was a very good buy.

buyer /ˈbaʊər/ noun a person who buys.

Synonym purchaser

buyer’s market /ˈbaʊərz mɑrkɪt/ noun a market where products are sold cheaply because there are more sellers than buyers.

Compare seller’s market

buy off /ˈbaʊ/ verb  
• to buy someone off to pay someone not to do something  
• They were going to print the story in the local newspaper but we managed to buy them off.

buy out /ˈbaʊ/ verb  
• to buy someone out to buy a partner’s share in a business  
• The co-founder of the firm bought out the other shareholders.

buyout /ˈbaʊət/ noun same as takeover

buy up /ˈbaʊ/ verb to buy a large quantity of something

buzz /baʊz/ noun 1. a noise like the noise made by a bee  
• I can hear a buzz but I can’t see the bee.  
• The buzz of an electric saw in the garden next door.  
2. a feeling of excitement  
• She gets a buzz from skiing fast downhill.  
• a telephone call  
• Give me a buzz tomorrow. (NOTE: The plural is buzzes.)  
• verb 1. to make a noise like a bee  
• Wasps were buzzing round the jam.  
2. (of aircraft) to fly close to another aircraft to force it to go away  
• The plane was buzzed by enemy fighters and forced to land.

buzzard /ˈbaʊzəd/ noun a large bird of prey

buzzword /ˈbaʊzərd/ noun a piece of equipment which buzzes as a signal of something

buzz off /ˈbaʊ əf/ verb to go away (informal)

buzzword /ˈbaʊzərd/ noun a word which is frequently used (informal)

slogan

by /baɪ/ prep 1. near  
• The house is just by the bus stop.  
• Sit down here by me.  
2. before, not later than  
• They should have arrived by now.  
• You must be home by eleven o’clock.  
• It must be finished by Friday.  
• showing means or way  
• Send the parcel by airmail.  
• Get in touch with the office by phone.  
• They came by car.  
• She caught a cold by standing in the rain.  
• You make buck’s fizzle by adding champagne to orange juice.  
• She paid by cheque, not by credit card.  
4. showing the person or thing that did something  
• a painting by Van Gogh  
• ‘Hamlet’ is a play by Shakespeare.  
• A CD recorded by our local group.  
• The postman was bitten by the dog.  
• She was knocked down by a car.  
5. by yourself alone  
• Don’t sit at home all by yourself.  
• She made the hat all by herself.  
• Can you find your way to the station by yourself?  
• 6. showing how much  
• We sell tomatoes by the kilo.  
• Eggs are sold by the dozen.  
• Prices have been increased by 5%.  
• They won by 4 goals to 2.  
• showing the size of something  
• The table is 60cm long by 25 wide.  
• by far very much  
• A bike is by far the cheapest way to travel round London.  
• By and large in general  
• They run on time.  
• by far very much  
• A bike is by far the cheapest way to travel round London.  
• Of all small cars, this one uses by far the least amount of petrol. Synonym considerably
round of a competition without having to play.

1. bye /baɪ, biː/ noun goodbye

2. bye-bye /baɪˌbaɪ/ interj goodbye

byelaw /ˈbaɪlɔʊ, ˈbaɪlɔ/ noun 1. a rule or law made by a local authority or public body but not by central government. A local byelaw says that this path is a public right of way. Byelaws must be made by bodies which have been authorised by Parliament.

2. one of a set of rules for running a club. According to the byelaws, the president is elected for three years only.

by-election /ˌbaɪˌɛlkʃən/ noun an election for Parliament when an MP has died or retired. Antonym general


bygones be bygones to let bygones be bygones to ignore something unpleasant that happened in the past. After ten years of not speaking to each other they finally decided to let bygones be bygones.

by-line /ˈbaɪ lʌn/ noun the line at the beginning or end of an article in a newspaper, giving the name of the journalist who wrote it.

bypass /ˈbaɪpɑs/ noun a road round a town. Take the bypass if you want to avoid congestion in the town centre. Verb to go round a town, avoiding the centre. It would be better if you could bypass the town centre on market day. The main road bypasses the town centre.

by-product /ˈbaɪ ˈprɒdʌkt/ noun a product made as a result of manufacturing a main product. Synonym side effect.

bystander /ˌbaɪstændər/ noun a person near where something is happening. Synonym onlooker. Antonym participant.

byte /baɪt/ noun a group of eight bits which a computer operates on as a single unit. (NOTE: usually used in compounds kilobyte, megabyte, etc. Do not confuse with bite.)

byway /ˈbaɪweɪ/ noun an unimportant road.

byword /ˈbaɪwɔrd/ noun 1. somebody or something well-known for representing a particular quality. 2. a word or phrase which is in common use.
c /siː/, C noun the third letter of the alphabet, between B and D
C symbol carbon  ■ abbr Celsius
cab /ˈkæb/ noun 1. a taxi, a car which takes people from one place to another for money	o He took a cab to the airport. ◆ She whis-
tled for a cab. ◆ Can you phone for a cab, please? ◆ The office is only a short cab ride from the railway station. ◆ Cab fares are very high in New York. 2. a separate part of a large vehicle for a driver ◆ The truck driver climbed into his cab and started the engine.
cabaret /ˈkebərɛt/ noun entertainment given in a restaurant or club, with dancing and singing
cabbage /ˈkæbɪdʒ/ noun a vegetable with large pale green or red leaves which you eat
cab driver /ˈkæb dəˈrævə/, cabbie /ˈkæbi/ noun the driver of a taxi
cabin /ˈkæbɪn/ noun 1. a small room on a ship ◆ We booked a first-class cabin on the cruise. ◆ She felt sick and went to lie down in her cabin. 2. a small hut ◆ He has a cabin by a lake where he goes fishing. 3. the inside of an aircraft ◆ The aircraft is divided into three separate cabins. ◆ The first-class cabin is in the front of the plane.
cabin crew /ˈkæbɪn kruː/ plural noun the people who look after the passengers on a plane
cabinet /ˈkæbɪnət/ noun 1. a piece of furniture with shelves ◆ a china cabinet 2. a committee formed of the most important members of a government ◆ The cabinet met at 10 o’clock this morning. ◆ There’s a cabinet meeting every Tuesday morning.
cabinetmaker /ˈkæbɪnət,meɪkər/ noun a woodworker who makes fine furniture
cabinet minister /ˈkæbɪnət ˈmɪnɪstər/ noun a minister who is also a member of the cabinet. ◆ the Prime Minister (NOTE: In the UK and USA, Ministers are also called secretaries: the Foreign Secretary, Secretary for Commerce.)
cable /ˈkæbəl/ noun 1. a wire for carrying electricity ◆ He ran a cable out into the garden so that he could use his lawn mower. 2. a thick rope or wire ◆ The ship was attached to the quay by cables. 3. a wire for sending messages underground or under the sea ◆ They’ve been digging up the pavements to lay cables. 4. a telegram ◆ He cabled his office to ask them to send more money.
cable car /ˈkebəl kɑːl/ noun 1. a vehicle which goes up a mountain, hanging from a wire ◆ Ten people were killed when the cable car fell to the floor of the valley. 2. US (in San Francisco) a type of tram which is pulled by a metal cable set in a channel in the road ◆ We took the cable car down to Fisherman’s Wharf.
cable television /ˈkebəl telˈvɪʒən/, cable TV /ˈkebəl tɛlˈvɪzən/ noun a television service where the signals are sent along underground cables
cacao /ˈkækoʊ/ noun a tropical tree, whose seeds are used to make cocoa and chocolate
cache /ˈkeʃ/ noun a hidden store ◆ The police found a cache of explosives in the shed.
verb to file or store something ◆ This program can cache any size of font. (NOTE: Do not confuse with cash.)
cackle /ˈkækl/ noun 1. the noise made by hens ◆ to cut the cackle to stop talking (slang) ◆ Let’s cut the cackle and get down to business. 2. a little high-pitched laugh ◆ verb 1. to chatter 2. to make a little high-pitched laugh
cacophony /ˈkækəfəni/ noun an unpleasant mixture of loud sounds. Synonym discord
cactus /ˈkæktəs/ noun a plant which grows in the desert (NOTE: The plural is cactuses or cacti /ˈkæktəsi/)
CAD /ˈkæd/ abbr computer-aided design
cadaverous /ˈkædəvərəs/ adj looking like a dead body
caddie /ˈkædi/ noun a person who carries the clubs for a golfer ◆ Some of the best golf professionals started as caddies. Synonym assistant  ■ verb ◆ to caddie for someone to carry a golfer’s clubs ◆ My nephew is going to caddie for me this weekend.
caddy /ˈkædi/ noun 1. a little box for keeping loose tea 2. same as caddie (NOTE: The plural is caddies.)
cadenza /kaˈdɛnzə/ noun a complicated section for an instrument in the middle of a concerto or symphony

cadet /kaˈdɛt/ noun a young person training for the armed services or the police force.

Synonym: trainee

cadge /ˈkædʒ/ verb to try to get something without having to pay for it (informal)

cadmium /ˈkædmiəm/ noun a grey metal which can be poisonous to humans.

caesarean /ˈkeɪzərɪən/, caesarean section /ˈkeɪzərɪən_ˌsɛkʃən/ noun an operation to deliver a baby by cutting through the abdominal wall into the uterus.

café /ˈkɑfə/ noun a small restaurant selling light meals ○ We had a snack in the station café.

cafeteria /ˌkɑfəˈtɛrɪə/ noun a self-service restaurant

cafetière /ˌkɑfəˈtjɛʁ/ noun a coffee pot where you push down a filter to make the coffee

caffeine /ˈkæfɪn/ noun an alkaloid found in coffee, chocolate and tea which acts as a stimulant. • decaffeinated

cage /ˈkeɪdʒ/ noun a box made of wire or metal bars for keeping birds or animals so they cannot get out ○ The rabbit got out of its cage. • verb to keep in a cage ○ He’s pacing about like a caged lion.

caged /ˈkeɪdʒd/ adj kept in a cage or prison

cagey /ˈkeɪdʒɪ/ adj not wanting to share a secret (informal). Synonym: wary. Antonym: reckless (NOTE: cagier – cagiest)

cagoule /ˈkɑɡuːl/ noun a lightweight waterproof anorak with a hood

cahoots /ˈkɑhoots/ noun (informal) ○ to be in cahoots with someone to work with someone against another person ○ I think she’s in cahoots with the drugs gang.

cairn /ˈkeɪn/ noun a pile of stones to mark an important spot

cajole /ˈkɔdʒəl/ verb ○ to cajole someone into doing something to persuade someone to do something ○ It is unbelievable – she managed to cajole him into paying for her trip to Bermuda.

cake /keɪk/ noun 1. food made by mixing flour, eggs and sugar, and baking it ○ a piece of cherry cake ○ She had six candles on her birthday cake. ○ Have another slice of Christmas cake. ○ Would you like some chocolate cake? ○ It’s a piece of cake ○ The exam was a piece of cake – I finished it in half-an-hour! ○ You can’t have your cake and eat it ○ You can’t benefit from two opposing things ○ a cake of soap 3. food made by mixing ingredients together into small round pieces which are then fried ○ A meal of fishcakes and chips. • verb to dry and form a hard crust on something

caked /ˈkeɪkt/ adj covered with something that has become dry and hard ○ His boots were caked with mud.

cake mix /ˈkeɪk mɪks/ noun the main ingredients for a cake which are bought ready mixed in a packet

calcium /ˈkeɪliəm/ noun a chemical element which is found in different forms, e.g. in chalk rocks, shells, bones and teeth, water, milk and some plants, and is an important part of a balanced diet ○ Their diet has a calcium deficiency or is deficient in calcium.

calculate /ˈkælkjuːleɪt/ verb to find the answer to a problem using numbers ○ The bank clerk calculated the rate of exchange for the dollar. ○ I calculate that we have enough money left for a meal. ○ He calculated that it would take us six hours to get to Madrid. Synonym: work out

calculated /ˈkælkjuːlətɪd/ adj deliberate.

Synonym: intended. Antonym: spontaneous ○ a calculated insult an insult which was made on purpose

calculated risk /ˈkælkjuːlətɪd ˈrɪsk/ noun a risk which you think you can take

calculating /ˈkælkjʊleɪtɪŋ/ adj who makes clever plans in a careful way and thinks about all the possible results

calculator /ˈkælkjʊleɪtə/ noun a machine for doing calculations

calculus /ˈkælkjʊləs/ noun 1. a part of mathematics which is the way of calculating varying rates ○ Calculus is now taught in sixth forms. 2. a hard mass like a little piece of stone, which forms inside the body

calendar /ˈkæləndər/ noun a paper showing the days and months of the year

calendar month /ˈkæləndər ˈmʌnθ/ noun a month from the first day to the last

calendar year /ˈkæləndər ˈjɪər/ noun the twelve months from January 1st to December 31st

calf /ˈkælf/ noun 1. a young cow or bull ○ The cow stood in a corner of the field with her two calves. 2. the young of some animals such as elephants or seals ○ The beach was covered with young seal calves. 3. (of a per-
sort) the back part of the leg between the ankle and the knee (NOTE: The plural is calves /ˈkælvz/. The meat from a calf is veal.)
calibrate /ˌkælɪbreɪt/ verb to mark the degrees or measurements on a scale. Synonym standardise
calibre /ˌkælɪbr/ noun 1, the measurement across the inside of a gun barrel ○ The two bullets come from same calibre guns. 2. a quality or ability which something or someone has, particularly when it is of a high standard ○ It’s work which he thinks is beneath a person of his calibre. (NOTE: all senses) The US spelling is caliber.
☞ call /kɔl/ noun 1. a telephone conversation, or an attempt to get in touch with someone by telephone ○ Were there any calls for me while I was out? ○ to make a call to dial and speak to someone on the telephone ○ She wants to make a (phone) call to Australia. ○ to take a call to answer the telephone 2. a telephone call or shout to wake someone ○ He asked for an early morning call. ○ I want a call at 7 o’clock I want someone to wake me at 7 o’clock 3. a visit ○ The doctor made three calls on patients this morning. ○ on call available for duty 4. the song of a bird ○ That’s the call of the nightingale. 5. need ○ There’s no call for anyone to be alarmed. ■ verb 1. to say something loudly to someone who is some distance away, to tell someone to come ○ Call the children when it’s time for tea. ○ call me at 7 o’clock wake me up at 7 o’clock 2. to give someone or something a name ○ Our cat’s called Felix. ○ They’re going to call the baby Sam. ○ His name is John but everyone calls him Jack. ○ What do you call this computer programme? 3. to telephone ○ If he comes back, tell him I’ll call him when I’m in the office. ○ Mr Smith is out – shall I ask him to call you back? ○ Call the police – the shop has been burgled! ○ Can you call me a cab, please? 4. to visit ○ The doctor called at the house, but there was no one there. ○ The whole family called round to see if she was better.
☞ call box /kɔl bɔks/ noun a public telephone box (NOTE: The plural is call boxes.)
call centre /kɔl ˈsentə/ noun a business that deals with all the telephone calls that people make to a large organisation, e.g. a bank
caller /ˈkælər/ noun 1. a person who comes to visit ○ She can’t see any callers today. 2. a person who telephones ○ I picked up the phone and the caller asked for my father.
☞ call for /ˈkælf ɪzər/ verb 1. to call for someone to go to someone’s house to meet them and then go somewhere together ○ He called for me to take me to the theatre. 2. to need a particular skill or ability ○ Rescuing people with a helicopter calls for particular flying skills.
calligraphy /ˌkælɪˈgrɑfɪ/ noun the art of beautiful handwriting, using a special pen
call in /ˈkæl ɪn/ verb 1. to ask somebody to come and give advice or help 2. to telephone a place of work in order to collect or leave a message 3. to ask for a sum of money to be paid back 4. to arrange for or request that something be returned, e.g. goods that are not suitable for sale 5. to make a short visit to somebody, especially without making an arrangement first
calling /ˈkælɪŋ/ noun a job which someone does because they have a strong feeling that they should do it, especially because it will help other people. Synonym: vocations
call off /ˈkæl əf/ verb to decide not to do something which had been planned. Synonym: cancel
call on /ˈkæl ɔn/ verb 1. to visit someone ○ She called on her mother to see how she was. 2. to ask someone to do something ○ The police have called on everyone to watch out for the escaped prisoner.
callous /ˈkæləs/ adj hard, unfeeling. Synonym: heartless. Antonym warm-hearted
☞ call out /ˈkæl əut/ verb 1. to ask a person or an organisation to give help 2. to tell workers to stop work to show they have an official disagreement with the management of the business 3. to challenge somebody to a duel or fight 4. to ask somebody, e.g. a doctor or someone whose job is to repair things, to come to your house and deal with an emergency
callow /ˈkæləʊ/ adj young and with not much experience of life. Synonym: inexperienced
☞ call sign /ˈkæl sɛn/ noun letters or words which identify a radio station
call up /ˈkæl ʌp/ verb to tell someone to join the army, navy or air force ○ Thousands of men were called up at the beginning of the war.
call-up /ˈkæl ap/ noun an order to join the army. Synonym conscription
callius /ˈkælɪəs/ noun a hard area of skin on your body (NOTE: The plural is calluses.)
call waiting /ˈkæl ˈweɪtn/ noun a service offered by a telephone company that allows somebody to answer an additional call from someone without losing their connection to the current call
☞ calm /ˈkælm/ adj quiet, not rough or excited ○ The sea was perfectly calm and no one was seasick. ○ Keep calm, everything will be all right. Synonym tranquil. Antonym: agitated (NOTE: calmer – calmest)
noun a period of quiet ○ The calm of the Sunday afternoon was broken by the sound of
calmly /ˈkæmlɪ/ adv quietly, in a way that is not excited
calmness /ˈkæləmniːs/ noun the state of being quiet and calm. Synonym serenity. Antonym restlessness
calorie /ˈkæləri/ noun 1. a unit of measurement of energy in food. ○ She’s counting calories to try to lose weight. ○ There are 250 calories in a pint of beer. 2. same as joule
calorific /ˈkælərɪfɪk/ adj 1. of heat 2. containing many calories, and so likely to make you fat
calyx /ˈkælɪks/ noun the outer green covering of a flower, shaped like a cup, the part which covers a flower bud (NOTE: The plural is calyces or calyxes.)
cam /kæm/ noun a moving part on a camshaft, which makes the pistons move up and down
camber /ˈkæmbər/ noun a slope towards the side of a road or railway track (technical)
camcorder /ˈkæmcɔrdər/ noun a small portable camera for taking video pictures with sound
○ came /kæm/ ○ come
camel /ˈkæml/ noun a desert animal with long legs and one or two humps
camellia /ˈkæməlɪə/ noun an evergreen bush with large pink or white flowers
cameo /ˈkæməʊ/ noun 1. a small stone with a design of a head which stands out against a darker background ○ For her birthday, she was given a pair of cameo earrings and a matching brooch. 2. a small but important part in a play or film ○ The film is worth seeing if only for the cameo role played by Gielgud.
○ camera /ˈkæmərə/ noun 1. a machine for taking photographs ○ He took a picture of the garden with his new camera. ○ They went on holiday and forgot to take their camera. ○ Did you remember to put a film in your camera? 2. ○ in camera in private (legal) ○ The court heard the evidence in camera.
cameraman /ˈkæmərəmən/ noun the main film camera operator who is in charge of the lighting and filming of a shot (NOTE: The plural is cameramen.)
camomile /ˈkæməməuli/ noun a sweet-smelling plant, of which the white and yellow flowers are used for making hot drinks
camouflage /ˌkæməˈfliːdʒ/ noun 1. a method of using coloured shapes or things such as branches or grass to hide something ○ We used camouflage to hide the guns. 2. the colours or patterns which some animals have on their skin and which makes them look similar to the area around them ○ A leopard’s spots are a form of camouflage which makes the animal less easy to see in long grass. ○ verb to hide the shape of something by using colours or patterns ○ The soldiers camouflaged the gun position with branches of trees.
camp /kæmp/ noun a place where people live in tents or small buildings in the open air ○ We set up camp halfway up the mountain. ○ verb to spend a holiday or a period of time in a tent ○ We went camping in Sweden every summer. ○ They had camped by the side of the lake.
campaign /ˈkæmpəni/ noun 1. an organised military attack ○ Napoleon’s Russian campaign of 1812 2. an organised attempt to achieve something ○ A publicity campaign or an advertising campaign. ○ He’s organising a campaign against the new motorway. ○ The government’s anti-smoking campaign isn’t working. ○ 1. to take part in ○ The ladies stayed at home while the knights were away campaigning against the French. 2. to work in an organised way to achieve something ○ campaigning for the banning of landmines ○ to campaign against nuclear reactors
campaigner /ˈkæmpənər/ noun a person who campaigns. Synonym activist
camp bed /kæmpˈbed/ noun a light folding bed (NOTE: The US term is cot.)
camper /ˈkæmpər/ noun a person who goes camping
camper van /ˈkæmpər vən/, camper /ˈkæmpər/ noun a motor vehicle which you can live in on holidays, smaller than a motor caravan
camp fire /ˈkæmp fər/ noun a small outdoor fire live at a camp
camping /ˈkæmpɪŋ/ verb the activity of going on holiday with a tent or caravan
campsite /ˈkæmpsaɪt/ noun an area for camping, often including buildings with toilets and showers
campus /ˈkæmpəs/ noun land on which a university or college is built, and the buildings on it. Synonym grounds ○ to live on campus to live in a students’ residence ○ All students live on campus during their first year at university.
camshaft /ˈkæmsfaʊt/ noun a metal bar with several cams on it, which lift pistons one by one
○ can /kæn/ noun 1. a round metal container for food or drink ○ He opened a can of lemonade. ○ Empty beer cans were all over the pavement. ○ Can you open a can of
Canadian beans? (NOTE: British English also uses tin to mean a container of food, but not of drink.) 2. to carry the can for something to take responsibility or blame for something (informal) They all ran away and left me to carry the can. modal verb 1. to be able to do something. He can swim well but he can’t ride a bike. She can’t run as fast as I can. Do you remember what the doctor told us to do? I can’t bear to watch anything longer. 2. to be allowed to do something Children under 18 can’t drive cars. He says we can go in. The policeman says we can’t park here. 3. to ask politely Can we come in, please? Can you shut the door, please? (NOTE: The negative is can’t. The past tense is could, could not, usually couldn’t. Can and could are only used with other verbs, and are not followed by the word to.) verb to put food in cans The town has a factory where they can sardines.

Candid /ˈkændɪd/ adj referring to a person who applies for a job. There are six candidates for the post of assistant manager. We have asked three candidates to come for an interview. All candidates should answer three questions. Canvass /ˈkænvas/ noun one of the signs of the Zodiac, shaped like a crab, covering the period 22nd June to 22nd July cancerous /ˈkænərəs/ adj referring to cancer candid /ˈkændɪd/ adj (of a person) direct or open, saying exactly what you think or feel. Synonym frank. Antonym guarded. to be candid about something to be open about something. He’s quite candid about his ambition to be president. to be candid to say exactly what you think or feel. To be candid, I don’t like his novels at all.

candidacy /ˈkændɪdəsɪ/ noun the state of being a candidate.

candidate /ˈkændɪdət/ noun 1. a person who applies for a job. There are six candidates for the post of assistant manager. We have asked three candidates to come for an interview. All candidates should answer three questions. Candidates are given three hours to complete the exam.

candidature /ˈkændɪdətʃər/ noun the act of standing as a candidate.

candidly /ˈkændɪdli/ adv in a candid way.

candle /ˈkændl/ noun a stick of wax with a wick in the centre, which you light to make a flame. Synonym taper. to burn the candle at both ends to work hard during the day and enjoy yourself late into the night.

candlelight /ˈkændlˌlɪt/ noun the light given by candles.

candlelit /ˈkændlɪt/ adj lit by candles.

candied /ˈkændɪd/ verb past莉c. The British term is sweets.

candy /ˈkændi/ noun US 1. a sweet food, made with sugar. A box of candies. Eating candy is bad for your teeth. (NOTE: No plural in this meaning) 2. one piece of this food. She bought a box of candies. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is candies. The British term is sweets.)

candyfloss /ˈkændɪflɒs/ noun thin pieces of cooked sugar which are spun in a drum and sold as a mass attached to a stick. (NOTE: The US term is cotton candy. No plural.)

cane /ˈkeɪn/ noun 1. a strong stem of a plant, especially of tall thin plants like bamboo. A field of sugar cane. 2. a walking stick cut from the stem of a plant. She was leaning heavily on a cane as she walked up the
canine

path, 3. an occasion when someone is beaten with a stick ○ He often had the cane when he was at school. ■ verb to beat someone with a stick as a punishment ○ He was often caned when he was at school.
canine /ˈkænən/ adj referring to dogs ○ Dogs should be vaccinated against various canine illnesses. ■ noun a dog (humorous)
canine tooth /ˈkænəntuːθ/, canine /ˈkænən/ noun one of the round pointed teeth at the front of the mouth
canister /ˈkænstər/ noun a round metal container for gas, etc.
canker /ˈkæŋkər/ noun a disease which eats into the wood of trees
cannabis /ˈkænəbɪs/ noun 1. a plant from whose leaves or flowers an addictive drug is produced ○ Someone told the police that he was growing cannabis plants on his balcony. ▶ hemp 2. marijuana, an addictive drug made from the dried leaves or flowers of this plant ○ In some countries, the sale of cannabis has been legalised.
canned /ˈkænd/ adj preserved in a tin or can
canned music /ˈkænd ˈmjuːzɪk/ noun recorded music
cannelloni /ˌkænəˈlɒnɪ/ noun a type of pasta with a meat or vegetable filling
cannibal /ˈkænɪb(ə)l/ noun a person who eats people
cannibalise /kænɪˈbɒlɪzaɪ/ verb to take pieces of old machines to repair another machine
cannon /ˈkænən/ noun 1. a large gun ○ The sailors hauled a huge cannon across the ship’s deck. 2. a gun in an aircraft ○ The old Spitfire had eight cannon in its wings. (NOTE: The plural is cannons.) ■ verb to cannon into someone or something to knock against someone or something ○ The little boy rushed out of the sweet shop and cannoned straight into a policeman.
  ○ cannot /ˈkænənt/ ○ can
  ▶ canoe /ˈkəʊn/ noun a boat with two pointed ends, which is moved forward by one or more people using long pieces of wood ○ She paddled her canoe across the lake. ■ verb to travel in a canoe ○ They canoed down the river.
canoeling /koʊˈnɔɪŋ/ noun the sport of going in a canoe
canon /ˈkænən/ noun 1. a religious rule or instructions 2. a priest who works in a cathedral ○ What are the special duties of a canon?
canonisation /ˌkænəˈnɪzaɪʃ(ə)n/, canonization noun the act of officially stating that someone is a holy person
can opener /ˈkæn əˈpər(ə)n/ noun a tool for opening cans (NOTE: The British term is tin opener.)
canopy /ˈkænəpi/ noun 1. a cloth cover or light roof over a small area such as a door, window or bed ○ The Queen’s bedroom is furnished with a 17th century canopy bed. 2. the top parts of a group of trees when considered as a single mass ○ The trees join to form a canopy over the terrace of the restaurant. (NOTE: The plural is canopies.)
cant /ˈkænt/ noun insincere language, especially about religion
  ○ can’t /ˈkænt/ ○ can
cantaloupe /ˌkæntəˈluːp/ noun a type of melon with pink flesh
cantankerous /ˈkæntərˌkərəs/ adj behaving in a way which is extremely unfriendly and unpleasant. Synonym grumpy
cantata /ˈkæntətə/ noun a musical piece for several singers and orchestra, usually on a religious subject
  ○ canteen /ˈkænˈtiːn/ noun 1. a self-service restaurant for the people who work in a building such as an office block or factory ○ The food in the office canteen is awful. I prefer to bring my own sandwiches. 2. a box containing knives, forks and spoons ○ As a wedding present they were given a canteen of silver. 3. a bottle for carrying water ○ This is the canteen used by my grandfather during World War I.
canter /ˈkæntər/ noun the movement of a horse when it runs fairly fast ○ The horses were going through the park at a canter. Synonym trot ○ to win at a canter to win easily (informal) ■ verb to move at a canter ○ My horse doesn’t like cantering, it prefers to gallop.
cantilever /ˈkæntɪlɪvər/ noun a support which holds up a structure such as a bridge or balcony
canto /ˈkæntou/ noun one section of a long poem. Synonym stanza (NOTE: The plural is cantos.)
canvas /ˈkænəvəs/ noun 1. a thick cloth for making things such as tents or sails ○ He was wearing a pair of old canvas shoes. 2. a painting ○ three canvases by Picasso (NOTE: The plural is canvases. Do not confuse with canvas.)
canvas /ˈkænəvəs/ verb to visit people to ask them to buy goods or to vote or to say what they think (NOTE: Do not confuse with canvas)
canvasser /ˈkænəvəsər/ noun a person who canvasses
canyon /ˈkænʒən/ noun a deep valley with steep sides usually in North America. Synonym ravine
cap

cap /kæp/ noun 1. a flat hat with a flat hard piece in front of it, worn by a sports player who has played for England in an international match. 2. a top which covers something. 3. an upper limit on the amount of money that can be spent or asked for. 4. a small tube in the body which carries blood and other substances around the body.

England cap /kæpt(ə)ləz/; capitalise /ˈkæpɪləsaɪz/ /ˈkæpɪləsaɪz/; capitalise verb 1. to write or print in capital letters or with a capital letter at the beginning of a word. 2. to provide the money needed to operate a business.

capability /ˈkæpəblɪti/ noun 1. being able to do something. Synonym: ability. 2. beyond your capabilities too difficult for you to do. 3. I’m afraid this job is way beyond my capabilities.

capable /ˈkæpəbl/ adj able to work well and to deal with problems. 1. She’s an extremely capable secretary. 2. capable of able to do something. 3. The car is capable of very high speeds. 4. She’s not capable of running the department on her own.

capably /ˈkæpəbli/ adv in a capable way

capacious /ˈkæpəʃəs/ adj very large, which can hold a lot.

capacitor /ˈkæpəsɪtər/ noun the part of a piece of electronic equipment which stores an electrical charge.

capacity /ˈkæpəsɪtɪ/ noun 1. an amount which something can hold. 2. This barrel has a larger capacity than that one. 3. The cinema was filled to capacity. 4. capacity audience an audience which fills a building such as a cinema or theatre to do work at full capacity to do as much work as possible. 5. engine capacity the output of an engine or electric motor. 6. an ability to do something easily. 7. He has a capacity for making friends with anyone he meets. 8. a position acting in his capacity as manager acting as a manager. 9. speaking in an official capacity speaking officially.

cape /kæp/ noun 1. a long loose piece of clothing like a coat but without sleeves. 2. She wrapped her cape more tightly around her. 3. a piece of high land which sticks out into the sea. 4. We rounded the cape on June 21st at 8 a.m.

caper /kæpər/ noun a small green seed used in cooking. 1. Cook the fish with butter and capers. 2. to caper about to jump about. 3. The children capered about all over the stage.

capricious /ˈkæpəʃəs/ adj not fixed or certain, likely to change. Synonym: unpredictable.

capricorn /ˈkæprippən/ noun one of the signs of the Zodiac, shaped like a goat, covering the period 22nd December to 19th January.

capsize /ˈkæpsəz/ verb (of boats) to overturn.

capstan /ˈkæpsən/ noun a machine, usually on a ship, which turns to pull in a rope or anchor.

capsule /ˈkæpsjʊl/ noun a small tube made from a substance that can be eaten and containing a medicine. 1. She swallowed three capsules of painkiller.
captive /ˈkæpтив/ noun 1. a person who captures someone or something as a prisoner. 2. a person in charge of a ship or of an aircraft. 3. a person in charge of a team. 4. a person who is very similar to someone. 5. a person or thing that is very similar to someone else.

capture /ˈkæptv/ verb to take someone captive.

car /kær/ noun 1. a small private motor vehicle for carrying people. 2. a carriage of a railway train. 3. a flat piece of stiff paper with a picture on one side, which you can send with a message.

carbohydride /ˈkɑbəʊdrait/ noun a chemical substance containing carbon, hydrogen and oxygen, found in particular in sugar, potatoes and bread; it provides the body with energy.

carbon /ˈkɑbən/ noun 1. a substance found in charcoal, soot or diamonds. 2. a part in a car engine which mixes fuel with air before it is put into the engine. 3. a small private motor vehicle for carrying people. 4. a copy made with carbon paper. 5. a group of animals or vehicles travelling together, one behind the other. 6. a group of people who have to listen to someone's interest and attention.

carbon十七 /ˈkɑbən/ noun a group of people who have to listen to someone's interest and attention.

carbon emissions /ˈkɑbən ɪˈmɪʃənz/ plural noun the carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide produced by motor vehicles and industrial processes.

carbon paper /ˈkɑbən ˈpɛpər/ noun paper with a black substance on one side, used for making copies.

car boot sale /ˈkær: ˈbɔːt ˈseɪl/ noun an event organised in a large car park or sports field, where people bring things to sell in their cars.

carbohydrate /ˈkɑbəʊdredʒ/ noun a chemical substance containing carbon, hydrogen and oxygen, found in particular in sugar, potatoes and bread; it provides the body with energy.

carbohydrate /ˈkɑbəʊdredʒ/ noun a chemical substance containing carbon, hydrogen and oxygen, found in particular in sugar, potatoes and bread; it provides the body with energy.

carabiner /ˈkærəbɪnər/ noun (of a drink) containing small bubbles of air.

carbon dioxide /ˈkɑbən ˈdɔɪdʒ/ noun a chemical substance containing carbon, hydrogen and oxygen, found in particular in sugar, potatoes and bread; it provides the body with energy.

cascinogen /ˈkærəsɪnən/ noun a substance which produces cancer.
cardboard games  □ to put your cards on the table to reveal what you intend to do □ to play your cards close to your chest not to reveal what you intend □ on the cards fairly likely to happen □ a piece of stiff paper with your name and address printed on it □ He gave me his business card. □ a piece of stiff plastic used for payment □ Do you want to pay cash or with a card? □ credit card a plastic card which allows you to buy goods without paying for them immediately □ He paid for the hotel with his credit card.

cardboard /'kɑːdbɔːrd/ noun thick card (NOTE: no plural: some cardboard, a piece of cardboard)
cardiac /'kɑːdiək/ adj referring to the heart
cardiac arrest /'kɑːdiək ə'rest/ noun a serious medical condition in which the heart muscle stops working
cardigan /'kɑːdiɡən/ noun a woollen jacket which buttons at the front
cardinal /'kɑːdɪnəl/ adj very important □ Her attendance at the meeting is of cardinal importance. □ noun 1, one of the most important priests in the Catholic church, after the Pope □ The cardinals meet in Rome to elect the Pope. □ Cardinal Lamont has written an article in today’s paper. (NOTE: also used as a title before a surname: Cardinal Wolsey) 2, a bright red bird, which comes from the southern USA

card index /'kɑːdɪ ɪndɪks/ noun a series of cards with information written on them, kept in a special order so that the information can be found easily □ card-index file information kept on cards □ verb to put information onto a card index

cardiology /'kɑːdɪlədʒi/ noun the study of the heart and its diseases
cardiovascular /'kɑːdɪəvəskjʊələ/ adj referring to the heart and the movement of blood around the body □ the cardiovascular system the heart and the blood system □ cardiovascular disease a disease which affects the heart and the blood system □ a cardiovascular disease such as hypertension

card table /'kɑːd tɛrbiəl/ noun a usually square, folding table used to play cards
□ care /keər/ noun 1, serious attention □ He handled the glass with great care. □ to take care to be very careful □ Take care when you cross the road. □ He took great care with the box of glasses. □ Take care not to be late. 2, □ care of (on a letter) words to show that the person is living at the address, but only as a visitor □ Mr Brown, care of Mrs Green to Mr Brown at the address of Mrs Green 3, looking after someone □ the care of the elderly □ to take care of someone to look after someone □ Will you take care of mother while I’m away? □ verb to be worried □ I don’t care if my car is dirty. □ She cares a lot about the environment. □ She couldn’t care less does not worry at all about something □ career /'kɑːrər/ noun a life of professional work □ She is starting her career as a librarian. □ He gave up his career as a civil servant and bought a farm. □ verb to move forward very fast and out of control □ The car careered off the road into a ditch.
career woman /'kɑːrər wʊmən/ noun a woman who is working and does not plan to stop working to look after the house or children
□ care for /kɛə fɔːr/ verb 1, to like □ Would you care for another cup of coffee? □ I don’t care for this music very much. 2, to look after □ Nurses cared for the injured people after the accident. □ People who have to care for their elderly relatives should get a grant from the state.
carefree /'kɑːfrɪ/ adj without any worries □ careful /'kɛəf(ə)r/ adj taking care □ Be careful not to make any noise, the baby is asleep. □ Be careful when you’re packing those glasses, they’re very valuable! □ She is very careful about what she eats. □ The project needs very careful planning. □ carefully /'kɛəflɪ/ adv with great care □ careless /'kɛələs/ adj without taking care □ carelessness /'kɛələsnəs/ noun the fact of being careless, not being careful
□ carer /'kɑːrər/ noun someone who looks after an old or sick person or children
carelessness /'kɑːrələsnəs/ noun the fact of being careless, not being careful
□ career woman /'kɑːrər wʊmən/ noun a woman who is working and does not plan to stop working to look after the house or children
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cargo /'kɑːɡəʊ/ noun goods carried, especially on a ship □ cargo boat, cargo ship, cargo plane a ship or plane which carries only cargo and not passengers

cargo pants /'kɑːɡəʊ pænts/ plural noun trousers with large pockets on the sides of the legs
caricature /ˈkærɪkətʃər/ noun a funny drawing or description which exaggerates a person’s appearance. o He drew a caricature of the Prime Minister. o Her description of the office is nothing less than a caricature of the system. o verb to draw a caricature of someone. o The Prime Minister is easy to caricature.

carry /kærɪ/ verb to take something to a different place. o You can catch carp in this lake. (NOTE: The plural is carp.) o verb to keep on finding fault with things. o My brother’s always carping about the office. o Stop carping and get on with your work! (NOTE: The US term is carping lot.)

carpentery /ˈkærpəntəri/ noun the art of working with wood. Synonym joinery (NOTE: no plural)

carpet /ˈkærpt/ noun a thick material for covering the floor. o He split his coffee on our new white dining-room carpet. o verb 1. to cover with a carpet. o a thickly carpeted hotel room. 2. to cover with something as if with a carpet. o The path through the woods is carpeted with wild flowers. o We woke up to find the street carpeted with snow.

carpetbagger /ˈkærptbægər/ noun 1. a person who opens an account with a building society, hoping that it will change to a public company and so give him money or shares. 2. a politician who tries to get elected in a part of the country which is not his home.

carpet-bomb /ˈkærpt bɒm/ verb to destroy an area by dropping very many bombs on it.

carpeted /ˈkærptid/ adj covered with a carpet.

carpeting /ˈkærptɪŋ/ noun 1. covering with a carpet. o We have been quoted £2000 for the carpeting of the office. 2. a wide piece of carpet. o We bought a length of carpeting to cover the bedroom floor.

car port /ˈkærpt/ noun an arrangement where several people share cars.

carpool /ˈkærpʊl/ verb to share a car with other people.

carriage /ˈkærɪdʒ/ noun 1. the cost of carrying goods, or the action of carrying goods. o Carriage is 15% of the total cost. o How much do they charge for carriage? 2. a way of walking.

carriage way /ˈkærɪdʒweɪ/ noun the surface of the road on which traffic moves.

carried /ˈkærɪd/ verb to carry.

carrier /ˈkærɪər/ noun 1. a thing or person that carries. o A procession of water carriers with jars on their heads. 2. a person who carries the germ of a disease without showing any signs of it, and who can infect others with it. o a hepatitis carrier. o Hepatitis A is transmitted by a carrier through food or drink.

carrier bag /ˈkærɪər bæg/ noun a large paper or plastic bag with handles, for carrying shopping, often given by a shop, with the shop’s name on it.

carrion /ˈkærɪon/ noun the decaying flesh of dead animals. (NOTE: no plural)

carrot /ˈkærət/ noun a vegetable with a long orange root which can be eaten.

carry /ˈkærɪ/ verb 1. to take something and move it to another place. o There was no lift, so they had to carry the beds up the stairs. o The plane was carrying 120 passengers. o That suitcase is too heavy for me to carry. 2. to vote to approve. o the motion.
carry away 114 case

was carried the proposal was accepted after a vote. Her proposal was not carried. 3. to have available for customers to buy. A supermarket will carry about 5,000 different lines of goods. 4. of lines of goods.

carry away /kəri ˈwɛt/ verb 1. to take away. The flood carried away whole houses. 2. to get carried away become extremely emotional or excited.

carrycot /ˈkɛrɪkɒt/ noun a small bed with handles for carrying a baby in.

carry forward /kərɪ ˈfaʊərd/ verb (in book-keeping) to take an amount or total on to the next page or column.

carry on /kərɪ ˈoʊn/ verb 1. to go on doing something. When the policeman came into the restaurant, they all carried on talking as if nothing had happened. 2. to continue something. They carried on with their work even though the office was on fire. 3. to be very angry. He carried on like anything when he saw his car had been towed away.

carry out /kərɪ ˈaʊt/ verb to do something which has been planned. Synonym accomplish

carsick /ˈkɑːrskɪk/ adj feeling sick because of the movement of a motor vehicle.

carsickness /ˈkɑːrskɪns/ noun sickness caused by the movement of a motor vehicle.

cart /kɑːrt/ noun a vehicle pulled by a horse. 1. A horse-drawn cart piled high with furniture. 2. to put the cart before the horse to deal with things the wrong way round. 3. verb to carry a bulky or heavy thing (informal). 4. Why do we have to cart this folding bed around with us? 5. The police came and carried him off to jail.

carte blanche /kɑːrt ˈblæntʃ/ noun permission given to someone to do whatever he wants. 1. We gave the architect carte blanche to design the bridge. 2. He has carte blanche to act on behalf of the government.

cartel /kɑːrtˈɛl/ noun a group of companies which try to fix the price of something.

cartilage /kɑːrtɪlkɪdʒ/ noun the thick substance which lines the joints in your body or which forms part of the structure of an organ.

cartographer /kɑːrtəˈɡrəfər/ noun a person who draws maps.

cartography /kɑːrtəˈɡrəfi/ noun the art of drawing maps.

Carton /ˈkɑːrtən/ noun a container made of cardboard. Synonym box

cartoon /ˈkɑːrtuːn/ noun 1. a funny, often political, drawing in a newspaper. 2. He draws a cartoon for the ‘Evening Standard’. 2. a film made of moving drawings. 3. I like watching Tom and Jerry cartoons.

cartoonist /ˈkɑːrtuːnɪst/ noun a person who draws cartoons. Synonym artist

cartridge /ˈkɑːtrɪdʒ/ noun 1. a tube packed with gunpowder and a bullet for firing from a gun. 2. The ground was littered with empty cartridges. 3. The part of a record player which holds the stylus. 4. A new cartridge for this record player will be quite expensive.

cart paper /ˈkɑːtrɪdʒ ˈpeɪpər/ noun good quality paper for drawing or printing.

cartwheel /ˈkɑːtwiːl/ noun 1. a wheel of a cart. 2. There are deep ruts in the mud left by cartwheels. 3. to turn cartwheels to turn over and over sideways, putting your hands on the ground and moving your legs through the air until your feet touch the ground.

carve /kɑːrv/ verb 1. to cut up a large piece of meat at a meal. 2. Who’s going to carve? 3. Father sat at the end of the table, carving a chicken. 4. to cut stone or wood to make a shape. He carved a bird out of wood. 5. Chips of stone flew all over the studio as he was carving the statue.

carving /kɑːrvɪŋ/ noun 1. the act of cutting up cooked meat. 2. the art of cutting stone or wood into shapes. 3. Stone carving is an option at art school. 4. an object which has been made by carving. 5. He gave me a wood carving for my birthday. 6. The stone carvings in the old church date from the 15th century.

carving knife /kɑːrvɪŋ ˈnɪʃ/ noun a large sharp knife, used for carving meat.

car wash /ˈkɑːr wɒʃ/ noun a place where cars are washed automatically.

cascade /ˈkæsɪk/ noun a waterfall. 1. There are plants and trees and even a cascade in the atrium of the hotel. 2. verb to fall in large quantities. 3. Pale pink roses cascading down the brick wall.

case /keɪ/ noun 1. a suitcase, a box with a handle, for carrying things such as your clothes when travelling. 2. She was still packing her case when the taxi came. 3. The customs made him open his case. 4. a special box for something. 5. Put the gun back in its case. 6. a large wooden box for goods. 7. He bought a case of wine. 8. a situation, or a way in which something happens. 9. Your case is very similar to mine. 10. It was a case of first come, first served. 11. in case because something might happen. 12. It’s still sunny, but I’ll take my umbrella just in case. 13. in any case anyway, whatever may happen. 14. in case of fire, break the glass if there is a fire, break the glass. 15. in that case if that happens or if that
casement

is the situation. There is a strike on the underground - in that case, you'll have to take a bus. 5. court case a legal action or trial. 6. the case is being heard next week. the case is coming to court next week.

case study /'keis(st)∂di/ noun the study of a certain group or institution or person over a long period of time.

cash /keʃ/ noun money in coins and notes, not in cheques. 1. We don’t keep much cash in the house. 2. I’d prefer to use up my spare cash, rather than pay with a credit card.

cash in /'keʃ in/ verb to cash a cheque to change a cheque into cash.

cash and carry /'keʃ an 'keəri/ noun a discount warehouse, selling items to the general public.

cashback /'keʃbæk/ noun money from your bank account which you can get from a shop when you use your bank card to pay for goods.

cash card /'keʃ kɑrd/ noun a plastic card used to obtain money from a cash dispenser.

cash crop /'keʃ krop/ noun a crop grown for sale.

cash desk /'keʃ deks/ noun a place in a store where you pay for the goods you are buying.

cash dispenser /'keʃ din'spensə/ noun a machine which gives out money when a special card is put in and instructions given.

cashew /'keʃjuː/ noun a type of nut which you can eat.

cash flow /'keʃ fləʊ/ noun the rate at which money comes into and is paid out of a business. the company is suffering from cash flow problems. cash income is not coming in fast enough to pay the cash expenditure going out.

cashier /'keʃjər/ noun a person who deals with money, e.g. in a bank or supermarket. 1. Please pay the cashier. 2. Ask the cashier if she can give you change.

cash in on /'keʃ 'in on/ verb to profit from.

cash machine /'keʃ məˈʃmən/ noun same as cash dispenser.

cashmere /'kæʃmər/ noun a soft wool that comes from goats. Cashmere is soft, light and very warm. 

- adj made of cashmere wool. The price of cashmere jumpers has soared.

cash on delivery /'keʃ on dɪˈlɪvəri/ noun payment in cash when goods are delivered. Abbrev COD

cashpoint /'keʃ pɔint/ noun a place where there are cash dispensers (NOTE: The US term is automated teller machine or ATM.)

cash register /'keʃ retɪˈʒər/ noun a machine which shows and adds the prices of things bought in a shop, with a drawer for keeping the money received.

casting /'keis(in)/ noun a hard covering which protects something.

casino /'keɪsɪnəʊ/ noun a building where you can gamble (NOTE: The plural is casinos.)

casket /'keɪsket/ noun 1. a box for keeping jewels in. 2. The thief stole a casket from beside her bed. 2. mainly US a long wooden box in which a dead person is buried or cremated.

cassava /'keɪsəvə/ noun a tropical plant, grown for its roots which are made into tapioca.

casserole /'keɪsərəl/ noun 1. a covered dish used for cooking food in the oven. 2. food cooked in a covered dish in the oven.

cassette /'keɪset/ noun 1. a magnetic tape in a plastic case which can fit directly into a playing or recording machine.

cassette recorder /'keɪset rɪˈkɔrədər/ noun a machine which records and plays back cassettes.

cassock /'keɪsɔk/ noun a long loose piece of clothing usually black, e.g. worn by priests or choirboys.

cast /'kɑst/ noun all the actors in a play or film. 1. The film has an all-star cast. 2. After the first night the cast went to celebrate in a restaurant.

cast about for /kɑst 'ɑːbəft/ verb to look for. 1. to cast doubts on to be unsure about. 2. He cast aside all his old acquaintances.
castaway 116 catarh

stand ○ The papers cast some light on how the minister reached his decision.
castaway /ˈkɑːstəweɪ/ noun a person who has been shipwrecked
caste /ˈkɑːst/ noun (in Hindu society) a group of people who are born with the same social status. Synonym class
caster sugar /ˈkɑːstər ˈʃʊɡəl/ noun a white sugar which is used in making cakes
castigate /ˈkɑːstɪˈɡeɪt/ verb to punish, to criticise someone strongly (formal). Synonym criticise
casting vote /ˈkɑːstɪŋ ˈvoʊt/ noun a vote used by the person in charge of a meeting in a case where the votes for and against a proposal are equal
cast iron /ˈkɑːst ər/ noun 1. iron which is shaped in a mould, not bent, and so breaks easily ○ The pipes are made from cast iron, and are very solid. ○ Don’t let the cast-iron pan soak in water as it will rust. Compare wrought iron 2. ○ cast-iron excuse a very good excuse, one that cannot be turned down ○ He has a cast-iron excuse and won’t get into trouble with the authorities.
castle /ˈkɑːstl/ noun 1. a large building with strong walls ○ The Queen is spending the week at Windsor Castle. ○ The soldiers shut the castle gate. ○ sandcastle 2. one of two pieces used in chess, shaped like a little castle tower ○ She took my last castle. Also called rook
cast off /ˈkɑːst əf/ verb 1. to untie the ropes holding a boat ○ The boat is ready to cast off. 2. (in knitting) to remove the stitches from the needles so that your work is finished ○ The scarf is long enough, all you have to do is to cast off.
castor /ˈkɑːstər/ noun a wheel screwed on to the bottom of a piece of furniture so that it can be moved easily
castor oil /ˈkɑːstər ˈɔɪl/ noun the oil from a palm tree, which is sometimes used in medicines
caster sugar /ˈkɑːstər ˈʃʊɡəl/ ○ caster sugar
castrate /ˈkæstrɪt/ verb to remove the testicles from a male animal. Synonym neuter
castrochron /ˈkæstrəkwɪˈfrɒn/ noun the act of castrating
casual /ˈkɑːʒuəl/ adj not formal
casual labour /ˈkɑːʒuəl ləˈbɔːr/ noun temporary work
casually /ˈkɑːʒuəli/ adv in an informal way
casually /ˈkɑːʒuəli/ noun 1. a person injured or killed in a battle or in an accident ○ Casualties were taken to hospital by ambulance and helicopter. ○ The radio reported that there had been heavy casualties. 2. the Accident and Emergency department in a hospital ○ The accident victim was rushed into casualty.
casual work /ˈkɑːʒuəl wɜːk/ noun work for which people are employed just for a short period
cat /ˈkæt/ noun an animal with soft fur and a long tail, kept as a pet ○ She asked her neighbours to feed her cat when she went on holiday. ○ Don’t forget to get some tins of cat food. ○ to let the cat out of the bag to tell a secret (informal)
cataclysm /ˈkætəklɪzm/ noun a sudden event which causes a lot of damage or violence. Synonym catastrophe
cataclysmic /ˈkætəklɪzmɪk/ noun (in Hindu society) a list of things for sale or in a library or museum ○ an office equipment catalogue ○ Look up the title in the library catalogue. ○ verb to make a list of things that exist somewhere ○ She spent months cataloguing the novelist’s correspondence. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is catalog.)
catalyst /ˈkætəlɪst/ noun 1. a substance which produces or helps a chemical process without itself changing ○ An enzyme that acts as a catalyst in the digestive process. 2. anything which helps something to take place ○ She wasn’t responsible for the decision herself, but she reckons she acted as a catalyst.
catalytic converter /ˈkætəlɪtɪk ˈkævətər/ noun an object put on the exhaust pipe of a motor vehicle to reduce the amount of carbon monoxide that comes out
catamaran /ˈkætəmərən/ noun a boat with two parallel hulls
catapult /ˈkætəpɔːlt/ noun a weapon consisting of a piece of strong material which can stretch attached to a stick shaped like the letter ‘Y’, used for sending stones through the air ○ He tried to kill birds with his catapult. ○ verb 1. to send someone or something into the air suddenly and with a lot of force ○ The cyclist was hit by a bus and catapulted to the top of the tennis league.
cataract /ˈkætərəkt/ noun 1. a waterfall on a river ○ the cataracts on the Nile 2. a medical condition where the lens of the eye gradually becomes covered with a white layer and you lose the ability to see ○ He has developed a cataract in his right eye. ○ The operation to remove the cataract went smoothly.
catarh /ˈkɑːtər/ noun a medical condition which affects the inside of the nose and throat, producing a thick liquid substance. Synonym mucus
catastrophe /ˌkætəˈstrɒf/ noun a sudden violent or harmful event. Synonym disaster
catastrophic /ˌkætəˈstrəfik/ adj disastrous. Antonym fortunate
catch /kætʃ/ noun 1. an amount of fish which has been taken at one time 2. The action of taking and holding a ball as it moves through the air 3. He made a marvellous catch. a. The wicket-keeper dropped an easy catch. 3. a hidden disadvantage 4. It seems such a good deal, there must be a catch in it somewhere.
catch him by the sleeve as he turned away. 5. As he slipped, he caught the handrail to stop himself falling. 6. To catch someone’s eye to look at someone who is looking at you 7. She caught his eye and nodded towards the door. 3. to get hold of something moving in the air 4. Can you catch a ball with your left hand? 5. When he knocked a glass off the table he managed to catch it before it hit the floor. 2. to take hold of something 8. She caught him by the sleeve as he turned away.
catch cage /ˈkætʃ/ a little hook which is part of the fastening on a door (NOTE: The plural is catches.)
catch 1. verb 1. to take hold of something moving in the air 2. Can you catch a ball with your left hand? 3. When he knocked a glass off the table he managed to catch it before it hit the floor.
catch 2. verb 1. to take hold of something moving in the air 2. She caught him by the sleeve as he turned away. 3. As he slipped, he caught the handrail to stop himself falling. 6. to find someone doing something wrong 7. She caught the boys stealing in her shop. 8. The police caught the burglar as he was climbing out of the window. 7. to arrest someone a. After months of searching, the police finally caught the gang. b. red-handed. 8. to hear 9. I didn’t quite catch what you said. (NOTE: catching — caught /kætʃt/ — has caught)
catch-all /kætʃˌɔl/ noun something that covers a wide range of possibilities, meanings, ideas or situations
catching /ˈkætʃɪŋ/ adj (of an illness or an emotion such as fear) which can spread from another person. Synonym contagious
catchment area /ˈkætʃmənt ˈeərə/ noun 1. land from which a river gets its water 2. an area round a school from which all students must come 4. We are moving to be in the catchment area of a good school.
catch on /kætʃ ˈɒn/ verb 1. to understand 2. She caught on very quickly. 2. to become fashionable 3. I don’t see silver hair catching on here.
catch phrase /ˈkætʃ frɛiz/ noun a popular phrase, usually connected with an entertainer or advertisement
catch up /ˈkætʃ ʌp/ verb to move to the same level as someone who is in front of you. Antonym fall behind
catchy /ˈkætʃi/ adj 1. catchy tune a tune which is easy to remember 2. The ad has a catchy tune that everyone is humming.
catch up with /ˈkætʃ ʌp ˈwið/ verb 1. to catch up with someone 2. to catch up with an area round a school from which all students must come.
catch up to /ˈkætʃ ʌp tu/ verb 1. to catch up with someone.
catholic /ˈkæθəlik/ adj having an interest in or liking for many different things 5. His interests have always been quite catholic.
ural causes having died from old age or ill-
cauliflower • noun a vegetable with hard white flowers, which are eaten cooked (NOTE: There is no plural when referring to the flower. Some call it cauliflower. They sold cauliflower with the meal.)
cause • noun 1. a thing which makes something happen • What is the chief cause of traffic accidents? • The police tried to find the cause of the fire. • died from natural causes having died from old age or illness, and not killed in an accident or crime 2. an organisation which people support • She is fighting for the cause of working mothers. • to make something happen • The accident caused a traffic jam on the motorway. • The sudden noise caused her to drop the cup she was carrying. Antonym impede
causeway • noun a road or path built up on a bank above wet ground or water. Synonym walkway
caustic • noun 1. of a substance which can burn • This liquid is caustic and you should wear gloves when using it. 2. sharp or unkind remarks or jokes • His caus-
tic remarks didn’t go down well with his employees.
caustic soda • noun sodium hydroxide, a compound of sodium and water used to make soap and to clear blocked drains
caution • noun 1. care • The steps are very slippery – please proceed with great caution. (NOTE: No plural in this mean-
ing) 2. a warning not to do something again • The doctor cautioned him against working too hard. • careful, not taking risks. Antonym reckless
cautiously • adverb in a cautious way
cavalcade • noun a long line of people riding on horses. Synonym procession
cavalier • noun with no respect for other people or customs • She showed a cavalier attitude to employment law.
Cavalier • noun a member of the King’s party during the English Civil War (NOTE: The opposing party, the supporters of Parliament, were called Roundheads.)
cavality • noun soldiers riding on horses (NOTE: Can be followed by either a singular or plural verb)
cave • noun a large underground hole in rock or earth • When the tide went out we could explore the cave. Synonym cavern • verb to cave in to fall down completely into the inside of something such as a building or cave • The beam cracked and the roof caved in.
caveat • noun a warning, especially against doing something
caveman • noun one of the people who lived thousands of years ago in caves (NOTE: The plural is cavemen.)
cavern • noun a very large cave
cavernous • adjective with a very large inside space, like a cavern
cavity • noun 1. a hole, space • The jewellery was discovered hidden in a cavity in the wall. 2. a hole in a tooth • There is a cavity in one of your back teeth which needs filling.
cayenne pepper /ˌkeɪen/ ‘pepə/ noun a type of hot red pepper, made from chillis
CBI /′kebi/ †abbr Confederation of British Industry
CCTV /′kɛtvi/ †abbr closed-circuit television
CD /′kɛd/ †abbr compact disc 1. ‘d3i/ †noun a machine which plays CDs. Synonym stereo 2. CD-ROM /′kɛdrəm/ ‘d3i/ †noun a small plastic disc used as a high capacity ROM storage device which can store 650Mb of data. Full form compact disc read only memory
CD-RW /′kɛd′ri:wi/ †abbr compact disc rewritable
CD writer /′kɛd′ri:ri/ †noun a piece of equipment used to record data permanently onto a compact disc 1. cease /siz/ †verb to stop (formal). Antonym start 2. to cease to exist to stop being in existence. The pub on the corner ceased to exist some time ago.
ceasefire /ˌsɛsəfɛə/ †noun an agreement to stop shooting in a war. Synonym truce
caseless /sizi:ls/ †adjective without stopping.
_cassette. 
caselessly /ˌsɛsəˈliːsli/ †adverb without stopping
cedar /ˈsɛdər/ †noun 1. a large tree whose leaves do not fall off in winter 2. a large cedar in front of the house.
ceel /sizi/ †noun 1. an inside roof over a room 2. He’s so tall, he can easily touch the ceiling. 3. Flies can walk on the ceiling. 4. He painted the kitchen ceiling. 5. Watch out when you go into the bedroom – it has a very low ceiling.
celbrat /səˈleibrəti/ †noun a famous person. Synonym unknown 1. celebration /ˌselˈbriəti/ †noun a party or festival 2. We had my birthday celebration in the local pub. 3. After our team won, the celebrations went on late into the night.
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cell /ˈsel/ †noun 1. a small cell 2. cancer cells under a microscope. 3. a small political group 4. She formed part of a cell of activists.
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celluloid /ˈsɛljʊloid/ noun the thin plastic film which was used in the past for making films

cellulose /ˈsɛljʊloʊs/ noun a chemical substance found in plants, used for making paper and paint

Celsius /ˈsɛljʊs/ adj, noun a scale of temperature where the freezing point of water is 0°C and the boiling point is 100°C. (say: ‘so degrees Celsius’). ○ What is 75°F Fahrenheit in Celsius? (NOTE: used in many countries, but not in the USA, where the Fahrenheit system is still preferred. It is usually written as a C after the degree sign: 32°C (say: ‘thirty-two degrees Celsius’). It was formerly called centigrade.)

Celt /ˈkelt/ noun one of an ancient people who lived in parts of Western Europe, e.g. in Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and Brittany

Celtic /ˈkeltɪk/ adj referring to ancient or modern Celts

cement /ˈsiːmənt/ noun 1. powder made from lime and clay, which is mixed with water and dries hard ○ He was mixing cement to make a path round the house. 2. a strong glue ○ She used china cement to stick the handle back on the cup. ■ verb to attach strongly ○ He cemented some stones on the top of the wall. ○ The two halves should be cemented together.

cement mixer /ˈsiːmənt mɪksə/ noun a machine for mixing cement

Cemetery /ˈsɛmətəri/ noun an area of ground where the bodies of dead people are buried. Synonym graveyard (NOTE: The plural is cemeteries.)

Cenotaph /ˈsenətɑf/ noun a war memorial in Whitehall in London

censor /ˈsɛnsər/ noun a person who reads documents or looks at films to see if they are fit to be published or shown ○ The censor has refused permission for the film to be shown. ○ During wartime, military censors read all letters from soldiers to their families. ■ verb to read books or plays, to watch films, videos or TV programmes to see if they are fit to be published or shown, or to change them, or to say that they cannot be shown or published ○ The film was censored before being shown on TV. ○ He was accused of censoring the article.

censorship /ˈsɛnsəʃip/ noun the action to prevent books or newspapers from being published or remove parts of them. Synonym restriction

censure /ˈsenʃʊr/ noun criticism ○ There was widespread public censure of the government. Synonym approval ■ verb to criticise ○ The Opposition put forward a motion to censure the Government. ○ The borough architect was censured for failing to consult the engineers. Antonym praise

census /ˈsɛnsəs/ noun an official count of a country’s population (NOTE: The plural is censuses.)

cent /ˈsɛnt/ noun 1. a small coin, one-hundredth part of a dollar ○ The stores are only a 25-cent bus ride away. ○ They sell oranges at 99 cents each. (NOTE: Do not confuse with sent, scent. Cent is usually written c in prices: 25c, but not when a dollar price is mentioned: $1.25.)

centenarian /ˈsɛntəˈneəriən/ noun a person who is 100 years old or more

centenary /ˈsɛntəriəni/ noun a hundredth anniversary

centennial /ˈsɛntenəli/ adj referring to a centenary ○ Our college is getting ready for the centennial celebrations next month.

center /ˈsentər/ noun

- centigrade /ˈsentɪgrəd/ noun a scale of temperature where the freezing point of water is 0°C and the boiling point is 100°C (dated) ○ See note at Celsius
- centimetre /ˈsentɪmɪtər/ noun a unit of volume equal to one hundredth of a litre (NOTE: The US spelling is centiliter.)
- centimetre /ˈsentɪmɪtər/ noun an insect with a large number of legs
- central /ˈsentrəl/ adj in the centre ○ The hall has one central pillar. ○ His offices are very central.
- Central America /ˈsentrəl ˈɛmərɪka/ noun the part of the American continent between North and South America, including the countries of Mexico and Costa Rica
- central government /ˈsentrəl ˈgəvərnənt/ noun the main government of a country, as opposed to local government
- central heating /ˈsentrəl ˈhɛtɪŋ/ noun a system of providing heating for a whole house from one main heater and radiators in the various rooms
- centralise /ˈsentrəlaɪz/, centralize verb to organise from a central point. Synonym unify. Antonym decentralise

- centrally /ˈsentrəli/ adv in the centre, from the centre

- central nervous system /ˈsentrəl ˈnɜrviəs ˈsɪstəm/ noun the brain and the spinal cord which link together all the nerves
- central reservation /ˈsentrəl ˈrezərˈveɪʃən/ noun a section of road or plants such as grass and bushes between the two main parts of a major road

- centre /ˈsentər/ noun 1. the middle of something ○ chocolates with coffee cream centres ○ They planted a rose bush in the...
centre of the lawn. ♦ The town centre is very old. ♦ a large building containing several different sections ♦ an army training centre ♦ an important town ♦ Nottingham is the centre for the shoe industry. ♦ a group or political party between the left and right ♦ The centre combined with the right to defeat the proposal. ♦ The cabinet is formed of right-of-centre supporters of the Prime Minister. ♦ a player in a sports team who plays in the middle of the field ♦ verb 1. to put something in the middle ♦ Make sure you centre the block of wood on the lathe. ♦ to concentrate on ♦ The opposition’s attack was centred on the government’s reorganisation of the social services. ♦ Our report centres on some aspects of the sales team. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is center.)

centred /ˈsentərd/ adj 1. in the middle ♦ Make sure the picture is centred in the frame. ♦ based in ♦ The shoe industry is centred on Nottingham. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is centered.)

centre forward /ˈsentər fərwaːd/ noun (in football) a player in the centre of the forward line.

centre lane /ˈsentər leɪn/, middle lane /ˈmɪdl əʊ leɪn/ noun the track in the centre of a three-lane carriageway.

centre of gravity /ˈsentər əv ˈɡrævəti/ noun the point in an object at which it will balance

centre party /ˈsentər pɑːti/ noun a political party in the centre, neither right nor left.

centrepiece /ˈsentəpɪs/ noun 1. the main part of a decoration on a table ♦ A bowl of fruit will be fine as a centrepiece on the dining table. 2. the main part of a policy ♦ The project is the centrepiece of the government’s policy on pensions. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is centerpiece.)

centre stage /ˈsentər stɛɡ/ adv in the middle of the stage, in the middle of some action ♦ She moved centre stage and started to sing. ♦ The UN Secretary General has moved centre stage to try to defuse the crisis.

centrifugal /ˈsentrɪfjʊɡəl/ adj which tends to go away from the centre

centrifugal /ˈsentrɪpɪtʃəl, senˈtrɪprɪtʃəl/ adj which tends to go towards the centre

centrist /ˈsentrɪstɪ/ adj in favour of the centre in politics ♦ The group advocates a return to centrist politics. ♦ They elected a centrist government. Synonym middle-of-the-road ♦ noun a person who is in favour of the centre in politics ♦ The centrists formed a coalition to influence government policy on education.

century /ˈsentəri/ noun 1. one hundred years ♦ the nineteenth century the period from 1800 to 1899 ♦ a 17th-century church

ceremonially /ˈsɛrəmənɪəli/ adv with a lot of ceremony

ceremonious /ˌsɛrəmənɪəs/ adj with a lot of ceremony

ceremonial /ˌsɛrəmənɪəl/ adj referring to a ceremony ♦ A guard of naval officers carrying their ceremonial swords. ♦ The ceremonial coach is used in the Lord Mayor’s Parade. Synonym ritual ♦ noun a way of performing a ceremony ♦ The ceremonial for the burial of the dead is laid out in the prayer book. Synonym rite

ceremonially /ˌsɛrəmənɪəli/ adv with a lot of ceremony

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CEO abbr chief executive officer

ceramic /ˈsɜːrəmɪk/ adj made from clay which has been baked at a high temperature. Synonym earthenware

ceramics noun /ˈsɜːrəmɪks/ the art of making objects such as cups or plates from clay ♦ She is taking a course in ceramics at the local art college. (NOTE: not plural in this meaning) ♦ plural noun ceramic objects ♦ Our next exhibition will be of ceramics by two local potters.

cereal /ˈsɛrəriəl/ noun 1. a grain crop such as wheat, barley or maize ♦ The plains of North America are the main cereal-producing areas. 2. a food made from cereal and eaten with milk for breakfast ♦ Would you like some cereal for breakfast? (NOTE: Do not confuse with serial.)

cerebellum /ˌsɛrəˈbeləm/ noun the back part of the brain, which controls the ability to balance

cerebral /ˈsɜːrəbrəl/ adj 1. referring to the cerebrum or to the brain in general ♦ A cerebral haemorrhage means bleeding inside the brain. 2. intellectual, rather than emotional ♦ I need to take some exercise after all this cerebral work.

cerebral hemisphere /ˌsɜːrəbrəl ,hɛmɪˈsɜːrərəli/ noun one of the two halves of the brain

cerebral palsy /ˌsɜːrəbrəl ˈpɑːlzi/ noun a medical condition of the brain that makes it difficult to control speech and movements of the body

cerebrum /ˌsɜːrəˈbrʌm/ noun the main part of the brain, which contains the main mental processes including memory

ceremonial /ˌsɛrəmənɪəl/ adj referring to a ceremony ♦ A guard of naval officers carrying their ceremonial swords. ♦ The ceremonial coach is used in the Lord Mayor’s Parade. Synonym ritual ♦ noun a way of performing a ceremony ♦ The ceremonial for the burial of the dead is laid out in the prayer book. Synonym rite

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ceremonious /ˌsɛrəmənɪəs/ adv with a lot of ceremony
ceremony /ˈserməni/ noun an important official occasion when something special is done in public. They held a ceremony to remember the victims of the train crash. Synonym rite to stand on ceremony to be formal and not relaxed. Don’t stand on ceremony.
cerise /sɜˈraɪs/ noun a bright pink colour. A certain /ˈsɛartin/ adj 1. having no doubts about something. Are you certain that you locked the door? 2. I’m not certain where she lives. To make certain that to do something in order that something else will definitely happen. He put the money in his safe to make certain that no one could steal it. 2. without any doubt. Our team is certain to win the prize. 3. a certain quantity, a certain amount. Some of the fire did a certain amount of damage. Rebuilding the house took a certain amount of time. You need to add a certain quantity of water to the paint. 4. which you do not know or are not definite about. The manager is a certain Mr Arbuthnot. Certain fungi can make you ill if you eat them.
Certainly /ˈsɛartinli/ adv 1. of course (after a question or order). Can you give me a lift to the station? — Certainly. Tell him to write to me immediately. — Certainly, sir. 2. Definitely not. Certainly not! 2. definitely. She certainly impressed the judges.
He certainly knows how to score goals.
Certificate /səˈtɪfrɪkət/ noun an official document which proves or shows something. She has been awarded a certificate for swimming. He has a certificate of aptitude in English. Certified /səˈtɪfrɪtd/ verb 1. to make an official statement in writing. The document is certified as a true copy. He was certified dead on arrival at hospital. 2. to send a patient to a mental hospital (old). His parents had him certified.
Certitude /səˈtɪdju/ noun certainty. Antonym uncertainty
Cervical /sərˈvɪkl/ adj 1. referring to the neck. The bones in the neck are the seven cervical vertebrae. 2. referring to the cervix of the womb. What can be done to prevent cervical cancer? In your case, you should have a cervical smear test every year.
Cervix /sərˈvɪks/ noun 1. any narrow neck of an organ. 2. the neck of the womb, the narrow lower part of the uterus leading into the vagina. Cancer of the cervix may not show any symptoms for a very long time. (NOTE: The plural is cervixes.)
Cessation /ˈsesəʃən/ noun the process of stopping. Synonym end (NOTE: no plural) Cession /ˈseʃən/ noun the action of giving up possession of something, especially an area of land. Cede (NOTE: no plural). Do not confuse with session.
Cesspit /ˈsespət/ noun an underground container for collecting household sewage.
Cf abbr used to refer to a footnote or to another part of the text.
CFC abbr chlorofluorocarbon, compound of fluoride and chlorine. CFCs contribute to the destruction of the ozone layer. When CFCs are released into the atmosphere, they rise slowly taking about seven years to reach the stratosphere.
Chafe /ˈfæf/ verb to rub something and make it sore.
Chaff /fæf/ noun the dried stems of plants such as wheat which are left after the grain is collected.
Chagrin /ˈfægrɪn/ noun a feeling of being annoyed or sad.
Chain /ʃeɪn/ noun 1. a series of metal rings joined together. She wore a gold chain round her neck. He stopped when the chain came off his bike. 2. a series of businesses such as stores, restaurants or hotels which belong to the same company. A chain of hotels or a hotel chain. She runs a chain of shoe shops. 3. a group of large mountains. The Rockies are a chain of mountains running down from Canada through the western states. 4. a series of people, each buying another’s house. There is a chain of six families involved, so the sale will take some time.
Chair /ʃeə/ noun 1. a piece of furniture which you can sit on, with a back. He pulled up a chair and started to write. These dining-room chairs are very hard. 2. the person who is in charge of a meeting. Please address all your comments to the chair. In the chair: the position of being in charge of a meeting. Mrs Smith was in the chair. Mr Jones took the chair.
Mr Jones

chair
chairlift /ˈtʃeəlɪft/ noun a line of moving chairs which take people to the top of a mountain slope, especially people who are skiing.

chairman /ˈtʃeɪmən/ noun 1. a person who is in charge of a meeting ○ Mrs Jones was the chairman at the meeting. 2. a person who presides over a board of directors ○ the chairman of the bank (NOTE: The plural is chairmen.)

chairmanship /ˈtʃeɪmənʃɪp/ noun the position of being a chairman

chairperson /ˈtʃeɪpɜrsən/ noun a person who is in charge of a meeting

chairwoman /ˈtʃeɪwʊmən/ noun a woman who is in charge of a meeting (NOTE: The plural is chairwomen.)

chaise longue /ʃeɪz ‘lʊŋ/ noun a comfortable chair with a long seat, similar to a sofa with an arm at only one end

chalk /ʃɔlk/ noun 1. a type of soft white rock made of calcium ○ The white cliffs of Dover are formed of chalk. 2. as different as chalk and cheese completely different (informal) 2. a stick of a white or coloured used for writing on a blackboard, e.g. in a classroom ○ He wrote the dates on the board in coloured chalk. 3. to mark or write with chalk ○ She chalked the menu for the day on the blackboard.

challenger /ˈtʃelɪndʒər/ noun 1. a difficult test of someone’s skill or strength etc. ○ The action by the union is another challenge to the authority of the government. 2. to pose a challenge to someone to be extremely difficult to do ○ Getting the pianos up the stairs will pose a challenge to the removal men. 3. an invitation to something such as a fight or competition ○ Our team accepted the challenge to play another game. 4. to take up a challenge to agree to fight ○ He was challenged, he admitted that he had seen her get into a car. 5. The committee’s conclusions have been challenged by other experts.

challenging /ˈtʃelɪndʒɪŋ/ adj difficult, which is a challenge

chamber /ˈtʃeɪmbər/ noun 1. an official room 2. an empty space inside the heart ○ Blood collects inside the chambers of the heart and is then pumped out 3. a space in a piece of a machine, especially one of the spaces for bullets in a gun

chambermaid /ˈtʃeɪmbəmɛd/ noun a woman who cleans bedrooms in a hotel

chamber music /ˈtʃeɪmbər ,njuːzɪk/ noun music for a few instruments which can be played in a small room

Chamber of Commerce /ˈtʃeɪmbər əv ‘kærɪzəs/ noun a group of local business people who meet to discuss problems which they have and to encourage business in their town

chamber orchestra /ˈtʃeɪmbər ,ɔrɪkəstra/ noun a small orchestra which plays chamber music

chambers /ˈtʃeɪmbəz/ plural noun the office of a judge or a lawyer

chambers /ˈtʃeɪmbəs/ noun a small room

champion /ˈtʃeɪmpən/ noun 1. the winner of a competition ○ There is no chance of rain in August. ○ What are their chances of survival in this weather? 2. opportunity ○ I’ve been waiting for a chance to speak to the Prime Minister. ○ I wish I had the chance to visit South Africa. 3. luck ○ It was quite by chance that we were travelling on the same bus. (NOTE: The meanings: chance of + ing = possibility of doing something, chance to = opportunity to do...
chancel /ˈʃænsəl/ noun a part of a church where a choir usually sits  
chancellor /ˈʃænsələr/ noun 1. an important official  
2. the head of the government (equivalent to Prime Minister)  
3. Chancellor of the Exchequer  
4. Chancellor of the Exchequer (in Germany or Austria)  
5. Chancellor of the Exchequer noun the chief finance minister in the British government (NOTE: In most countries, this is called the Minister of Finance; the American equivalent is the Secretary of the Treasury.)

chancy /ˈʃænsi/ adj risky, not very sure. 

chandelier /ˈʃeɪndələr/ noun a light fitting which hangs from the ceiling, with several branches for holding electric bulbs 

change /tʃeɪndʒ/ noun 1. the act of changing or being changed.  
2. to change gear to change from one gear to the next when driving a car.  
3. to change £1,000 into dollars.  
4. to change gear to change from one gear to the next when driving a car.  
5. to change places, positions, or roles.  
6. to change a bed to put clean sheets on a bed.  
7. to change trains or buses to get off one train or bus and onto another.  
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channel /ˈʃeɪndʒ/ noun 1. a piece of water connecting two seas.  
2. a way in which information or goods are passed from one place to another.  
3. the passing of a baton in a relay race.  
4. a frequency band for radio or TV or a station using this band.  
5. the new chat show is scheduled to compete with the gardening programme on the other channel.  
6. the bottom of a stream, ditch or gutter along which water can flow.  
7. to exchange places, positions, or roles.  
8. to change a bed to put clean sheets on a bed.  
9. to change trains or buses to get off one train or bus and onto another.  
10. to continue your journey to get off one train or bus and onto another to change trains or buses to get off one train or bus and onto another.  
11. to change train or bus to get off one train or bus and onto another.  
12. to change between 'The Times', 'The Independent' and 'The Guardian'.
channel of communication 125

channelled. The US spelling is channeling.

channel of communication ˈʃeɪnl ʌv ˈkɒmjuˌnikeɪʃən/ noun a way of communicating

Channel Tunnel ˈʃeɪnl ʌnˌtəl tunnel for trains under the English Channel between England and France

chant ˈʃænt noun 1. a regular singing or shouting of a repeated song or phrase. 2. She has a recording of chants by Buddhist monks.

characteristic /ˈkærɪktərɪstɪk/ adj characteristic of something. Synonym characteristic.

characterless /ˈkærɪktələs/ adj, typically, with no special features. Synonym bland.

charge ˌtʃɑ/lengthmarkn/vertstrokesuperiorkeʃ noun, verb 

charge 1. channel of communication 125 charge noun 1. the part of a large church with a separate altar. 2. the part of the sales department.

charge 2. channel of communication 125 charge noun 1. to attack someone. 2. He was charged with a claim by the police that someone has done something wrong.

charge 3. channel of communication 125 charge noun 1. a man or a group of priests or monks who run a cathedral or monastery.

charge 4. channel of communication 125 charge noun 1. to give someone responsibility.

charge 5. channel of communication 125 charge noun 1. to describe someone or something as a particular type of person or thing. Synonym description.

charge 6. channel of communication 125 charge noun 1. to ask someone to pay. Synonym demand.

charge 7. channel of communication 125 charge noun 1. to ask the customer to pay for the packing. Synonym demand.

character ˈkærɪktə noun 1. a person which makes him or her behave differently from all others. 2. a person in a play or novel. 3. a letter or symbol used in writing or printing. 4. The book is printed in Chinese characters.

characterisation /ˈkærɪktəˌraɪzəʃən/ noun an indication of character. Synonym description.

characterise /ˈkærɪktəˌraɪzi/ verb 1. to be a typical feature of something. 2. The northern coast is characterised by tall cliffs and tiny beaches.

characteristic ˈkærɪktərɪstɪk/ adj 1. You can recognise her by her characteristic way of walking. 2. That is characteristic of this type of flower. Synonym uncharacteristic.

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charge card

She was charged with organising the club’s dinner dance. 6. to put electricity into a battery ○ You can charge your phone battery by plugging it into the mains overnight.

charged /ˈʃɑːrd/ adj full of a strong emotion. Antonym calm

charger /ˈʃɑːrdʒə/ noun 1. a device which can be plugged into the mains and connected to a storage battery to restore the charge ○ How long do you have to connect the battery to the charger before it is recharged? 2. a heavy medieval battle horse ○ Knights in armour had to be lifted onto their chargers with cranes.

chariot /ˈʃærɪət/ noun a two-wheeled vehicle pulled by horses

charioter /ˈʃærɪətər/ noun a person who drives a chariot

charismatic /ˌkærɪzəm/ noun personal appeal. Synonym magnetic

charitably /ˈʃɛrləti/ adv in a charitable way ○ charity /ˈʃɛrəti/ noun 1. an organisation which collects money to help the poor or to support some cause ○ Charities do not pay tax. 2. help, usually money, given to the poor ○ She lost her job and her family have to rely on the charity of neighbours. (NOTE: The plural is charities.)

charity shop /ˈʃɛrəti ʃɒp/ noun a shop run by a charity where you can take things such as old clothes and ornaments, which are then sold and the money given to the charity (NOTE: The plural is charities.)

charlatan /ˈʃɑːrəltən/ noun a person who pretends to be an expert. Synonym fake

charm /ʃɑːrm/ noun 1. attractiveness ○ She has great personal charm. ○ The charm of the Devon countryside. 2. an object which is supposed to have magical powers ○ She wears a lucky charm round her neck. ○ verb 1. to put someone under a spell ○ The old man played a pipe and charmed a snake out of its basket. 2. to attract someone, or to make someone pleased ○ He always manages to charm the girls at the office. ○ I was charmed by their tiny cottage in the country.

charmed /ʃɑːmd/ adj protected as if by magic ○ charming /ˈʃɑːmɪŋ/ adj attractive. Synonym delightful. Antonym unattractive

chart /tʃɑːt/ noun 1. a map of the sea, a river or a lake ○ You will need an accurate chart of the entrance to the river. 2. a diagram showing statistics ○ A chart showing the increase in cases of lung cancer. 3. chartered /tʃɔrtəd/ adj (of an aircraft, bus or boat) which has been hired for a particular trip ○ We chartered a boat for a day trip to the island. Synonym rent

chartered /tʃɔrtəd/ adj 1. (of an aircraft, bus or boat) which has been hired for a particular trip ○ A fleet of chartered coaches took the group to the beach. 2. (of someone such as an accountant) having passed the professional examinations ○ He is a chartered surveyor.

chartered accountant /tʃɔrtəd əˈkaʊntənt/ noun a qualified accountant

charter flight /tʃɔtə fraɪt/ noun a flight in an aircraft which has been hired by the airline for a special occasion

charter plane /tʃɔtə plɛn/ noun a plane which has been chartered

charter /tʃɔtə/ plural noun a list of the most popular records

charwoman /tʃɔːrəmən/ noun a woman who does cleaning work in a private house (dated)

chary /ˈtʃɛrɪ/ adj cautious, reluctant to do something. Synonym wary. Antonym reckless

chase /ʃeɪz/ noun a pursuit ○ He was caught after a three-hour chase along the motorway. ○ to give chase to run after someone ○ The robbers escaped and the police gave chase. 1. to run after someone in order to try to catch him or her ○ The police officer chased the burglars down the street. 2. The postman was chased by a dog. ○ to ask someone how work is progressing in order to try to speed it up ○ We are trying to chase the accounts department for your cheque. ○ I will chase up your order with the production department.

chasm /ˈkeɪzəm/ noun 1. a very big difference of opinion ○ How can we bridge the
chassis 127 checked

chasm between the two sides in the dispute?
2. a very big crack in the ground ○ The mountaineers were forced to turn back when they reached a chasm in the glacier.

chassis /ˈʃæsɪ/ noun 1. the metal framework of a car ○ The car’s chassis was damaged in the accident. 2. the part on the underside of an aircraft ○ The aircraft radiated to say that the chassis had failed. (NOTE: The plural is chassis /ˈʃæsɪz/)

chaste /ˈkɑːst/ adj sexually pure. Antonym impure
chastened /ˈfɜːstɪnd/ adj less proud. Antonym reprimand.
chastisement /ˈkeɪstɪzmənt/ noun the act of punishing someone (formal). Antonym reprimand.
chastity /ˈkæstɪtɪ/ noun the state or fact of being chast. Synonym purity ○ chat /ˈkeɪt/ noun casual friendly talk ○ She likes to drop in for a cup of coffee and a chat. ○ I’d like to have a chat with you about your work. Synonym conversation. verb to talk in a casual and friendly way ○ They were chatting about their holidays when the bus arrived. ○ to chat someone up to talk to someone with the intention of starting a sexual relationship with them (informal) ○ He tried to chat up the girl he met in a bar.
chat room /ˈkeɪt rʊm/ noun a facility exchanging messages by computer in real time ○ chat show /ˈkeɪt ʃəʊ/ noun a TV show where famous people talk to the host.
chattels /ˈkeɪtəlz/ plural noun same as possessions.
chatter /ˈkeɪtər/ noun quick talking ○ The chatter of children in the corridor. ○ verb to talk quickly and not seriously ○ She went on chattering on the phone, not realising that the box was standing behind her. ○ his teeth were chattering his teeth were knocking together because he was shivering.
chatterbox /ˈkeɪtəbɒks/ noun a person who cannot stop talking (informal). Synonym talker.
chattering classes /ˈkeɪtərɪŋ ˈklærəs/ plural noun middle-class people working e.g. in the media, who spend their time meeting and gossiping about events in the news (disapproving).
chatty /ˈkeɪtɪ/ adj 1. who likes to chat ○ She’s a very chatty person, always stopping to gossip with anyone she meets. 2. informal ○ He has a pleasant chatty style, which goes down well with readers of Saturday papers.
chauffeur /ˈʃɔːfr/ noun a person who is paid to drive a car for someone else ○ The chauffeur brought the Rolls round to the door. Synonym driver. verb to drive a car for someone else ○ My husband lost his driving licence and I had to chauffeur him everywhere.

chauvinism /ˈʃɔːvɪnɪzəm/ noun a strong feeling of pride in your native country ○ Chauvinism is a barrier to full integration into the European Union.
chauffeur /ˈʃɔːfr/ noun a person who has a strong feeling of pride in his or her native country ○ Chauvinists insist that British cooking is better than French.

chauvinistic /ˈʃɔːvɪnɪstɪk/ adj feeling that your country is better than all others. Synonym bigoted.
cheap /tʃi/ adjective which does not cost a lot of money ○ If you want a cheap radio you ought to shop around. ○ Why do you go by bus? – Because it’s cheaper than the train. ○ Buses are by far the cheapest way to travel.

cheapen /tʃiˈpɛn/ verb to reduce the value of something. Synonym denigrate. Antonym elevate.

cheaply /tʃiˈpli/ adverb without paying much money.

cheapness /tʃiˈpɛns/ noun low cost ○ check /tʃek/ noun a person who acts unfairly in order to win ○ I won’t play cards with him again, he’s a cheat. ○ verb 1. to act unfairly in order to be successful ○ They don’t let her play any more since they found she was cheating. ○ They are sure he cheated in his exam, but can’t find out how he did it.

2. to cheat someone out of something to get something by tricking someone ○ She was furious, saying that she had been cheated out of the first prize.

check /tʃek/ noun 1. an examination or test ○ The police are carrying out checks on all cars. ○ A routine check of the fire equipment. 2. US (in a restaurant) a bill ○ I’ll ask for the check. 3. US spelling of cheque 4. US a mark on paper to show that something is correct ○ Make a check in the box marked ‘R’. (NOTE: The British term is tick.) 5. in check under control ○ We must keep our spending in check. 6. (in chess) a situation where your opponent has to move to protect his or her king ○ verb 1. to make sure ○ I’d better check with the office if there are any messages for me. ○ Did you lock the door? – I’ll go and check. 2. to examine ○ You must have your car checked every 10,000 miles. 3. US to mark with a sign to show that something is correct ○ Check the box marked ‘R’. (NOTE: The British term is tick.) 4. to bring someone or something to a halt ○ Bad weather checked the expedition’s progress.

checked /tʃekt/ adjective with a pattern of small squares. Synonym check.
checkup /ˈtʃek/ noun US 1 to make sure that something has been done correctly.
Antonym ignore
Cheesed /ˈtʃɛsd/ noun a smooth hard light yellow cheese, originally from a village of this name in the west of England
Cheek /ˈtʃeik/ noun 1 a fat part of the face on either side of the nose and below the eye 2 a baby with red cheeks 3 rudeness
Checkers /ˈtʃekəz/ noun US a game for two people played on a board with black and white squares and round pieces (NOTE: The British term is draughts.)
Check /ˈtʃek/ verb 1 (at a hotel) to arrive at a hotel and sign for a room © He checked in at 12.15. © We checked into our hotel and then went on a tour of the town. 2 (at an airport) to give in your ticket to show you are ready to take the flight © Please check in two hours before your departure time. 3 © to check baggage in to pass your baggage to the airline staff to put it on the plane for you © My bag hasn’t been checked in yet.
× check-in /ˈtʃek/ noun a place where passengers give in their tickets and baggage for a flight
Checklist /ˈtʃekliːst/ noun a list of things which have to be done or dealt with before something can be done
Checkmate /ˈtʃekmət/ noun (in chess) a situation at the end of a game where the king cannot move © That’s checkmate! © verb 1 (in chess) to put your opponent’s king in an impossible situation © If the judiciary manages to checkmate the president, he will have to resign. © 2 to put an opponent into an impossible situation © If you checkmate a king which have to be done or dealt with before something can be done
Check out /ˈtʃek/ verb 1 (at a hotel) to leave and pay for a room © We will check out before breakfast. 2 to take luggage out of safe keeping © The ticket shows that he checked out his bag at 9.15. 3 to see if something is all right © I thought I heard a noise in a kitchen – I’ll just go and check it out.
× checkout /ˈtʃekaut/ noun 1 (in a supermarket) a cash desk where you pay for the goods you have bought © There were huge queues at the checkouts. 2 © checkout time is 12.00 the time by which you have to leave your room is 12.00
Checkpoint /ˈtʃekpɔnt/ noun a place on a road where the police or army check cars and people passing. Synonym barrier
Checkroom /ˈtʃekrʊm/ noun US a place where you leave your coat in a public building such as a restaurant or theatre (NOTE: The British term is cloakroom.)
× checkup /ˈtʃekpʊ/ noun 1 a test to see if someone is fit © He had a heart checkup last week. 2 a general examination by a doctor or dentist © She made an appointment with the dentist for a checkup. 3 a general examination of a machine © I’m taking the car to the garage for its six-monthly checkup.
Cheeseburger /ˈtʃizbɜɡə/ noun a hamburger with melted cheese on top
Cheesy /ˈtʃiːsi/ adj rude. Synonym impudent. Antonym respectful (NOTE: cheekier – cheekiest)
Cheer /ˈtʃiər/ noun a shout of praise or encouragement © When he scored the goal a great cheer went up. © three cheers three shouts of praise for someone © Three cheers for the goalkeeper! hip! hip! hooyah! © verb to shout encouragement © The crowd cheered when the first marathon runners appeared. Synonym applaud. Antonym boo
× cheerfully /ˈtʃiəfli/ adv in a happy way
Cheer leader /ˈtʃiəlɪdə/ noun a person who directs the cheering of a crowd
Cheerless /ˈtʃiəlsəs/ adj unpleasant and unwelcoming. Synonym gloomy
Cheers! /ˈtʃɪəz/ interj (when drinking) 1 thank you! 2 good health! © They all lifted their glasses and said ‘cheers!’: © cheer up /ˈtʃəp/ verb to become happier © cheer up! don’t be miserable! © to cheer someone up to make someone happier © She made him a good meal to try to cheer him up. Synonym perk up. Antonym depress
Cheery /ˈtʃɪəri/ adj happy (NOTE: cheerful – cheeriest)
× cheese /ˈtʃiːz/ noun a solid food made from milk © She ordered a cheese omelette and chips. © At the end of the meal we’ll have biscuits and cheese. © Can I have a pound of Cheshire cheese, please? © ‘say cheese!’ used when asking people to smile when their photo is being taken (informal) © The photographer got us all in a line and then told us to ‘say cheese!’:
cheesecake /'ʧiːzkerk/ noun a tart with a sweet pastry base and cooked cream cheese on top, often covered with fruit
cheesed off /'ʧiːzd ˈʃf/ adj fed up, annoyed about something (informal)
cheesy /'ʧiːzi/ adj 1. like cheese in appearance, flavour or consistency 2. cheap and without style
cheetah /'ʧiːtə/ noun an animal like a small leopard, with black spots on pale fur, which can run faster than any other animal
chef /ʃef/ noun a cook in a restaurant
chemical /'kɛmɪkəl/ adj referring to chemistry 1) If you add acid it sets off a chemical reaction. 2) a substance which is formed by reactions between elements 3) Rows of glass bottles containing chemicals.
chemist /'kɛmɪst/ noun 1. a person who prepares and sells medicines 2. Ask the chemist to give you something for indigestion. 3. a scientist who studies chemical substances 4. She works as a chemist in a nuclear laboratory.
chemistry /'kɛmɪstri/ noun 1. the science of chemical substances and their reactions 2. She’s studying chemistry at university. 3. He passed his chemistry exam. 4. personal chemistry reaction of one person to another 5. The personal chemistry of the two leaders was very good.
chemotherapy /'kɛməθəˈrɛpi/ noun the process of using chemical drugs to fight a disease, especially using toxic chemicals to destroy rapidly developing cancer cells (NOTE: no plural)
cheque /'ʃek/ noun a note to a bank asking for money to be paid from one account to another 1) I paid for the jacket by cheque. 2) He made out the cheque to Mr Smith. 3) He’s forgotten to sign the cheque. (NOTE: The US spelling is check.)
chequebook /'ʃekbʊk/ noun a set of blank cheques attached together in a cover (NOTE: The US spelling is checkbook.)
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chequered /'ʧekəd/ adj 1. laid out in a pattern of squares 2. varied, with good and bad parts 3. She had a chequered career in the police force.
chequered flag /'ʧekəd 'flæg/ noun a black and white check flag used to show the end of a motor race
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cherub /'ʧərəb/ noun 1. a small fat angel 2. a child who looks like an angel. Synonym angel
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chiefs came together at a meeting.

chic /fɪʃk/ adj elegant and fashionable ○ It’s very chic these days to have an all white sports car. ○ We took our visitors to a very chic restaurant in Mayfair. Synonym stylish. Antonym unfashionable ■ noun elegance ○ Her special brand of chic is like no one else’s. Synonym style

chick /tʃɪk/ noun a baby bird, especially a baby hen.

chicken /tʃɪkɪn/ noun 1. a young hen ○ Chickens were running everywhere in the farmyard. (NOTE: The plural is chickens.) 2. meat from a hen ○ We’re having roast chicken for lunch. ○ Would you like another slice of chicken? ○ We bought some chicken sandwiches for lunch. (NOTE: no plural: some chicken, a piece of chicken, a slice of chicken)

chicken out /tʃɪkɪn ‘aut/ verb to decide not to do something because you are scared (slang)

chickenpox /tʃɪkɪnˈpɒks/ noun an infectious disease of children, with fever anditchy red spots ( NOTE: The scientific name is varicella.)

chickpea /tʃɪkspi/ noun 1. a yellow seed eaten mainly in salads 2. the plant that produces chickpeas

chicory /tʃɪkəri/ noun a vegetable, the leaves of which are used for salads, and the roots dried and ground to mix with coffee to make it bitter

chide /tʃaɪd/ verb to criticise (literary). Synonym reproof. Antonym praise (NOTE: chided or child /tʃɪd/ – has chided or children)

chief /tʃiːf/ adj most important ○ He’s the chief planner in the local authority. ○ What is the chief cause of air accidents? Synonym principal ■ noun 1. a person in charge in a group of people or in a business ○ He’s been made the new chief of our department. ○ The fire chief warned that the building was dangerous. 2. the leader of a tribe ○ All the chiefs came together at a meeting.

Chief Constable /tʃiːf ˈkɒnstəb(ə)l/ noun the person in charge of a police force

Chief Executive /tʃiːf ɪˈɡəʊzˌkɪkjuːtɪv/ noun the main director who runs a company

Chief Justice /tʃiːf ˈdʒəstɪs/ noun US the main judge in a court, including the main judge in the Supreme Court

chiefly /tʃiːfl/ adv mainly. Synonym primarily

Chief of Staff /tʃiːf əv ‘stɑːf/ noun 1. a high ranking officer who assists an officer who is in command ○ He was Chief of Staff to the general during the battle. 2. the main assistant or adviser to someone who has an important post ○ the president’s Chief of Staff

chilled /tʃɪld/ noun the leader of a tribe

chiffon /tʃɪfən/ noun a type of very thin light silk material

chihuahua /tʃiˈwɑːwə/ noun a breed of very small dog

child /tʃaɪld/ noun 1. a young boy or girl ○ There was no TV when my mother was a child. ○ Here is a photograph of the Prime Minister as a child. ○ A group of children were playing on the beach. 2. the son or daughter ○ Whose child is that? ○ How many children have they got? ○ They have six children – two boys and four girls. (NOTE: The plural is children /tʃɪldrən/)

child abuse /tʃaɪld əˈbjuːs/ noun bad treatment of a child by an adult

child benefit /tʃaɪld ‘bɛnɪʃ/ noun money given by the government to the parents of young children

childbirth /tʃaɪldˈbɜːθ/ noun the act of giving birth to a child

childcare /tʃaɪldˈkeə/ noun the care of young children

childhood /tʃaɪldhoʊd/ noun the time when someone is a child. Antonym adulthood

childish /tʃaɪldʃɪd/ adj like a child; silly or foolish

childless /tʃaɪldliːs/ adj with no children

childlike /tʃaɪldlɪk/ adj innocent like a child. Antonym jaded

childminder /tʃaɪldmɑːnˈdɜː/ noun a person who looks after children in his or her own home while the parents are working

childproof /tʃaɪldpruːf/ adj 1. difficult for a child to open or operate 2. made safe for children to use – verb to make something safe for children or hard for them to open or operate

children’s home /tʃaɪldrəʊn ˈhoʊm/ noun a home for children whose parents have died or for children whose parents are unable to look after them

child’s play /tʃaɪldz ˈpleɪ/ noun something which is very easy

child support /tʃaɪld ˈspɔːt/ noun a sum of money paid by a divorced person to maintain the normal standard of living of his or her children

chill /tʃɪl/ noun 1. an illness caused by cold ○ You’ll catch a chill if you don’t wear a coat. 2. coldness ○ The sun came up and soon cleared away the morning chill. 3. an atmosphere of gloom ○ The death of the bride’s father cast a chill over the wedding. – verb to cool ○ He asked for a glass of chilled orange juice. ○ chilled to the bone

very cold (informal) ○ They were chilled to

chicken

chick

chic

chill
chilli  /ˈʃɪli/ noun a dried seed pod of a type of pepper plant, used to make hot sauces (NOTE: The US spelling is chilli.)

chilli con carne /ˈʃɪli kənˈkærni/ noun a Mexican dish of meat and beans cooked in a hot chilli sauce (NOTE: Do not confuse with chilly.)

chilling  /ˈtʃɪlɪŋ/ adj frightening. Antonym reassuring

chilly  /ˈʃɪli/ adj quite cold (NOTE: chillier – chilliest)

chimé /ˈʃɪm/ the ringing of bells — The chimes of Big Ben start the BBC News. Synonym clang

chimney /ˈʃɪməni/ noun a tall brick column for taking smoke away from a fire — He smokes like a chimney

chimney stack /ˈʃɪməni ʃteɪk/ noun a tall chimney rising above the roof of a factory or a house

chimpanzee /ˈʃɪmpənzi/,chimp /ˈʃɪmp/ noun a type of African ape — His aunt is a chimpanzee.

China /ˈʃaɪna/ noun the name of a very large country in Asia (NOTE: capital Beijing; people the Chinese; language Chinese; currency renminbi)

Chinese /ˈʃaɪniz/ adj referring to China or Her husband is Chinese. We often go to a Chinese restaurant in the evening. noun 1. a person from China China The Chinese were not present at the conference. (NOTE: The plural is Chinese.) 2. the language spoken in China She had been taking Chinese lessons for some weeks. The book has been translated into Chinese.

chink /ˈtʃɪŋk/ noun 1. a very small hole or crack — Even a tiny chink in the curtains will let light into the darkroom. 2. a little noise of pieces of something hard hitting each other — The chink of glasses on the waiter’s tray. verb to make a little noise — We could hear the ice cubes chinking as she carried the tray of drinks over to us.

chinos /ˈʃɪnəʊz/ plural noun smart but casual thick cotton trousers

chintz /ˈʃɪnts/ noun a thick cotton cloth with bright flower patterns, used, e.g., for curtains or for covering seats

chip /tʃɪp/ noun 1. a long thin piece of potato fried in oil — He ordered chicken and chips and a glass of beer. 2. US a thin slice of potato, fried till crisp and eaten cold as a snack — He ordered a beer and a packet of chips. (NOTE: The British term is crisps.) 3. a small piece of something hard, such as wood or stone — Chips of stone flew all over the studio as he was carving the statue. 4. to have a chip on your shoulder to feel constantly annoyed because you feel you have lost an advantage — He’s got a chip on his shoulder because his brother has a better job than he has. 5. a piece of plastic or metal which represents money in gambling — The croupier raked the chips across the board. (NOTE: The British term is chips.)

chipboard /ˈtʃɪpboʊd/ noun a thick board made of small chips of wood glued together, used in carpentry (NOTE: no plural; for one piece one would say a sheet of chipboard, a piece of chipboard)

chip in /ˈtʃɪp ˈɪn/ verb 1. to contribute — We all chipped in for the present. 2. to interrupt — My assistant suddenly chipped in with a comment.

chipmunk /ˈʃɪpmʌŋk/ noun a small North American animal, like a little striped squirrel

chiroprodist /ˌkɪrəˈprɒdɪst/ noun a person who specialises in looking after feet

chirp /tʃɪrp/ noun a sharp short call of birds or grasshoppers — Can you hear the chirp of the little birds in the nest? — verb (of birds or grasshoppers) to call — The little chicks were chirping in their box.

chirpy /tʃɪrpi/ bright and cheerful (informal). Synonym lively

chisel /tʃɪzl/ noun a metal tool which you hit with a hammer to cut small pieces off wood or stone — The stone carver tapped the chisel very carefully with his hammer. verb 1. to cut wood or stone with a chisel — We watched the sculptor chiselling away at the piece of stone. 2. to swindle (old) — He chiselled the old lady out of all her savings. (NOTE: chiselling — chiselled. The US spelling is chiseling — chiseled)

chit /tʃɪt/ noun a note or small invoice (dated)

chitchat /ˈtʃɪtʃæt/ noun conversations about things which are not important (informal). Synonym chatter
chivalrous /ˈʃɪvərəs/ adj courteous, very polite
chivalry /ˈʃɪvəlri/ noun politeness or courtesy
chives /tʃəvz/ plural noun a herb of which the leaves are used to decorate dishes or in soups or salads (NOTE: chives has no singular.)
chloride /ˈklaɪərəd/ noun a compound of chlorine and another substance
chlorinated /ˈklərɪnətɪd/ adj added to or treated with chlorine
chlorine /ˈklərɪn/ noun a powerful greenish gas, used to sterilise water and to bleach things
chlorofluorocarbon /ˈkləroʊflʊroʊkoʊbərn/ noun full form of CFC
chlorophyll /ˈklaɪəroʊfɪl/ noun the green colouring in plants
choc /tʃɒk/ noun a chocolate (informal)
choco-ice /tʃɒkəaɪs/ noun a hard block of ice cream covered with chocolate
chock /tʃɒk/ noun a small block of wood which prevents wheels turning
check-a-block /tʃɒkəˈblæk/ adj completely full (informal)
choke /tʃɒk/ noun 1. a sweet brown food made from the crushed seeds of a tropical tree. Can I buy a bar of chocolate? 2. Her mother made a chocolate cake.
choke off /tʃɒk əf/ verb to cut something into small pieces with an axe or knife 3. He spent the afternoon chopping wood for the fire. 2. to chop and change to do one thing, then another. He keeps chopping and changing and can’t make his mind up.
chocolate chip /tʃɒklət ˈtʃɪp/ noun a small piece of hard chocolate, used in ice cream, biscuits or cakes
choke down /tʃɒk ˈdaʊn/ verb to cut down a tree, e.g., with an axe. Synonym shorten
chop down /tʃɒp ˈdaʊn/ verb to cut something off, e.g., with an axe or knife
chopstick /ˈtʃɒpstɪk/ noun a pair of small sticks used in China, Japan, etc., to eat food or to stir food when cooking
choir /kwaɪər/ noun 1. a group of people who sing together 2. a part of a church where the choir sits 3. The nave was built in the 12th century, and the choir later.
choke off /tʃɒk əf/ verb to cut something roughly into pieces
choral /ˈkɔrəl/ adj referring to a choir
the chorus were on the stage.

Christianity believes in the teaching of Christ and in the first time of arranging the steps for a dance choreography.

Christian name /ˌkrɪstiˈnɛm/ noun the special name given to someone as a child after birth or at their christening. Synonym first name, given name

chord /ˈkɔrd/ noun 1. several notes played together in harmony ○ He sat down at the piano and played a few chords. 2. a line which joins two points on a curve ○ Draw a chord across this circle. (NOTE: Do not confuse with cord.)

chore /tʃɔr/ noun a piece of routine work, especially housework

chorographer /ˌkɒrɪˈɡrɑːfər/ noun a person who works out the steps for a dance choreography /ˌkɒrɪˈɡrɑːfɪ/ noun the art of arranging the steps for a dance

chorister /ˌkrɪstrɪst/ noun a person who sings in a church choir. Synonym singer

chortle /tʃɔrt/ verb to chuckle loudly

chorus /ˈkɜrəs/ noun 1. a group of people who sing together ○ All the members of the chorus were on the stage. 2. a part of a song which is repeated later in the song ○ I’ll sing the verses and everyone can join in the chorus. (NOTE: The plural is choruses.) ○ verb to say something all together ○ There was a knock at the door and they both chortled ‘come in’.

choose /tʃuːz/ past tense of choose

chosen adj /tʃəʊn/ who or which has been selected ○ Only the chosen few have the right to sit at the President’s table. ■ past participle of choose

chowder /ˈtʃaʊdər/ noun soup made of fish, milk and vegetables

Christ /ˈkrɪst/ noun Jesus Christ, the person on whose life and teachings the Christian religion is based. ■ interj used for showing you are annoyed (taboo) ○ Christ! It’s eight o’clock already and I haven’t started cooking dinner.

christen /ˈkrɪʃtən/ verb 1. to give a name to a Christian baby in church ○ She was christened Natasha. 2. to give a name to something ○ She was christened the ‘Iron Lady’ by the press. 3. to use something for the first time ○ Come and help as Christen our new set of champagne glasses.

christening /ˈkrɪʃtɪŋ/ noun a ceremony in church where a baby is given a name ○ Christian ○ a person who believes in the teaching of Christ and in Christianity ○ The early Christians were victims of the Roman emperors. ■ adj referring to the religion based on the teachings of Jesus Christ ○ There are several Christian churches in the town. ○ She practises all the Christian virtues.

Christianity /ˌkrɪstɪˈænɪtɪ/ noun a religion based on the doctrine preached by Jesus Christ and followed by Christians ever since ○ Christian name ○ the special name given to someone as a child after birth or at their christening. Synonym first name, given name

Christmas /ˈkrɪsməs/ noun a Christian festival on December 25th, the birthday of Jesus Christ ○ Have you opened your Christmas presents yet? ○ what did you get for Christmas? ○ what presents were you given for Christmas? ○ Happy Christmas! a way of greeting someone on Christmas Day

Christmas cake /ˈkrɪsməs kek/ noun a special fruit cake eaten at Christmas time

Christmas card /ˈkrɪsməs kɔrd/ noun a card which is sent to someone at Christmas

Christmas cracker /ˈkrɪsməs ˈkrɛkər/ noun a special song sung at Christmas

Christmas cracker /ˈkrɪsməs ˈkrɛkər/ noun a special song sung at Christmas

Christmas Day /ˈkrɪsməs deɪ/ noun December 25th, the day on which Christmas is celebrated

Christmas Eve /ˈkrɪsməs ɪv/ noun 1. 24th December, the day before Christmas Day ○ The office is closed on Christmas Eve. 2. the evening of the 24th December ○ a Christmas Eve party

Christmas pudding /ˈkrɪsməs ˈpʌdɪŋ/ noun a special pudding eaten at Christmas time

Christmas tree /ˈkrɪsməs trɪs/ noun a fir tree which is brought into the house at Christmas and decorated with coloured lights and ornaments

chrome /ˈkrʌm/ noun an alloy of chromium and other metals, used to give a shiny silver surface ○ A 1960s chair with chrome legs and a plastic seat.

chromium /ˌkrɒmɪəm/ noun a metallic trace element used to make alloys such as steel

chromosome /ˌkrɒməʊsəʊm/ noun a rod-shaped structure in the nucleus of a cell, formed of DNA which carries the genes

chronic /ˈkrɒnɪk/ adj 1. (of illness or pain) serious and continuing for a long time ○ She has chronic bronchitis. ○ Chronic asthma sufferers need to use special drugs. Compare acute 2. referring to someone who does a particular activity, especially a harmful one, often ○ a chronic smoker 3. very bad (informal) ○ We have a chronic shortage of skilled staff.

chronicle /ˈkrɒnɪkl/ noun a record of things which take place ○ He wrote a chronicle of the war. ■ verb to write the history of events in the order in which they took place ○ He has started interviewing local old people to chronicle the history of the village.

chronological /ˌkrɒnɪˈlɒdʒɪkl/ adj ○ chronological order the arrangement of things in order of their dates ○ Put the in-
voices in chronological order.  ○ The battles are arranged in chronological order.

chronologically /ˈkraʊnəlɪkli/ adv in chronological order.

chronology /ˈkrɒnəlɪdʒi/ noun the order in which things happened.

chrysalis /ˈkrɪsəlɪs/ noun an insect when it is covered with a hard case as it changes from a grub or caterpillar to a butterfly or moth. Also called pupa (NOTE: The plural is chrysalises.)

chrysanthemum /ˈkrɪsænθəməm/ noun a type of autumn flower with many small petals.

chubby /ˈʃʌbi/ adj pleasantly fat. Synonym: plump (NOTE: chubbier – chunkiest)

chuck /tʃæk/ noun a part of a drill which holds the bit. ○ He released the chuck and put in a bigger bit. Synonym: chock (verb) to throw ○ Chuck me that newspaper, can you? ○ She chucked the book out of the window.

chuckle /tʃæk(ə)/ noun a quiet laugh. ○ We all had a good chuckle over the chairmaker’s speech. Synonym: laughter (verb) to give a quiet laugh. ○ He chuckled when she said she wanted a good steady job.

chuffed /tʃʌft/ adj pleased or proud

chug /tʃag/ verb to make a regular noise like an engine (informal). Synonym: continue (NOTE: chugging – chugged)

chippy /ˈʃɪpi/ noun a friend (informal)

chum /tʃʌm/ noun a very friendly (informal)

chunk /tʃaŋk/ noun a large thick piece

church /tʃɜːtʃ/ noun a building where Christians go to pray. ○ We usually go to church on Sunday mornings. ○ The oldest building in the village is St Mary’s Church. ○ The times of the church services are given on the board outside. (NOTE: The plural is churches.)

churchgoer /ˈtʃɜːtʃɡɔːə/ noun a person who goes to church regularly

churchman /ˈtʃɜːtʃmən/ noun a priest, especially in the Anglican Church (NOTE: The plural is churchmen.)

Church of England /ˈtʃɜːtʃ əv ‘tʃɔːləndi/ noun the Protestant church which is the official religion of England, with the Queen as its head. Also called Anglican Church.

churchyard /ˈtʃɜːtʃjɑːd/ noun a cemetery next to a church. Synonym: graveyard

churlish /ˈʃɜːliʃ/ adj unfriendly or unhelpful

churn /tʃɜːrn/ noun a large metal container for milk ○ Churns of fresh milk were lined up at the farm entrance waiting to be picked up.

choke /tʃɑːk/ verb 1. to turn cream to make butter ○ Do you know of any farm where butter is still churned by hand? 2. to buy and sell shares on someone’s behalf, in order to earn commission for yourself ○ Few small investors realise how much money they lose through churning.

churn out /tʃaʊt/ verb to produce something in a series.

chute /tʃaut/ noun 1. a slide into water in a swimming pool ○ The kids screamed as they slid down the chute into the pool. 2. a slide for sending things down to a lower level ○ The parcels are wrapped and labelled and then sent down a chute to where the delivery vans are waiting.

chutney /tʃˈʌtni/ noun a highly-flavoured sauce usually made with tomatoes, onions, vinegar and spices.

cider /ˈsaɪdər/ noun an alcoholic drink made from fermented apple juice.

cigar /ˈsaɪgər/ noun a roll of dried tobacco leaves which you can light and smoke ○ cigarette /ˈsaɪɡərɪt/ noun chopped dried tobacco rolled in very thin paper which you can light and smoke ○ A packet or pack of cigarettes. ○ The room was full of cigarette smoke.

cigarette holder /ˈsaɪɡərɪt ˈhoʊldər/ noun a plastic or metal holder into which you put cigarettes to smoke.

cinematography /ˌsɪniˌmætəˈrɪgrəfɪ/ noun the art or practice of making films

cinematic /ˈsɪnəmætɪk/ adj referring to films and the cinema.

cinematography /ˌsɪniˌmætəˈgrəfɪ/ noun the art or practice of making films

cinnamon /ˈsɪmənəm/ noun a spice made from the inner bark of a tropical tree.
The children sat in a circle round the teacher. The soldiers formed a circle round the prisoner. a group of people or a society

\[ / \text{circum} / \text{vowels} \]

o She went to live abroad and lost contact with her old circle of friends.

\[ / \text{circum} / \text{act of circulating} \]

\[ / \text{circum} / \text{a row of seats above the stalls in a theatre} \]

\[ / \text{circum} / \text{We got tickets for the upper circle.} \]

\[ / \text{circum} / \text{to make circular movements} \]

\[ / \text{circum} / \text{various people} \]

\[ / \text{circum} / \text{above the dead antelope.} \]

\[ / \text{circum} / \text{to move round} \]

\[ / \text{circum} / \text{path of electricity} \]

\[ / \text{circum} / \text{Sight, site} \]

\[ / \text{circum} / \text{limits to something} \]

\[ / \text{circum} / \text{something but does not offer firm proof} \]

\[ / \text{circum} / \text{noun} \]

\[ / \text{cistern} / \text{noun a large tank for water} \]

\[ / \text{cistern} / \text{a fort guarding a town} \]

\[ / \text{cistle} / \text{noun words used in giving someone an award or honour, explaining why the award is being made} \]

\[ / \text{cistle} / \text{verb to quote a reference or a person as proof} \]

\[ / \text{cistle} / \text{she cited several passages from his latest book.} \]

\[ / \text{cistle} / \text{noun the state of being a citizen} \]

\[ / \text{cistle} / \text{noun an edible fruit such as an orange, lemon, grapefruit or lime} \]

\[ / \text{cistern} / \text{noun a safety device in an electrical circuit} \]

\[ / \text{cistern} / \text{noun a travelling show, often given under a large tent, with animals, clowns and other performers} \]

\[ / \text{cistern} / \text{noun a place where something is kept safely} \]

\[ / \text{cistern} / \text{noun Rome is renowned as the citadel of Catholicism.} \]

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\[ / \text{cistern} / \text{noun a place where something is kept safely} \]

\[ / \text{cistern} / \text{noun Rome is renowned as the citadel of Catholicism.} \]
city /ˈsɪti/ noun a large town, originally created by charter, often with a cathedral
Walking around the hot city streets can be very exhausting. ◇ Which is the largest city in Germany? ◇ Traffic is a problem in big cities.
City /ˈsɪti/ noun the main financial district in London ◇ He works in the City.
city centre /ˈsɪtə/ `sentə/ noun the central part of a town (NOTE: The US term is downtown.)
civic /ˈsɪvɪk/ adj referring to a city. Synonym public
civic centre /ˈsɪvɪk/ `sentə/ noun a building with social and sports facilities for a town ◇ civil/ˈsɪv(ə)l/ adj 1. belonging to the general public and not to the armed forces ◇ He left the air force and became a civil airline again today.
civil /ˈsɪv(ə)l/ noun an ordinary citizen who is not in the armed forces ◇ It is certain that ordinary civilians will be affected by the war. ◇ Many civilians were killed in the air raids.
civil servant /ˈsɪv(ə)l/ `səvənt/ noun a person who works in a government department
3. civil service /ˈsɪv(ə)l/ `səvɪns/ noun an organisation and the staff who administer a country
3. civil war /ˈsɪv(ə)l/ `wɔr/ noun a war between citizens inside a country

COMMENT: The English Civil War, from around 1642 to 1651, was fought between supporters of the King (Charles I) and the supporters of Parliament, one of whose leaders was Oliver Cromwell. The king was captured, tried and executed in 1649, and Cromwell took the title of Lord Protector. The members of the King’s party were called Cavaliers, and the supporters of the Parliament were called Roundheads because they wore their hair cut short. The American Civil war of 1861 to 1865 was fought when eleven Southern states seceded from the Union (i.e. from the United States) and fought against the North under President Lincoln.

CJD abbr Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease
clad /klæd/ adj 1. dressed in a particular way ◇ a group of leather-clad dancers ◇ The soldiers were clad in winter greatcoats. 2. covered ◇ the snow-clad fields ◇ a white stucco-clad house
claim /kliəm/ noun 1. asking for money ◇ His claim for a pay increase was turned down. 2. a statement of something which you believe to be true but have no proof ◇ His claim that the car belonged to him was correct. Synonym assertion 3. a demand for money against an insurance policy ◇ After the floods, insurance companies received hundreds of claims. ◇ to put in or submit a claim to ask the insurance company officially to pay damages ◇ I put in a claim for repairs to the car. ◇ She submitted a claim for £250,000 damages against the driver of the other car. ◇ verb 1. to demand something
claimant

as a right ○ Steel workers have claimed huge pay rises. ○ If they charged you too much you must claim a refund. 2. to state, but without any proof ○ He claims he never received the letter. ○ She claims that the car belongs to her. 3. to say you own something which has been left behind or lost ○ No one has claimed the umbrella found in my office, so I am going to keep it.

claimant /ˈklimənt/ noun 1. a person who claims something ○ Benefit claimants will be paid late because of the bank holiday. 2. a person who starts a legal action against someone in the civil courts ○ She’s the claimant in a libel action. ○ The court decided in favour of the claimant. (NOTE: The former term was plaintiff. The other party in an action is the defendant.)

claim back /ˌklɛm ˈbæk/ verb to claim something which you owned before

clairvoyant /ˈkleɪr.və.ˈeɪənt/ noun a person who says he or she can see in his or her mind things which are happening elsewhere or can foretell the future. Synonym psychic

clam /klæm/ noun a large shellfish found in sand, which is dug out with a spade

clamber /ˈklæm.bər/ verb to climb with difficulty

clammy /ˈklæmi/ adj damp and cold (NOTE: clammiest)

clamour /ˈklæm.ər/ noun 1. noise such as shouting ○ The clamour of the crowd at the rugby ground could be heard for miles around. 2. a loud demand ○ a clamour for democratic elections ○ verb to shout or to demand loudly ○ People are clamouring for tickets. ○ The crowd clamoured to see the manager. (NOTE: [all verb senses] The US spelling is clamor.)

clamp /klæmp/ noun a device that holds something tightly together ○ verb 1. to hold something tight with a clamp ○ He spread glue over the two pieces of wood and then clamped them together. 2. to prevent an illegally parked car from moving by attaching a clamp to one wheel ○ I parked on a double yellow line and was clamped.

clampdown /ˈklæmp.dʌn/ noun a severe action to stop something from happening (informal). Synonym restriction

clam up /ˈklæm əp/ verb to refuse to talk (informal) (NOTE: clamming – clammed)

clan /klæn/ noun a family tribe, especially in Scotland

clandestine /ˈkland.ə.stin/ adj secret, undercover

clang /klæŋ/ noun a loud noise of metal ringing ○ Can you hear the clang of the bells? ○ verb to make a loud ringing noise ○ We were woken up by the bells clanging in the churches round us. Synonym clank

clank /klæŋk/ noun a noise of metal hitting metal ○ You could hear the clank of chains as the prisoners came into the court. Synonym clanging ○ verb to make a noise of metal hitting other metal

clansman /ˈklænzmən, ˈklænz.wəmən/ noun a member of a clan (NOTE: The plural is clansmen, clanswomen)

clap /klæp/ verb 1. to beat your hands together to show you are pleased ○ At the end of her speech the audience stood up and clapped. ○ He clapped his hands together in delight. ○ to clap someone into jail ○ He was arrested and clapped into jail. ○ re noun 1. the action of beating your hands together ○ He did very well – give him a big clap, everyone. 2. a clap of thunder a sudden loud noise made by thunder ○ A thunderclap woke us up. ○ We were woken by a sudden clap of thunder.

clapped out /ˈklæpt əut/ adj worn out or broken down (informal)

claret /ˈkleər.t/ noun a red wine from Bordeaux

clarification /ˈklær.i.fə.ʃən/ noun the act of making something clear. Synonym explanation

clarify /ˈklær.i.fai/ verb 1. to make something clear ○ We will have to clarify the situation before taking any further decisions. 2. to heat something, especially butter, until it becomes transparent ○ Pour clarified butter over the vegetables.

clarinet /ˈklær.i.nət/ noun a wind instrument in the woodwind group

clarify /ˈklær.i.ti/ noun clearness. Antonym ambiguity (NOTE: no plural)

clash /klæʃ/ noun 1. a loud noise of metal things hitting each other ○ She heard a loud clash like two saucepans being banged together. 2. a battle or an argument ○ There were clashes outside the football ground between supporters of the two teams. ○ We are getting reports of clashes between government forces and rebel groups. 3. the shock of two colours seen close together ○ If you wear red tights with an orange dress there will be a colour clash. (NOTE: The plural is clashes.) ○ verb 1. to bang things together making a loud noise ○ She has to clash the cymbals at the end of the piece of music. 2. to argue violently ○ She clashed with her mother about wearing a ring in her nose. ○ The opposition deputes clashed with the government during the debate. 3. to fight ○ Rioting fans clashed with the police. 4. to happen at the same time as something else ○ The party clashes with a meeting I have to go to. ○ Unfortunately, the two meetings clash, so I’ll have to miss one. 5. (of colours) to
clasp

1. a device for holding something shut. Synonym: clasp
2. a piece of women’s jewellery worn fastened to clothes. Her shawl was attached with a silver clasp.
3. the act of holding something in your hand. I could feel the firm clasp of his hand on my shoulder. verb to hold something tight. The child clasped his hand anxiously. Synonym: grasp

class noun 1. a group of children or adults who go to school or college together.
2. a group of people who were at the same school or college at the same time in the past.
3. a lesson.
4. a group of people who are at the same age or in the same year of study.
5. a certain level of quality.
6. a part of a sentence.
7. a particular category of things that are alike.

classic adjective based on Greek or Roman influence.

clay noun 1. a stiff soil used for making bricks or china.
2. a stiff soil found in river valleys.
3. a stiff soil used for making bricks or china.
4. The soil in our garden has a clay content.
5. He has a Classics degree from Edinburgh.

clash

1. shock when put side by side. That bright pink tie clashes with your green shirt.
2. Her handbag won’t close properly – the clasp is broken.
3. the act of holding something in your hand. I could feel the firm clasp of his hand on my shoulder.

classification noun a way of arranging things into categories.

classified adjective has been put into a category.

classified adverb referred to in a newspaper under special headings such as ‘properly for sale’ or ‘jobs wanted’.

classify verb to arrange things into groups. Synonym: categorise

classless adjective with no division into social classes. Synonym: egalitarian

classmate noun a person who is or was in the same class as you at school or college.

classroom noun a room in a school where children are taught. When the teacher came into the classroom all the children were shouting.

classy adjective stylish and expensive-looking. Synonym: chic

clatter verb to make a loud, harsh noise. The wooden cart clattered across the square. Synonym: rattle

clause noun 1. a paragraph in a treaty or legal document. According to clause six, payments will not be due until next year.
2. a part of a sentence. The sentence has two clauses, separated by the conjunction ‘and’.

claustrophobia noun a fear of being shut inside a closed place.

clavicle noun the collarbone, one of two long thin bones joining the shoulders to the breastbone.

claw noun 1. a nail on the foot of an animal or bird. The dog dug a hole with its claws.
2. an arm of a crab or lobster, with claws.
3. The cat has clawed the leg of the child.
4. The dog dug a hole with its claws.
5. She clawed her way up the promotion ladder.

clay noun 1. a stiff soil found in river valleys.
2. The soil in our garden has a clay content.
3. The potter threw a lump of clay onto his wheel and started to make a pot.
clean /klɪn/ adj 1. not dirty ○ Wipe your glasses with a clean handkerchief. ○ The bedrooms must be spotlessly clean. ○ Tell the waitress these cups aren’t clean. ○ The maid forgot to put clean towels in the bathroom. ○ to come clean to confess to, e.g. a crime (informal) ○ He came clean and owned up to stealing the watch. 2. not used ○ Take a clean sheet of paper. 3. with no record of offences ○ Candidates should hold a clean driving licence. 4. fair, according to the rules ○ We played a good clean game of football. (NOTE: cleaner – cleanest) ■ verb to make something clean, by taking away dirt ○ Remember to clean your teeth every morning. ○ She cleaned the kitchen when the telephone rang. ○ He cleans his car every Saturday morning. Antonym soil ■ adv completely ○ I clean forgot to send the letter. ■ noun the action of cleaning ○ The restaurant kitchen needs a good clean.
clean-cut adv having a clear outline ○ a clean-cut photograph ■ adj neat and tidy ○ a man in a clean-cut suit

cleaner /ˈklɪnər/ noun 1. a machine which removes dirt 2. a substance which removes dirt ○ This new oven cleaner doesn’t get rid of the worst stains. 3. a person who cleans, e.g. a house or an office ○ The cleaners didn’t empty my wastepaper basket.
cleaning /ˈklɪnɪŋ/ noun 1. the action of making something clean ○ Cleaning the house after the party took hours. 2. clothes which are ready to be sent for dry-cleaning or which have been returned after dry-cleaning ○ She ran through the rain to her car with an armful of cleaning. Also called dry-cleaning cleanly /ˈklɪnəli/ adv in a clean way

clean out /ˈklɪn əut/ verb to make something empty and clean (informal)
cleanse /klenz/ verb to make something very clean. Synonym rinse. Antonym soil

cleanser /ˈklenzər/ noun a substance which removes dirt, especially from the face

clean-shaven /ˈklɛn ʃɛvən/ adj with no beard or moustache. Antonym bearded

clean up /ˈklɪn əp/ verb 1. to make everything clean and tidy, e.g. after a party ○ It took us three hours to clean up after her birthday party. 2. to remove corruption from a place ○ The police are going to have a hard job cleaning up this town. 3. to make a lot of money ○ He cleaned up at the races. ○ In no time he’d cleaned up £50,000.
clean-up /ˈklɪn əp/ noun the act of making something clean

clear /klɪər/ adj 1. with nothing in the way ○ You can cross the road – it’s clear now. ○ From the window she had a clear view of the street. 2. with no clouds or mist ○ a clear blue sky ○ On a clear day, you can see the other side of the lake. 3. easily understood ○ She made it clear that she wanted us to go. ○ The instructions on the computer screen are not very clear. ○ Will you give me the answer – yes or no? 4. which is not covered and which you can easily see through ○ a clear glass window 5. (of a period of time) complete ○ It will take a clear week to process the information. ○ three clear days three whole working days ○ Allow three clear days for the cheque to be paid into the bank. ■ verb 1. to remove something which is in the way ○ Snowploughs cleared the railway line of snow or cleared the snow from the railway line. ○ We’ll get a plumber to clear the blocked pipe in the bathroom. ■ to clear the table to take away things such as knives, forks and plates after a meal ■ to clear your throat to cough slightly to get your voice ready for speaking. 2. to clear a cheque to pass a cheque through the banking system, so that the money is transferred from one account to another ○ The cheque took ten days to clear or the bank took ten days to clear the cheque. 3. to sell cheaply in order to get rid of stock ○ demonstration models to clear ○ If we reduce the price we’ll clear the stock in no time. 4. (of a court) to find that someone is not guilty ○ The court cleared him of all the charges. 5. to go over the top of something without touching it ○ She cleared 1.3m in the high jump. ■ adv not close ○ Stand clear of the doors, please. ○ I would advise you to stay clear of that dog.
clearance /ˈklɛərəns/ noun 1. the act of removing obstacles such as trees or old buildings from land ○ The clearance of the slums from the town centre will make land available for building. ○ The government has introduced a programme of slum clearance. 2. space for something to pass through ○ The lorry can get through the entrance with about twenty centimetres clearance on either side. 3. permission to do something ○ The control tower gave the plane clearance to land. (NOTE: no plural)
clearance sale /ˈklɛərəns seɪl/ noun a sale of items at low prices to get rid of the stock

clear away /ˈklɪər əˈweɪ/ verb to take something away completely

clear-cut /ˈklɪər ˈkʌt/ adj definite or distinct. Synonym precise. Antonym ambiguous

clearing /ˈklɛərɪŋ/ noun 1. the act of removing obstacles ○ We don’t want the public to interfere with the clearing of the wreckage from the railway track. 2. an area in a wood where the trees have been cut down ○ They set up camp in a clearing in the middle of the forest. ○ clearly /ˈklɛəri/ adv 1. in a way which is easily understood or heard ○ He didn’t speak
clear off: to go away (informal)
clear off /klə(ə)rf/ verb to go away.
clear off clearly, and I couldn’t catch the address he gave. 2. obviously ❖ He clearly didn’t like being told he was too fat.
clear off /klə(ə)rf/ verb to go away.
clear out /klər aut/ verb 1. to empty something completely. Can you clear out your bedroom cupboard? 2. to go away (informal) ❖ Clear out! I don’t want you here.
clear-sighted /kləə Sweat orange with a skin which is easily removed.
cleavage /kləvij/ noun a crack in a rock. Small plants were growing in clefts in the rocks.
cleft /kleft/ noun a crack in a rock. Small plants were growing in clefts in the rocks.
cleavage /kləvij/ noun 1. the space between the breasts, especially if it can be seen with a low-cut dress. ❖ All the ladies were dressed in black and there was not a cleavage in sight. 2. a split, or difference of opinion. ❖ The cleavage between the two groups became more and more apparent.
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climb down 141
cloakroom

climb down /kləm/ noun 1. especially US a piece of jewellery which clips onto your clothes ○ He wore a gold clip on his tie. ○ She has a diamond clip on her dress. 2. a short piece of film ○ Here is a clip of the president getting into the car. 3. a clip round the ear a smack on the side of the head (informal) ○ Stop that noise or you'll get a clip round the ear. 4. to attach things together with a clip ○ She clipped the invoice and the cheque together and put them in an envelope. ○ These earrings are made to clip on to your ears. 5. to cut something with scissors ○ The dog has its fur clipped once a month. ○ He carefully clipped the article out of the newspaper. 6. to hit slightly ○ The wing of the plane clipped the top of the tree before it crashed. (NOTE: clipping – clipped)
clipboard /'klɪpboʊd/ noun a stiff board with a clip at the top so that a piece of paper can be attached to it to allow you to write on it easily
clipped /'klɪpt/ adj 1. short and neat ○ He has a neatly clipped beard. 2. clipped voice a way of speaking using short sharp sounds ○ He spoke the famous speech from 'Henry V' in clipped tones.
clippers /'klɪpəz/ plural noun shears or scissors used for clipping
clipping /'klɪŋ/ noun 1. a reference to someone or something in a newspaper or magazine which is cut out ○ Can you file away all these newspaper clippings, please? 2. a small piece cut off, e.g. a hedge ○ Trim the hedge and put the clippings in a black bag. ○ Grass clippings can be piled on top of the compost heap.
cloak /kloʊk/ noun 1. a long outer covering which hangs from the shoulders and has no sleeves ○ She wore a long cloak of black velvet. 2. a cloak of secrecy something that hides things so that they remain secret ○ The whole affair was shrouded in a cloak of secrecy. ○ cloak and dagger referring to activities that suggest a mystery, or that someone is spying (informal) ○ under the cloak of darkness at night when everything is hidden ○ They left the city under the cloak of darkness. 3. verb to hide something in order to keep it secret ○ The whole project is cloaked in secrecy. Antonym reveal
cloakroom /'kloʊkrʊm/ noun 1. a place where you leave your coat in a public place ○ I left my coat and briefcase in the cloakroom. (NOTE: The US term is checkroom.) 2. a room inside a public building with lavatories

climbing

climbing /'klɪmɪŋ/ verb 1. to climb up mountains as a sport ○ Climbing is not a sport that people in the UK do. 2. to climb up higher mountain left to climb. 3. to go up mountains as a sport ○ When you have climbed Everest, there is no higher mountain left to climb. 4. to go up as a sport ○ He went climbing every weekend. 5. to go up mountains as a sport ○ The steep slopes made climbing difficult. 6. to go up a mountain as a sport ○ The climbers adjusted their climbing equipment for the ascent.

climbing frame /'klɪmɪŋ frɛm/ noun a framework of wooden bars and platforms for children to climb on

climber /'klɪmə/ noun 1. a person who climbs mountains ○ The climbers roped themselves together and set off up the slope. 2. a plant which climbs ○ The climbing varieties of rose are more popular than the rambling varieties.

clinch /'klɪŋ/ verb 1. to come down, e.g. a mountain or a ladder ○ He climbed down from the roof. ○ The firemen helped the hotel guests climb down the ladder. 2. not to do what you had previously insisted on doing ○ In the end, the government had to climb down and admit that a mistake had been made.

clinching /'klɪŋɪŋ/ noun 1. the sport of climbing mountains ○ Climbing is not a sport for young children. ○ We had a climbing holiday last Easter. ○ She brought her climbing equipment with her.

clinical /'klɪnlɪk/ adjective 1. relating to the body of a person or to physical illness ○ a clinical condition ○ a clinical trial ○ a clinical examination. 2. a clinical view of something ○ He brought a clinical view to the case.

clinician /'klɪnɪʃən/ noun a doctor, usually not a surgeon, who has great experience in treating patients

clink /'klɪŋk/ noun 1. a noise of glasses or metal objects hitting each other. Synonym clank ○ to clink glasses to wish each other good luck or good health

The referee tried to stop the two boxers who were in a tight clinch. tried to separate the two boxers who were in a tight clinch.

She survived by clinging onto a piece of wood.

The firemen escaped by climbing out of the window.

When you have climbed Everest, there is no higher mountain left to climb.

In the end, the government had to climb down and admit that a mistake had been made.

The whole project is cloaked in secrecy.
and washbasins. The ladies' cloakroom is on the first floor.

clober /ˈkloʊbr/ noun 1. rubbish, useless items. 2. belongings. All his tennis equipment was stolen. 3. verb to affect badly, especially financially (informal). 4. The new tax will clober the middle classes. (NOTE: no plural)

clock /klɒk/ noun an instrument which shows the time. The station clock is always right. 2. Your clock is 5 minutes slow. 3. The office clock stopped – it needs winding up. 4. verb to clock in or on to arrive for work and register by putting a card into a timing machine. 5. to clock out or off to leave work and register by putting a card into a timing machine.

clockwise /ˈklɒkwaɪz/ adj, adv in the same direction as the hands of a clock. 1. Turn the lid clockwise to tighten it. 2. He was driving clockwise round the ring road when the accident took place. Antonym anticlockwise

clockwork /ˈklɒkwɜːk/ noun a mechanism in a toy, machine, clock, etc., which works using a spring which is wound up with a key. 1. like clockwork smoothly, with no problems. 2. The whole evening went off like clockwork.

clog /klɒg/ noun a large lump of earth. 1. Clogs are very popular in Scandinavian countries. 2. verb to block. 3. Trafalgar Square was clogged with traffic as the protest march arrived. 4. Dead leaves are clogging the drains. (NOTE: clogging – clogged)

cloister /ˈklɒstər/ noun a covered walk round a square courtyard, e.g. in a monastery or next to a cathedral.

cloistered /ˈklɒstərd/ adj protected from the outside world and its problems. Synonym secluded

close /kləʊz/ verb to block. 1. The century was drawing to a close. 2. when a cricket match stops for the day. 3. closed his building society account. 4. verb to be closed for the Christmas holidays. 5. There was a closed sign hanging in the window. 6. verb to shut a business permanently.

close-up /ˈkləʊzʌp/ noun a photograph taken very close to the subject. Synonym detail

closely /ˈkləʊzi/ adv 1. very near, or just next to something. 2. Our office is close to the railway station. 3. This is the closest I’ve ever been to a film star! 4. where only a few votes separate the winner from the losers. 5. The election was very close. 6. It was a close contest. 7. hot and airless. 8. It’s very close in here, can someone open a window?

closest /ˈkləʊzɪst/ adj final, at the end of the closing days of the election campaign. Synonym final. Antonym opening
Pin won the lottery.

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clubbing 144

She was clubbed to the ground.

2. □ to club together (of several people) to contribute money jointly ○ They clubbed together and bought a yacht.

clutching /klʌtʃɪŋ/ noun the activity of going out to discos and nightclubs

club class /klʌb klɑs/ noun a specially comfortable class of seating on a plane, though not as luxurious as first class

clubhouse /klʌb houz/ noun the house where members of a club meet

club sandwich /klʌb ‘sændwɜd/ noun a sandwich made of three slices of bread, with a filling of meat, salad, fish, etc., between them

cluck /klʌk/ verb (of hens) to make a low noise in the throat

clue /klu/ noun information which helps you solve a mystery or puzzle ○ The detective had missed a vital clue. ○ I don’t understand the clues to this crossword. ○ I haven’t a clue! I don’t know at all. ○ The police still haven’t a clue who did it.

clued up /ˈklʊd ˈʌp/ adj well informed about something

clueless /ˈkljuːliːs/ adj stupid (informal). Antonym well-informed

clump /klʌmp/ noun a group of trees or bunch of plants which walk as far as that clump of trees and come back. □ verb to move making a dull noise ○ He was clumping around the kitchen in his clogs. ○ The people in the flat upstairs started clumping about in the middle of the night.

clumsily /ˈklʌmsəli/ adv in a clumsy way

clumsiness /ˈklʌmznɪs/ noun the quality of being clumsy

clumsy /ˈklʌmsɪ/ adj who frequently breaks things or knocks things over. Synonym awkward (NOTE: clumsier – clumsiest)

cluster /ˈklʌstə/ noun a group of objects together ○ A brooch with a cluster of pearls. ○ He photographed a cluster of stars. □ verb to cluster together to form a group ○ They clustered round the noticeboard to read their exam results. Synonym gather. Antonym disperse

clutch /klʌtʃ/ noun 1. a tight clasp ○ She felt the clutch of his fingers on her sleeve. ○ in the clutches of under the control of ○ If the company were to get into its clutches it would be a disaster. 2. a mechanism for changing the gears in a car ○ The car has just had a new clutch fitted. ○ clutch pedal the pedal which works the clutch and allows the driver to change gear ○ to let in the clutch to make the clutch engage ○ Let the clutch engage slowly, or you’ll stall the car. ○ to let out the clutch to disengage the engine from the gears 3. several eggs laid together in a nest ○ The bird laid a clutch of seven eggs. □ verb to grab hold of ○ She clutched my arm as we stood on the edge of the cliff. Synonym grasp

clutter /ˈklʌtə/ noun a mass of things left lying about ○ All this clutter will be cleared away by the weekend. Synonym mess

coalition /ˌkoʊləˈʃən/ noun a combination of several political parties to form a government. Synonym alliance

coalmine /ˈkoʊlmən/ noun a mine where coal is dug. Synonym colliery

coalminer /ˈkoʊlmɪnər/ noun a person who mines coal

coarse /ˈkɔːrs/ adj 1. not fine, not small ○ coarse grains of sand ○ a coarse net 2. rough, not refined ○ He gave a coarse laugh.
coarsely
○ He could hear her coarse voice booming down the corridor. 3. (of words or gestures) rude ○ He made a coarse gesture and walked out. ○ Don’t make any coarse remarks in front of my mother. (NOTE: coarse – coars- est. Do not confuse with course.)
coarsely /ˌkɔrˈsi/ adv in a coarse way
coarseness /ˈkɔrəsnis/ noun the quality of being coarse
○ coast /ˈkɔst/ noun 1. land by the sea ○ After ten weeks at sea, Columbus saw the coast of America. 2. The south coast is the warmest part of the country. ○ Let’s drive down to the coast this weekend. 2. from coast to coast from the sea on one side of a country to the sea on the other side ○ He crossed the USA from coast to coast.
coaster /ˈkɔstər/ noun 1. a flat dish or plate set on the edge of a table ○ Do not confuse with course.
coastal /ˈkɔstəl/ adj referring to the coast. Synonym seaside
coastguard /ˈkɔstɡɑːrd/ noun a person who guards a piece of coast, watching out for wrecks, smugglers, etc.
coastline /ˈkɔstlaɪn/ noun an edge of land along a coast. Antonym interior
○ coast /ˈkɔst/ noun 1. a piece of clothing which you wear on top of other clothes when you go outside ○ You’ll need to put your winter coat on – it’s just started to snow. ○ She was wearing a black fur coat.
○ coat /ˈkɔt/ noun 1. a layer of paint covering something ○ That window frame needs a coat of paint. 3. the fur of an animal ○ The polar bear has a thick coat to withstand cold. 2. a layer of something ○ We coated the metal disc with platinum.
○ -coated /ˈkɔtɪd/ suffix covered with
○ coat-hanger /ˈkɔtˈhæŋər/ noun a piece of wood, wire or plastic on which you hang a piece of clothing
○ coating /ˈkɔtɪŋ/ noun a covering of paint, etc.
○ coat of arms /ˈkɔt əvˈɑːrmz/ noun symbolic design on the shield of a family, town, etc.
○ co-author /ˈkɔəθɔːrə/ noun a person who writes a book together with another author ○ One of the co-authors died before the book was published. 2. verb to write a book with another author ○ She co-authored a book on Churchill.
coax /ˈkɔks/ verb 1. to make someone into doing something to persuade someone to do something ○ He was finally coaxed into paying for two tickets.
coaxial cable /ˈkɔksɪəl/ trademark for a popular fizzy soft drink
○ seabed /ˈsiːbɛd/ noun an electric cable where several wires are laid parallel to each other
○ cobalt /ˈkɔbɔlt/ noun 1. a metallic element used to make alloys ○ Cobalt 60 is used in radiotherapy. 2. a blue colour obtained from this metal ○ a tube of cobalt blue paint
cobble /ˈkɔb(ə)l/ noun same as cobblestone ○ The street is paved with cobbles.
○ verb 1. to cobble something together to put things together roughly
cobbled /ˈkɔb(ə)ld/ adj covered with cobbles
○ cobbler /ˈkɔblər/ noun a person who mends shoes ○ Ask the cobbler how much it will cost to put new heels on these shoes.
○ cobblestone /ˈkɔblستən/ noun a round stone set in cement to make the surface of a street
○ cobra /ˈkɔbra/ noun a large tropical snake ○ typical of the East
○ cock-a-doodle doo! /ˈkɔkəˈdʌdu/ interj the noise made by a cockerel
○ cock /ˈkɔk/ noun a male bird, especially a male domestic chicken ○ We were woken by the cocks crowing. (NOTE: The US term is rooster.) 2. verb 1. to cock your ears to listen carefully for something ○ The dogs sat by the edge of the field, their ears cocked.
○ cock-a-doodle doo! /ˈkɔkəˈdʌdu/ interj the noise made by a cockerel
○ cockatoo /ˈkɔkəˈtuː/ noun a type of parrot with a large crest
○ cockerel /ˈkɔkrəl/ trademark for a popular fizzy soft drink
○ cock-eyed /ˈkɔk əˈdɪd/ adj stupid or odd (informal)
○ cockle /ˈkɔkl/ noun a small edible shellfish ○ to warm the cockles of your heart to make you happy and full of warm feelings (informal) ○ The cheers from the audience would warm the cockles of your heart.
○ cockney /ˈkɒknɪ/ typical of the East End of London or the people who live there ○ He speaks with a real cockney accent.
cockpit /ˈkɒkpt/ noun the place where the pilot sits in an aircraft, racing car or boat

cockroach /ˈkɒkroʊʃ/ noun a black or brown beetle, a common household pest

cocktail /ˈkɒkteɪl/ noun a mixture of various drinks and snacks are served, but not a full meal

cock-up /ˈkɒkəp/ noun work which is badly carried out (informal, offensive)

cocky /ˈkɒki/ adj unpleasantly confident and conceited (informal). Synonym smug

coconut /ˈkɒkənut/ noun 1. a large nut from a type of palm tree. I won a coconut at the fair. 2. the white flesh from a coconut. I don't like biscuits with coconut. 3. a coconut cake I don't like biscuits with coconut in them. (NOTE: no plural)

cocoon /ˈkɒkʊn/ noun a case of thread made by a larva before it turns into a moth or butterfly. Silk is taken off the cocoons made by silk worms. verb to wrap something up for protection. The baby was cocooned in blankets.

cod /kɒd/ noun a large white fish (NOTE: The plural is cod.)

c.o.d abbr cash on delivery

code /kɑːd/ noun 1. a set of laws or rules of behaviour. The hotel has a strict dress code, and people wearing jeans are not allowed in. 2. secret words or a system agreed in advance for sending messages. We're trying to break the enemy's code. He sent the message in code. 3. a system of numbers or letters which mean something. The code for Heathrow Airport is LHR. What is the code for phoning Edinburgh?

coded /ˈkɑːdɪd/ adj written in code

codeine /ˈkɑːdɪn/ noun a drug taken to relieve headaches, flu, etc.

code name /ˈkɑːd nɪm/ noun a special name or number used instead of a person's or thing's real name, in order to keep this secret

codify /ˈkɑːdɪfaɪ/ verb to write things such as laws or rules in a systematic way. Synonym organise

cod liver oil /ˈkɑːd lɪvər aɪl/ noun an oil from the livers of cod, taken as a vitamin supplement

cod /ˈkɑːd/ noun same as coeducational

cod liver oil /ˈkɑːd lɪvər aɪl oil/ noun

coeducational (ˈkəʊədjuːˌɛkəˈdjuːələvn) adj (of a school) where male and female students are taught together. Synonym coed

coercion /ˈkoʊrəʃən/ noun the act or practice of forcing someone to do something. They coerced her into signing the contract.

coercive /ˈkoʊrəsɪv/ adj to coerce someone into doing something to force someone to do something. They coerced her into signing the contract.

coexist /ˈkəʊəʃɪst/ verb to exist or to live together. Synonym coexistence

coexistence /ˈkəʊəʃɪˌzɛsəns/ noun the fact of living together. Synonym coexist

C of E abbr Church of England

coffee /ˈkɒfi/ noun 1. a bitter drink made from the seeds of a tropical plant. Would you like a cup of coffee? I always take sugar with my coffee. The doctor told me to avoid tea and coffee. 2. a powder made from the seeds of the coffee plant. Put two spoons of coffee into each cup. 3. a cup of coffee I'd like a white coffee, please. Three coffees and two teas, please. 4. a pale brown colour, like white coffee. We have a coffee carpet in our sitting room. (NOTE: usually no plural; coffees means cups of coffee)

coffee bar /ˈkɒfi bɑːr/ noun a small restaurant which sells coffee, cakes and sandwiches

coffee beans /ˈkəʊfi bɪznz/ plural noun seeds of the coffee bush, which are roasted and ground to make coffee

coffee cup /ˈkəʊfi kʌp/ noun a special small cup for coffee
coffee machine /ˈkɒfi maˌʃi:n/ noun an automatic machine which gives a cup of coffee for making coffee in
* coffee shop /ˈkɒfi ʃɒp/ noun a small restaurant serving tea, coffee and snacks
coffee table /ˈkɒfi, ˈteɪb(ə)l/ noun a low table in a sitting room, for putting things such as cups, glasses and newspapers on
coffee-table book /ˈkɒfi, ˈteɪb(ə)l ˈbʊk/ noun a heavy expensive book with many illustrations, which can be left on a table for people to look at
coffer /ˈkɒfər/ noun a chest for holding money (dated)
coffers /ˈkɒfəz/ plural noun financial resources ○ The company has millions of pounds in its coffers which it could use on publicity if it wanted to.
* coffin /ˈkɒfn/ noun a long wooden box in which a dead person is buried or cremated (NOTE: The usual US term is casket.)
cog /ˈkɒg/ noun one of a series of little teeth sticking out from a wheel, which connect with teeth on another wheel to make it turn ○ a cog in the machine a person who plays an unimportant part in a big organisation ○ I'm not a director or anything like that, just a cog in the machine.
cogent /ˈkɒdʒ(ə)nt/ adj valid and powerful. Antonym: unconvincing
cognac /ˈkɒnjeık/ noun a brandy made in western France
cognitive /ˈkɒgnətɪv/ adj referring to the process of understanding. Antonym: reasoning
cognisant /ˈkɒgnɪz(ə)nt/, cognizant adj (formal) ○ cognisant of knowing, being aware of ○ The court is cognisant of this fact.
cohabit /ˈkɒhæbɪt/ verb to live together as man and wife, especially when not married. Synonym: live together
cohabitation /ˈkɒhæbɪtəˈʃeɪʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. living together as man and wife, although not married ○ They had three years’ cohabitation before they got married. 2. a situation where different political parties hold power at the same time, especially in France, where the President and Parliament are elected for different periods of time and so may represent different parties ○ Following the election, we are in for a period of cohabitation.
cohere /ˈkɑːhiə/ verb to stick together to form a whole (formal)
cohere /ˈkɑːhiə/ verb to stick together to form a whole (formal)
cohere /ˈkɑːhiərənt/ adj (of a statement) clear and logical
cohere /ˈkɑːhiərəntli/ adv clearly or logically
cohesion /ˈkoʊhiʒən/ noun the fact or quality of sticking together
cohesive /ˈkoʊhi zi v/ adj which sticks together
cohort /ˈkoʊhɔrt/ noun 1. a large group of people ○ The Prince was followed by a cohort of journalists. 2. a group of people who are similar in a particular characteristic such as age or social background ○ This year’s cohort have a better pass rate than last year’s. 3. a comrade or classmate ○ my son and his dishevelled cohorts in Class 2, 4, the division of a Roman army, one tenth of a legion ○ A cohort contained between three and six hundred men.
coif /ˈkoʊf/ noun a hairstyle (formal)
coil /ˈkoʊl/ noun 1. a roll of rope, or one loop in something twisted round and round ○ The sailors stacked the rope in coils on the deck. ○ They surrounded the camp with coils of barbed wire. 2. a device fitted into a woman’s uterus as a contraceptive ○ verb to twist around something or into a coil ○ The sailor coiled the ropes neatly. Synonym: wind
* coin /ˈkɔin/ noun a piece of metal money ○ I found a 50p coin in the street. ○ He hid the gold coins under his bed. ○ This machine only takes 10p coins. ○ verb to invent a new word or phrase ○ They coined the phrase ‘surfing the net’ to mean searching for information on the Internet. ○ to coin a phrase used in order to emphasise that you are saying something which is a normal everyday expression (informal) ○ ‘It never rains but it pours’ – to coin a phrase.
coinage /ˈkəʊnɪdʒ/ noun 1. the system of money used in a country ○ The old coinage will still be used alongside the new for a period of two years. 2. a new word or phrase which has been invented ○ ‘Surfing the net’ is a recent coinage.
coincide /ˈkəʊnɪd əd/ verb ○ to coincide with something to happen by chance at the same time as something else ○ The conference doesn’t coincide with my birthday this year. ○ Do our trips to Frankfurt coincide? – If they do, we can meet while we’re both there.
* coincidence /ˈkəʊnɪdəns/ noun two things happening at the same time by chance
coincidentally /ˈkəʊnɪdən(t)li/ adv by coincidence. Antonym: accidentally
* coke /ˈkɑːk/ noun 1. a fuel processed from coal, which produces a very strong heat
gin to feel afraid that a plan is too risky without feeling any pity. Of the senses, no plural)
cold reception from the rest of the staff. 
cold storage is the practice of keeping food in a cold store to prevent it going bad.
cold sore an inflammation round the lips caused by the herpes virus
cole slaw a cabbage salad, made with sliced white cabbage and mayonnaise

\[
\begin{array}{ll}
\text{cold /kəld/ adj} & 1. \text{a low temperature; not hot or not heated} \\
\text{cold-blooded /kəld '/blʌdəd/ adj} & 1. \text{an animal whose body temperature is the same as the temperature of its surroundings} \\
\text{collaborate /kəˈleɪbəreɪt/ verb} & 2. \text{to work together} (\text{NOTE: You collaborate with someone on something}) \\
\text{collage /ˈklaɪʒ/ noun} & 1. \text{a picture made from small pieces of paper or other materials, stuck onto a backing} \\
\text{collapsible /kələˈsɪpəbəl/ adj} & 1. \text{which can be folded up} \\
\text{collaborator /kəˈleɪbərətər/ noun} & 1. \text{a person who works together with someone else} \\
\text{collage} & \text{synonym} \text{cooperative} \\
\text{collaboration /kəˈleɪbəˈreɪʃən/ noun} & 1. \text{the action of working together on something} \\
\text{collaborative /kəˈleɪbəˈreɪtɪv/ adj} & 2. \text{involving people working together} \\
\text{collaborate} & \text{synonym} \text{cooperative} \\
\text{cold-shoulder /kəld/ˈʃʊdər/ noun} & 1. \text{not to give someone a friendly welcome} \\
\text{coldly /ˈkəuldli/ adv} & 2. \text{in an unhealthy way} \\
\text{coldly} & \text{synonym} \text{coldly} \\
\text{cold snap /ˈkəuld ˈsnæp/ noun} & 1. \text{a short period of sudden cold weather} \\
\text{collar /ˈkɒlər/ noun} & 1. \text{the part of a piece of clothing which goes round your neck} \\
\text{collar} & \text{synonym} \text{collar} \\
\text{collapsible} & \text{synonym} \text{collapsible} \\
\text{collarbone /ˈkɒləbɒn/ noun} & 1. \text{a clavicle, one of two long thin bones joining the shoulders to the breastbone} \\
\text{collar} & \text{synonym} \text{collar} \\
\end{array}
\]
colleague 149  colonialism

vandal property during a war. o One collateral benefit from living in the centre of town will be cheaper travel costs. noun a security used to provide a guarantee for a loan. o He offered his house as collateral.

collect /kəˈlekt/ verb 1. to fetch something or bring things together. o Your coat is ready for you to collect from the cleaner’s. o The mail is collected from the postbox twice a day. o I must collect the children from school. 2. to buy things or bring things together as a hobby. o He collects stamps and old coins. 3. to gather money for charity. o They’re collecting for Oxfam.

collective /kəˈlektɪv/ noun 1. a group of things that have been brought together. o He allowed me to see his stamp collection. o The museum has a large collection of Italian paintings. 2. money which has been gathered. o We’re making a collection for Oxfam. 3. the action of bringing things together. o A crowd collected at the scene of the accident. adv to call collect US to ask the person being phoned to pay for the call. o If you don’t have any money you can always try calling collect.

collected /kəˈlektɪd/ adj calm. Antonym: flustered.

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collective bargaining /kəˈlektɪv bɑrˈgɪŋ/ noun wage negotiations between management and unions.

college /ˈkɔliʒ/ noun 1. a type of light periodical. 2. a type of sheepdog with a thick coat. i.e. a collie.

college of further education /kəˈliʒ əv ˈfɔrə ɛdʒuˈkeɪʃən/ noun a teaching establishment for students after secondary school.

colligate /kəˈliʤɪst/ adj made up of several colleges.

collide /kəˈlaɪd/ verb 1. to collide with something to bump into something. o He lost control of the car and collided with a bus.

collar /ˈkɒlər/ noun a type of neckwear or a part of a sheepdog’s coat which is used to control the dog.

collateral /kələˈrətəl/ noun 1. property or money which has been gathered to pay off a debt. o If you don’t have any money you can always try calling collect.

collaboration /kələˈbɔrəʃən/ noun a group of people who run a business together. Synonym: joint effort.

collaborator /kələˈbɔrətor/ noun a person who works in the same company, office, school, etc. as you. o His colleagues gave him a present when he got married. o I know Jane Gray – she was a colleague of mine at my last job.

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collective noun /kəˈlektɪv/ noun 1. a noun which refers to a group of things or people, rather than to one single thing, e.g. ‘family’ or ‘staff’.

collector /kəˈlektər/ noun 1. a person who collects things as a hobby. o It’s an important sale for collectors of 18th century porcelain. 2. a person who collects things as a job.

collage /ˈkɔlɪdʒ/ noun 1. a teaching institution for adults and young people. o She’s going on holiday with some friends from college. o He’s studying accountancy at the local college. The college library has over 20,000 volumes. 2. US a teaching institution for adolescents and adults, which grants degrees at BA level (NOTE: The British term is university.) 3. a group of people who run a certain profession. o He’s a member of the Royal College of Pharmacists.

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colonise /ˈkəʊlənaɪz/, colonize verb to take possession of an area or country and rule it as a colony. Synonym settle

colonist /ˈkəʊlnəst/ noun a person who goes to settle in a new colony. Synonym settler

colonnade /ˈkəʊlnəd/ noun a row of columns. Synonym arcade

colony /ˈkəʊləni/ noun 1. a territory ruled by another country 2. the former French colonies in Africa 3. Roman colonies were established in North Africa and along the shores of the Black Sea 4. a group of animals or humans living together 5. a colony of ants 6. an artists’ colony (NOTE: The plural is colonies.)
color /ˈkʌlər/ noun, verb US spelling of colour

colossal /ˈkɔləsəl/ adj very large, huge. Synonym huge. Antonym tiny

colossus /ˈkɔləsəs/ noun a huge statue or man (NOTE: The plural is colossuses.)

colour /ˈkʌlər/ noun 1. the shade which an object has in light (red, blue, yellow, etc.) 2. What colour is your bathroom? 3. I don’t like the colour of the carpet. 4. His socks are the same colour as his shirt. 5. not black or white 6. The book has pages of colour pictures. 7. the shade of a person’s skin 8. People must not be discriminated against on grounds of sex, religion or colour. 9. with flying colours with great success 10. She passed her test with flying colours. ■ verb to add colour to something 11. The children were given crayons and told to colour the trees green and the earth brown. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is color)
colour-blind /ˈkʌlərblaɪnd/ adj not able to tell the difference between certain colours, such as red and green (NOTE: The US spelling is color-blind.)

coloured /ˈkʌlərd/ adj 1. in colour 2. a coloured postcard 3. a book with colour illustrations 4. with a skin that is not white (dated, offensive) (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is colored.)

coloured /ˈkʌlərd/ suffix with a certain colour 1. a flame-coloured tie 2. She was wearing a cream-coloured shirt. (NOTE: The US spelling is colored.)

colourful /ˈkʌlərfʊl/ adj 1. brightly coloured 2. I’m trying to create a flowerbed which will remain colourful all year round. 3. She tied a colourful silk scarf round her hair. 4. full of excitement and adventure 5. She lived a colourful existence as a dancer in an Egyptian nightclub. 6. A colourful account of life in Vienna before the First World War. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is colorful.)
colouring /ˈkʌlərɪŋ/ noun 1. the way in which something or a plant or animal is coloured 2. the bright colouring of parrots 3. The brilliant colouring of woods in autumn. 4. complexion, the colour of your skin and hair 5. Choose a lipstick that goes with your dress and suits your colouring. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is coloring.)
colourless /ˈkʌlərəs/ adj 1. with no colour 2. He offered me a glass of some colourless liquid. 3. uninteresting 4. The main character of the film is fairly colourless. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is colorless.)
colour scheme /ˈkʌlər ˈskem/ noun different colours chosen by a designer for a room, a shop, etc.
colourful /ˈkʌlərfʊl/ adj 1. a young male horse 2. The Irish colt won the race by two lengths. (NOTE: A young female horse is a filly.)
column /ˈkəʊlnəm/ noun 1. a tall pillar 2. There is a row of huge columns at the entrance to the British Museum. 3. Nelson’s Column is in Trafalgar Square. 2. a thing which is tall and thin 3. A thin column of smoke rose from the bonfire. 4. a line of people, one after the other 5. A column of prisoners came into the camp. 6. Columns of refugees crossed the border. 7. (in the army) a line of soldiers, tanks, etc., moving forward 8. Two columns of infantry advanced towards the enemy positions. 9. An armoured column entered the town. 10. a thin block of printing going down a page 11. ‘Continued on page 7, column 4.’ 12. His article ran to three columns on the first page of the paper. 13. a series of numbers, one under the other 14. to add up a column of figures 15. Put the total at the bottom of the column. 16. a regular article in a newspaper 17. She writes a gardening column for the local newspaper. 18. Regular readers of this column will know about my problems with drains.
columnist /ˈkəʊlnəmnst/ noun a journalist who writes regularly for a paper. Synonym writer

comb /kʌm/ noun a commercial organisation
column /ˈkəʊlmən/ noun a state of unconsciousness from which a person cannot be awakened

comatose /ˈkəʊmətəʊs/ adj 1. in a coma 2. a comatose patient 3. sleepy, half-asleep

comb /kʌm/ noun 1. an instrument with long teeth used to make your hair straight 2. Her hair is in such a mess that you can’t get a comb through it. 3. the action of combing your hair 4. Your hair needs a good comb. ■ verb 1. to smooth your hair with a comb 2. She was combing her hair in front of the mirror. 3. to search a place 4. Police combed the woods for clues.
combat /ˈkɒmbət/ noun fighting 1. These young soldiers have no experience of combat
come across /kəm 'əkrɒs/ verb to find something by chance

come about /kəm 'əbɔrt/ verb 1. to move outside ○ Come out into the garden, it’s beautifully hot. 2. (of pictures and photographs) to appear ○ The church didn’t come out very well on the photo. ○ Something must be wrong with the camera – half my holiday pictures didn’t come out.

come back /kəm 'bæk/ verb to return ○ They left the house in a hurry, and then had to come back to get their passports. ○ They started to walk away, but the policeman shouted at them to come back. Antonym: go away

come back /kəm'bæk/ noun 1. a reaction ○ Despite the mistakes in the book there has been no comeback yet from the readers. 2. a return of someone such as a singer or sportsman after retirement ○ She is trying to make a comeback.

come down /kəm 'daʊn/ verb 1. to get lower ○ The price of oranges has come down. 2. to come downstairs ○ She was in bed but had to come down to answer the phone.

come in /kəm 'ɪn/ verb to enter

come in for /kəm 'ɪn fɔ/ verb to get or receive something unpleasant

come into /kəm 'ɪntu/ verb 1. to enter ○ Three people came into the restaurant.

comedown /kəmdəu/ noun a play or film which is not very sad or serious, or which makes you laugh ○ 'A Midsummer Night’s Dream' is one of Shakespeare’s comedies.

comedian /kə'miːdɪən/ noun a person who tells jokes to make people laugh. Synonym: humorist

combative /kəmbə'tɪv/ adj who likes to get into quarrels or arguments. Synonym: argumentative. Antonym: peaceable

combination /kəmbə'nɛʃən/ noun 1. several things taken together ○ A combination of cold weather and problems with the car made our holiday in Germany a disaster.

combine /kəmbain/ verb 1. a large financial or commercial group ○ a German industrial combine 2. same as combine

combine harvester /kəmbain 'hɑːvɪstr/ noun a farm machine which cuts various types of cereal crops, and automatically separates the seeds from the straw

combustible /kəmbɑːstəb(ə)l/ adj which can easily catch fire ○ The warehouse was full of paint and other combustible substances. Synonym: flammable. Antonym: fireproof

combustion /kəmbəstʃən/ noun 1. the fact of burning 2. the burning of fuel to create heat, power, etc.

come /kəm/ verb 1. to move to or towards this place ○ Come and see us when you’re in London. ○ The doctor came to see him yesterday. ○ Some of the children come to school on foot. ○ Don’t make any noise – I can hear someone coming. ○ Come up to my room and we’ll talk about the problem.

come off /kəm 'əf/ verb to enter ○ The button has come off my coat. ○ I can’t use the kettle, the handle has come off.

come out /kəm 'aut/ verb 1. to move outside ○ Come out into the garden, it’s beautifully hot. 2. (of pictures and photographs) to appear ○ The church didn’t come out very well on the photo. ○ Something must be wrong with the camera – half my holiday pictures didn’t come out.

come out (on strike) to strike ○ All the train drivers came
out on strike. 4. to be removed O The ink marks won’t come out of my white shirt. O
Red wine stains don’t come out easily. 5. to appear for sale O The magazine comes out on Saturdays. 6. to state publicly that you are
homosexual O He decided to come out before the newspapers started to print stories about
him. 7. O to come out in a rash to develop a rash (informal) O to come out with to say
something unexpected O He came out with a really strange proposal.
comer /ˈkɒmər/ noun a person who comes (informal) O open to all comers used for
describing something such as a competition which is open to anyone who comes
comet /ˈkɒmɪt/ noun an object which moves in space, and which you can see at
someone happier, e.g. when they are in pain

comforting /ˈkʌmfortɪŋ/ adj which comforts
comfy /ˈkʌmfɪ/ adj comfortable (informal) (NOTE: comfi – comfiest)
comic /ˈkɒmɪk/ noun 1. a children’s paper with cartoon stories O He spends his pocket
money on comics and sweets. 2. a person who tells jokes to make people laugh O a
well-known TV comic. Synonym comedian
comical /ˈkɒmɪkl/ adj funny, which makes you laugh. Synonym amusing
comic strip /ˈkɒmɪk strɪp/ noun a series of small pictures telling a story or joke, usually
printed in a magazine or newspaper
coming /ˈkʌmɪŋ/ adj which is approaching O their coming silver wedding anniversary O The newspaper tells you what will
noun an arrival. Synonym emergence. Antonym departure
comings and goings /ˈkʌmɪnz ənˈɡeɪndʒz/ plural noun lots of movement
comma /ˈkɒmə/ noun 1. punctuation mark (.) showing a break in the meaning of a sentence O Use a comma between each item
listed in this sentence. 2. a small brown butterfly with ragged wings, and a little white
mark, like a comma, on the underside of each wing
command /ˈkɑːmənd/ noun 1. an order O The general gave the command to attack. O
in command of in charge of 2. knowledge of a particular subject, especially a language O
She has a good command of French. O verb 1. to order O He commanded the troops to
open fire on the rebels. 2. to be in charge of O He commands a group of guerrillas.
commandant /ˈkɑːməndənt/ noun the officer in charge of something such as a military
base. Synonym superior
commandeer /ˈkɑːməndər/ verb to take over property to be used by the armed forces
commander /ˈkɑːməndər/ noun 1. the officer in charge of an a group of soldiers or a ship O The commander must make sure that
all his soldiers know exactly what they must do. 2. a rank in the navy below captain
commander-in-chief /ˈkɑː,mænərd ɪnˈtʃɪf/ noun a person who is in charge of all
the armed services of a country (NOTE: The plural is commanders-in-chief.)
commanding /ˈkɑːməndɪŋ/ adj 1. in authority, in command 2. full of authority O He
spoke with a commanding voice and everyone listened. 3. O to have a commanding
lead to be in a position in which you are very likely to win O The Russian team has a com-

comfort /ˈkʌmfərt/ noun 1. something which helps to make you feel happier O It
was a comfort to know that the children were safe. O The long-awaited letter gave me some
comfort. 2. the state of being comfortable O They live in great comfort.
comfy /ˈkʌmfɪ/ adj comfortable in a soft, relaxed or relaxing way O If you’re sitting
comfortably O That’s all I’ll explain to you what we have
to do. O Make sure you’re comfortably dressed because it is rather cold outside.

comfortable /ˈkʌmfətəbl/ adj 1. soft and relaxing O These shoes aren’t very
comfortable. O There are more comfortable chairs in the lounge. 2. O to make yourself
comfortable to relax O She made herself comfortable in the chair by the fire.
comfortably /ˈkʌmfətəbli/ adv in a soft, relaxed or relaxing way O If you’re sitting
comfortably off /ˈkʌmfətəbli ˈɒf/ noun having plenty of money
commanding lead in the tournament. 4. which

commanding officer [kəˈmændɪŋ ˈɔfɪsəl] noun the officer in command

commandment /kəˈmændmənt/ noun a rule

commando /kəˈmændəʊ/ noun 1. a group of soldiers who are specially trained to attack under difficult circumstances. 2. a member of such a group of soldiers. 3. Masked commandos burst in through the door. 4. a commando to be used for business purposes, or not private or military. 5. commercial commandos not private or military. 6. a commando for making a profit rather than on quality. 7. a commercialisation of an advertisement on television.

commentary /kəˈmæntri/ noun 1. a spoken report on a football match, horse race, etc. 2. The match is being shown on Channel 4 with live commentary also on the radio. 3. remarks about a book, a problem, etc. 4. For intelligent commentary on current events you should read the 'Spectator'. (NOTE: The plural is commentaries.)

commentate /kəˈmæntət/ verb to describe on radio or TV what is happening at an event

commentator /kəˈmæntətər/ noun a person who reports events as they happen, on the radio or TV

commerce /kəˈmɑːs/ noun the buying and selling of goods and services. Synonym trade

commercial /kəˈmɑːʃəl/ adj 1. referring to business. 2. used for business purposes, or not private or military. 3. profitable. 4. Our commercial future looks doubtful. 5. not a commercial proposition not likely to make a profit. 6. noun an advertisement on television. 7. Our TV commercial attracted a lot of interest.

commercial break /kəˈmɑːʃəl ˈbrɛk/ noun a short period between TV programmes or parts of programmes when advertisements are shown

commercialised /kəˈmɑːʃələɪzd/ commercialized adj dominated by businesses or by an emphasis on making profit

commercialism /kəˈmɑːʃəlɪzɪzəm/ noun 1. the principles and methods of buying and selling goods and services. 2. emphasis on making a profit rather than on quality.

commercially /kəˈmɑːʃəli/ adv from a business point of view. 4. not commercially viable not likely to make a profit

commiserate /kəˈmɪzərət/ verb to commiserate with someone to sympathise with someone

commission /kəˈmɪʃən/ noun 1. a group of people which investigates problems of national importance. 2. The government has appointed a commission to look into the problem of drugs in schools. 3. an order for something to be made or to be used. 4. He received a commission to paint the portrait of the Prime Minister. 5. percentage of sales value given to the sales representative. 6. He gets 15% commission on everything she sells.

commissioned by the veterans' association.
commit /kəmɪt/ verb 1. to carry out a crime □ The gang committed six robberies before they were caught. □ He said he was on holiday in Spain when the murder was committed.
2. □ to commit suicide to kill oneself
commitment /kə'mɪtmənt/ noun 1. a promise to pay money □ He has difficulty in meeting his commitments. 2. an agreement to do something □ She made a firm commitment to be more punctual in future. □ We have the photocopier on one week’s trial, with no commitment to buy.
committal /kə'mɪt(ʊ)l/ noun the sending of a prisoner for trial
committed /kə'mɪtɪd/ adj firmly believing in. Synonym devoted
committee /kə'mɪtɪ/ noun an official group of people who organise or discuss things for a larger body □ The town council has set up a committee to look into sports facilities. □ Committee members will be asked to vote on the proposal. □ to be on a committee to be a member of a committee □ He’s on the finance committee.
commodity /kə'mɒdɪtɪ/ noun a product sold in very large quantities, especially raw materials such as silver and tin and food such as corn or coffee
commodore /kə'mɒdə/ noun 1. a rank in the Navy above a captain □ Several retired admirals and commodores attended his funeral. 2. a person who is in charge of a yacht club □ The Commodore of the yacht club started the race.
common /'kɒmən/ adj 1. which happens often, or which you find everywhere □ The plane tree is a very common tree in towns. □ It’s very common for people to get colds in winter. 2. belonging to two or more people □ The two countries have a common frontier. □ Blue eyes are not common to all the members of our family. □ common ownership the ownership of a property by a group of people □ in common shared by two or more people □ They have two things in common – they are both Welsh and they are both left-handed.
commission /'kəmɪʃn/ noun 1. the passing of information □ Email is the most rapid means of communication. □ It is not a happy school – there is no commu-
communication between the head teacher and the other members of staff. \(\text{communication with someone}\) to start discussing something with someone, usually in writing. \(\text{We have entered into communication with their solicitors.}\)

- **communicative** /kəˈmjuːnikətɪv/ adj. 1. friendly and keen to communicate 2. relating to communication, or the ability to communicate.

- **communication** /kəˈmjuːniʃən/ noun 1. fellowship with someone 2. Holy Communion a Christian ceremony where bread is eaten and wine drunk in memory of Christ’s Last Supper 3. The communication service will be taken by the vicar.

- **communion wafer** /kəˈmjuːniʃən ˌwɜːfə/ noun a thin round piece of bread eaten at mass or communion.

- **communiqué** /kəˈmjuːniˌkwɪ/ noun an official announcement.

- **communism** /kəˈmjuːnɪzəm/ noun a social system in which all property is owned and shared by the society as a whole and not by individual people.

- **communist** /kəˈmjuːnɪst/ adj. referring to communism 1. The Communist Party is holding its annual meeting this weekend. 2. a person who believes in communism, especially a member of the Communist Party 3. He was a Communist all his life. 4. The Communists have three seats on the city council. Synonym socialist.

- **community** /kəˈmjuːniːtɪ/ noun 1. a group of people living in one area 2. The local community is worried about the level of violence in the streets.

- **community centre** /kəˈmjuːniːtɪ ˌsɜːntə/ noun a building providing sports or arts facilities for a community.

- **community service** /kəˈmjuːniətɪ ˌsɜːvɪs/ noun unpaid work for the benefit of the local community, usually done as a sentence for some minor crime.

- **commute** /kəˈmjuːt/ verb 1. to travel to work from home each day 2. He commutes from Oxford to his office in the centre of London 3. to reduce a legal penalty 4. The prison sentence was commuted to a fine. 5. His death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment. 6. to exchange one type of payment for another. 7. His pension has been commuted to a lump sum payment.

- **commuter** /kəˈmjuːtər/ noun a person who travels to work in town every day.

- **compact** /kəmˈpækt/ small; close together 1. The computer system is small and very compact. 2. an agreement 3. The two companies signed a compact to share their research findings.

- **compatriot** /kəmˈpætriət/ noun 1. a person or animal who lives with someone

- **companionship** /kəmˈpænʃəp/ noun friendship.

- **companionship** /kəmˈpænʃən/ noun a person or animal who lives with someone.

- **companionable** /kəmˈpænɪnəbl/ adj. friendly.

- **company** /kəmˈpæni/ noun 1. a commercial firm 2. It is company policy not to allow smoking anywhere in the offices. 3. The company has taken on three secretaries. 4. She runs an electrical company. 5. He set up a computer company. (NOTE: usually written Co. in names: Smith & Co. The plural is companies in this meaning.) 6. being together with other people 7. I enjoy the company of young people. 8. She went to Paris in company with or in the company of three other girls from college. 9. He is good company 10. he’s a very entertaining person to be with 11. to keep someone company 12. to be with someone to prevent them from feeling lonely.

- **company car** /kəmˈpæni/ noun a car which belongs to a company and is lent to an employee to use for business or other purposes.

- **company law** /kəmˈpæni/ nouns which refer to the way companies work.

- **comparable** /kəmˈpærəbəl/ adj. which are similar or which can be compared.

- **comparative** /kəmˈpærətɪv/ adj. to a certain extent. when considered next to something else. 

- **comparatively** /kəmˈpærətɪveli/ adv. to a certain extent. more than something else.

- **compare** /kəmˈpeə/ verb 1. to compare something with something else to look at two things side by side to see how they are. 2. We have entered into communication with their solicitors.
compared /kʌmpərəd/ adj compared to or with when you compare it to
Compared to last year, this summer was cold.

comparison /kəmpərɪʃ(ə)n/ noun the act of comparing
This year, July was cold in comparison with last year.

compart ment /kəm'pɑrtmənt/ noun 1. a division inside something or the freezing compartment of a fridge. The box is divided into several compartments. 2. a separate section in a railway carriage, or in a ship. There are no compartments in these trains.

The hold is divided into watertight compartments.

compass /ˈkɒmpəs/ noun 1. a device which indicates the north by means of a magnetic needle on a dial. They were lost in the mountains without a compass.

The box is divided into watertight compartments.

compelling argument against capital punishment. 2. very exciting or interesting

compete /kəm'pɪt/ verb to try to win a race or a game. He is competing in both the 100 and 200 metre races.

competing /kəm'pɪtɪŋ/ adj who or which are in competition

competence /kəm'pɪtnəs/ noun 1. the quality of being able or efficient at a job. Does she have the necessary competence in foreign languages? After this latest disaster, his competence to handle the job seems doubtful.

competed /kəm'pɪtɪd/ adj 1. legally able to do something. The court is not competent to deal with this case. 2. efficient. She is a very competent manager.

compete with someone or something to try to beat someone or something in an activity such as sport or trade. We have to compete with cheap imports from the Far East.

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compilation /ˌkɒmpɪˈleɪʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. the process of putting things together in a list or book 2. The compilation of a dictionary is a never-ending task. 2. a work which has been compiled 3. His compilation of jokes from 19th century magazines has just been published. 4. compile /kəmˈpleɪn/ verb 1. to draw up a list 2. She compiled a list of all her friends whose names started with the letter ‘R’. 3. They have compiled a mass of data on space flights. 4. compile a dictionary. Dr Johnson used many helpers to compile his dictionary.

complacency /ˌkɒmpləˈsɪn/ noun 1. the state of being complacent 2. satisfied with yourself. Synonym satisfied 3. complain /kəmˈpleɪn/ verb to say that something is no good or does not work properly (formal) 4. The shop is so cold the staff have started complaining. 5. She complained about the service. 6. They are complaining that our prices are too high. 7. She complained that no one spoke English in the hotel. (NOTE: You complain to someone about something or that something is no good.)

complaint /kəmˈplɛɪnt/ noun 1. an act of saying that something is wrong 2. She sent her letter of complaint to the managing director. 3. You must file your complaint with the relevant department. 4. an illness 5. She was admitted to hospital with a kidney complaint.

complement /kəmˈplemənt/ noun 1. a thing which adds to or fits in with something else 2. Mint sauce is the perfect complement to roast lamb. 3. a ship’s complement the full crew of a ship 4. a noun or adjective which follows the verbs ‘be’ or ‘become’. In the sentence ‘he’s a big boy’ the words ‘a big boy’ are the complement of the verb ‘is’. 5. verb /kəmˈplemənt/ to fit in with something 6. The two colours complement each other perfectly. 7. Her jewellery complemented the colour of her hair. (NOTE: Do not confuse with compliment.)

complementary /ˌkɒmpləˈment(ə)rɪ/ adjective 1. which fits in with something by offering things which the other thing does not have (NOTE: Do not confuse with complimentary.)

complementary medicine /ˌkɒmpləˈment(ə)rɪ med(ɪ)ˈskæn/ noun a type of medicine such as homeopathy and acupuncture which can be used alongside traditional medicine.

complete /kəmˈplɪt/ adjective 1. with all its parts 2. He has a complete set of the new stamps. 3. We have to study the complete works of Shakespeare. 4. total 5. The trip was a complete waste of money. 6. verb 1. to finish 2. The builders completed the whole job in two days. 3. to fill in a form 4. When you have completed the application form, send it to us in the envelope provided.

completely /kəmˈplɪtli/ adverb totally 1. The town was completely destroyed in the earthquake. 2. I completely forgot about my dentist’s appointment. Synonym totally.

completeness /ˌkɒmplɪˈtiːzn/ noun the act of completing a contract the signing of a contract. Synonym conclusion. Antonym start.

complex /ˈkɒmplɪks/ adjective complicated 1. The committee is discussing the complex problem of the site for the new hospital. 2. The specifications for the machine are very complex. 3. noun 1. a series of buildings 2. The council has built a new sports complex.

complexion /ˈkɒmplɪʃ(ə)n/ noun the colour of the skin on your face

complexity /ˌkɒmplɪˈsɪtɪ/ noun being complex 1. The report was delayed because of the complexity of the problems.

compliance /ˌkɒmpləˈsɔːns/ noun agreement to do what is ordered 1. compliant /ˌkɒmpləˈsɔːnt/ adjective agreeing to do something or to obey the rules.

complicate /ˌkɒmplɪkət/ verb to make things complicated. Antonym simplify.

complicated /ˌkɒmplɪkəˈtɪd/ adjective complicated 1. with many small details; difficult to understand 2. It is a complicated subject. 3. It’s all getting too complicated – let’s try and keep it simple. 4. Chess has quite complicated rules. 5. The route to get to our house is rather complicated, so I’ll draw you a map. Synonym complex.

complication /ˌkɒmplɪˈkeɪʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. a complicated situation 2. It all seems quite simple to me – what’s the complication? 3. an illness occurring because of or during another illness. 4. She appeared to be getting better, but complications set in. 5. more trouble 6. All these forms which we have to fill in just create further complications.
compliment /kəmpləˈment/ noun 1. a remark which praises someone or something  2. to be fishing for compliments to try to get someone to say nice things about you  3. to pay someone a compliment to praise someone, or to do something which shows you appreciate someone  4. They paid her the compliment of asking her to speak to the meeting  5. to praise someone, or to do something which shows you appreciate someone  6. to try to get someone to say nice things about you  7. to pay someone a compliment to praise someone, or to do something which shows you appreciate someone  8. to try to get someone to say nice things about you  9. to pay someone a compliment to praise someone, or to do something which shows you appreciate someone  10. They paid her the compliment of asking her to speak to the meeting

complimentary /kəmpləˈmenəri/ adj 1. full of praise  2. complimentary about her dress  3. The reviews of this book are very complimentary  4. They paid her the compliment of asking her to speak to the meeting  5. about her dress  6. The reviews of this book are very complimentary  7. They paid her the compliment of asking her to speak to the meeting  8. complimentary about her dress  9. The reviews of this book are very complimentary  10. They paid her the compliment of asking her to speak to the meeting

compliments slip /kəmpləˈmentz sliːp/ noun a piece of paper with the name of the company printed on it, sent with documents, gifts, etc., instead of a letter

compound /kəmpəʊnd/ made up of several parts  2. a chemical made up of two or more elements  3. a word made from two or more separate words, e.g. 'peace process'  4. to agree with creditors to pay part of the debt  5. a compound of hydrogen and oxygen  6. a word made from two or more separate words, e.g. 'peace process'  7. to agree with creditors to pay part of the debt  8. a compound of hydrogen and oxygen  9. a word made from two or more separate words, e.g. 'peace process'  10. to agree with creditors to pay part of the debt

compound fracture /kəmpəʊnd fɹækʃə/ noun a fracture where the broken bone has gone through the skin

compound interest /kəmpəʊnd ‘ɪntərst/ noun interest calculated on the original total plus any previous interest  2. to agree with creditors to pay part of the debt  3. a word made from two or more separate words, e.g. 'peace process'  4. to agree with creditors to pay part of the debt  5. a compound of hydrogen and oxygen  6. a word made from two or more separate words, e.g. 'peace process'  7. to agree with creditors to pay part of the debt  8. a compound of hydrogen and oxygen  9. a word made from two or more separate words, e.g. 'peace process'  10. to agree with creditors to pay part of the debt

comprehend /kəmprɪˈhend/ verb to understand (formal)

comprehensible /kəmprɪˈhensəbl/ adj which can be understood  2. you understand the concept  3. you understand the concept  4. you understand the concept  5. you understand the concept

comprehensive /kəmprɪˈhensɪv/ adj 1. covering all aspects of a subject  2. covering all aspects of a subject  3. covering all aspects of a subject  4. covering all aspects of a subject

composition /kəmpəˈzɪʃən/ noun 1. a piece of writing on a special subject  2. a piece of writing on a special subject  3. a piece of writing on a special subject  4. a piece of writing on a special subject

composer /kəmˈpəʊzər/ noun a person who writes music  2. not flusher  3. The accused man sat in the dock looking very calm and composed

composite /kəmpəˈzɪt/ adj made of several different parts  2. not flusher  3. The accused man sat in the dock looking very calm and composed  4. not flusher  5. The accused man sat in the dock looking very calm and composed  6. not flusher  7. The accused man sat in the dock looking very calm and composed

complimentary: 1. full of praise  2. complimentary about her dress  3. The reviews of this book are very complimentary  4. They paid her the compliment of asking her to speak to the meeting  5. complimentary about her dress  6. The reviews of this book are very complimentary  7. They paid her the compliment of asking her to speak to the meeting  8. complimentary about her dress  9. The reviews of this book are very complimentary  10. They paid her the compliment of asking her to speak to the meeting

compound: 1. made up of several parts  2. a chemical made up of two or more elements  3. a word made from two or more separate words, e.g. 'peace process'  4. to agree with creditors to pay part of the debt  5. a compound of hydrogen and oxygen  6. a word made from two or more separate words, e.g. 'peace process'  7. to agree with creditors to pay part of the debt  8. a compound of hydrogen and oxygen  9. a word made from two or more separate words, e.g. 'peace process'  10. to agree with creditors to pay part of the debt

comprehensive: 1. covering all aspects of a subject  2. covering all aspects of a subject  3. covering all aspects of a subject  4. covering all aspects of a subject

composition: 1. a piece of writing on a special subject  2. a piece of writing on a special subject  3. a piece of writing on a special subject  4. a piece of writing on a special subject

composer: 1. a person who writes music  2. not flusher  3. The accused man sat in the dock looking very calm and composed  4. not flusher  5. The accused man sat in the dock looking very calm and composed  6. not flusher  7. The accused man sat in the dock looking very calm and composed  8. not flusher  9. The accused man sat in the dock looking very calm and composed  10. not flusher  11. The accused man sat in the dock looking very calm and composed

composite: 1. made of several different parts  2. not flusher  3. The accused man sat in the dock looking very calm and composed  4. not flusher  5. The accused man sat in the dock looking very calm and composed  6. not flusher  7. The accused man sat in the dock looking very calm and composed  8. not flusher  9. The accused man sat in the dock looking very calm and composed  10. not flusher  11. The accused man sat in the dock looking very calm and composed
compress noun /'kɒmpres/ a pad of cloth, sometimes soaked in hot or cold liquid, placed on the skin to relieve pain or to force pus out of an infected wound. She applied a cold compress to the bruise. The nurse applied a dry compress to his bleeding knee.

(computer) The plural is compresses.) ■ verb /'kɒm'pres/ to squeeze into a small space. The garden centre sells peat compressed into large bags. I tried to compress the data onto one page, but couldn’t do it.

○ comprise /'kɒm'praɪz/ verb to be made up of. Synonym include. To be comprised of to be made up of. The exam is comprised of two written papers and an oral.

compromise /'kɒmprəmaɪz/ noun an agreement between two opposing sides, where each side gives way a little. They reached a compromise after some discussion.

○ There is no question of a compromise with the terrorists. ■ verb 1. to come to an agreement by giving way a little. He asked £15 for it, I offered £7 and we compromised on £10. The government has refused to compromise with the terrorists. 2. to put someone in a difficult position. Now that he has been compromised, he has had to withdraw as a candidate. 3. to do something which reveals a secret. The security code has been compromised.

compromising /'kɒmprəmaɪzɪŋ/ adj embarrassing

compulsion /'kɒmpləns/ noun a force or urge

compulsive /'kɒmpləsɪv/ adj not able to stop yourself doing something

compulsory /'kɒmpləsərɪ/ adj which everyone is forced to do. A compulsory injection against cholera. It is compulsory to wear a crash helmet on a motorcycle. Antonym voluntary

compunction /'kɒmpʌŋkʃən/ noun guilty and sad feelings about something you have done.

Synonym regret. ■ compute /'kɒm'pjʊt/ verb to work out an amount. Synonym calculate

○ computer /'kɒm'pjʊtər/ noun an electronic machine which calculates and keeps information automatically. All the company’s records are on computer.

computer-aided design /'kɒm'pjʊtər-ɛdɪd dɛzɪn/ noun the use of computer software in designing things

computer game /'kɒm'pjʊtər ɡeɪm/ noun a game which you can play on a computer, using a special program

computerise /'kɒm'pjʊtərɪzaɪ/ verb 1. to change from a manual system to one using computers. Our booking system has been completely computerised. 2. to calculate or work by a computer. We get computerised pay cheques.

organisation such as a business or school with computers. The school’s becoming computerised, but we still have only one computer per class. Supermarket checkouts are fully computerised.

computer-literate /'kɒm'pjʊtər-ɛlɪtə/ adj able to use a computer

computer-literate /'kɒm'pjʊtər-ɛlɪtə/ adj able to use a computer

computing /'kɒm'pjʊtɪŋ/ noun the use of computers

comrade /'kɒmreɪd/ noun 1. a friend or companion, especially a soldier. We remember old comrades buried in foreign cemeteries. 2. a fellow member of a socialist or communist party. All comrades must attend the party meeting.

comradeship /'kɒmreɪdʃɪp/ noun fellowship or friendliness

○ con /'kɒn/ noun 1. a trick done to try to get money from someone. Trying to get us to pay him for ten hours’ work was just a con. 2. the pros and cons the arguments for and against something. You have to weigh up all the pros and cons before coming to a decision. ■ verb to trick someone to try to get money. They conned the bank into lending them £25,000. He conned the old lady out of all her savings.

(Note: conning – conned)

concave /'kɒnkəv/ adj (of a surface) rounded inwards like the inside of a spoon

conceal /'kɒnsiːl/ verb to hide something or put it where it cannot be seen

concealed /'kɒnsiːld/ adj hidden or difficult to see

concede /'kɒnsiːd/ verb 1. to admit that you are wrong. She conceded that this time she had been mistaken. 2. to concede defeat to admit that you have lost. With half the votes counted, the presidential candidate conceded defeat. 3. After sixteen moves, the chess champion had to concede defeat.

conceit /'kɒnsiːt/ noun a high opinion of yourself

conceited /'kɒnsiːtɪd/ adj thinking too much of yourself

conceivable /'kɒnsɪvəb(ə)l/ adj which can be imagined. Synonym imaginable

conceivably /'kɒnsɪvəb(ə)li/ adv in a conceivable way

conceive /'kɒnsiːv/ verb 1. to become pregnant. After two years of marriage she was beginning to think she would never conceive. 2. to be conceived (of a child) to start existence in the womb. Our little girl was conceived during a power cut in New
concentrate 160 concession

York. 3. to think up a plan  □ They conceived the idea for a self-cleaning oven. 4. to imagine  □ I can’t conceive of any occasion where I would wear a dress like that.  □ It is difficult to conceive how people can be so cruel.  
□ concentrate /ˈkɒnsəntreɪt/  □ verb 1. to be very attentive  □ The exam candidates were all concentrating hard when someone started to giggle.  □ to concentrate on something to pay special attention to something  □ Don’t talk — he’s trying to concentrate on his homework.  □ The salesmen are supposed to concentrate on getting orders. 2. to put everything together in one place  □ The enemy guns are concentrated on top of that hill.  □ nothing a substance which has been concentrated by extracting some of the water in it  □ lemon concentrate  
□ concentrated /ˈkɒnsəntreɪtɪd/  □ adj 1. from which water has been extracted, so giving a very strong taste  □ a bottle of concentrated orange juice 2. very determined to do something  □ With a little concentrated effort we should be able to do it. 
□ concentration /ˈkɒnsəntrəʃ(ə)n/  □ noun 1. thinking carefully about something  □ A loud conversation in the next room disturbed my concentration.  □ His concentration slipped and he lost the next two games. 2. the grouping of a lot of things in one area  □ the concentration of computer companies in the south of Scotland  □ The concentration of wild animals round the water hole makes it easy for lions to catch their prey. 
□ concentration camp /ˈkɒnsəntrəʃ(ə)n kæmp/  □ noun a harsh camp, often for political prisoners. 
□ concentric /ˈkɒnsəntrɪk/  □ adj used for describing circles and spheres of different sizes with the same centre.  
□ concept /kənˈsept/  □ noun a philosophical idea  □ The concept of punctuation and grammar is completely foreign to her.  □ Our children have absolutely no concept of tidiness. 
□ conception /kənˈseps(ə)n/  □ noun 1. the fact of becoming pregnant  □ Birth takes place about nine months after conception. 2. an idea  □ She has no conception of the time it takes to learn Russian. 
□ conceptual /kənˈseptʃʊəl/  □ adj referring to concepts.  
□ concern /kənˈsɜːn/  □ noun 1. worry  □ She’s a cause of great concern to her family. 2. interest  □ My main concern is to ensure that we all enjoy ourselves.  □ The teachers showed no concern at all for the children’s safety.  □ it is not someone’s concern it’s nothing to do with someone  □ I don’t care what they do with the money – it’s not my concern. 3. a company or business  □ a big German chemical concern  □ verb 1. to have a particular thing as a subject  □ the letter concerns you the letter is about you  □ that does not concern him it has nothing to do with him  □ as far as something is concerned used for introducing the subject of a comment  □ to concern yourself with to deal with  □ You needn’t concern yourself with cleaning the shop. 2. to make someone worry  □ It concerns me that he is always late for work. 
□ concerned /kən′sɜːnd/  □ adj worried  □ She looked concerned.  □ I could tell something was wrong by the concerned look on her face.  □ We are concerned about her behaviour – do you think she is having problems at school?  □ Synonym worried.  
□ concerning /kən′sɜːnɪn/  □ prep dealing with (formal)  □ He filled in a questionnaire concerning holidays.  □ I’d like to speak to Mr Robinson concerning his application for insurance.  □ Anyone with information concerning this person should get in touch with the police. 
□ concert /ˈkɒnsət/  □ noun 1. a programme of music played in public  □ I’m sorry, the concert is sold out.  □ I couldn’t go to the concert, so I gave my ticket to a friend. 2. in concert done or planned together with someone else  □ They acted in concert to prevent the takeover.  
□ concerted /kən′sɜːtɪd/  □ adj involving planning or working together in a determined way  □ Our success was the result of a concerted effort on the part of all the team.  □ We must make a concerted attack on the backlog of paperwork.  □ Synonym concentrated. 
□ concert hall /ˈkɒnsət hɔːl/  □ noun a large building where concerts are given. 
□ concertina /kənˈsɜːtnə/  □ noun a musical instrument you can carry, with a middle part which you can squeeze and a set of keys at either end  □ He played the concertina in cafés in Paris.  □ verb to become crushed or squeezed  □ Three coaches of the train concerted. 
□ concerto /kənˈsɜːtəʊ/  □ noun a piece of music for a single instrument and orchestra, or for a small group of instruments. (NOTE: The plural is concertos.) 
□ concession /kənˈsɛʃ(ə)n/  □ noun 1. the act of allowing someone to do something you do not really want them to do  □ We insist that the children are home by 8 p.m. on weekdays, but as a concession, we let them stay out until 11 on Saturdays. 2. □ to make concessions to someone to change your plans so as to please someone  □ The Prime Minister has said that no concessions will be made to the terrorists. 3. a licence to do something  □ an oil concession
conclusion /ˈkɒnsɪklən/ noun 1. the bringing together of the parties in a disagreement with a third party, so that the disagreement can be settled through a series of talks with a third party, so that the disagreement can be settled through a series of talks

conciliation /ˈkɒnsɪkləni/ noun 2. an agreement to settle a disagreement

conclusion /ˈkɒnsɪklən/ noun 3. a state of agreement and peace

condition /ˈkɒnʃɪʃn/ noun 1. firm proof. Antonym inconclusive

condition /ˈkɒnʃɪʃn/ noun 1. a mixture of cement and sand, used in building. Concrete was invented by the Romans. The pavement is made of slabs of concrete. We concreted over the patio.

concrete noun /ˈkɒŋkrɪt/ noun a word which gives the name of a physical thing, e.g. 'clock' or 'elephant'

concoct /ˈkɒŋkɒkt/ verb 1. to invent a story. She came to an end after careful thought. She invented the story. She invented the story. She invented the story is, it is not something which he has concocted.

concoction /ˈkɒŋkəkʃən/ noun 2. a mixture of cement and sand. A concrete path was invented by the Romans. A concrete path is made of cement and sand.

condense /ˈkændɪz/ verb 1. to reduce the size of something. The article was sent back to the author with a note asking her to condense it. She opened a tin of condensed soup. The soup had been condensed. The soup had been condensed.

condemn /ˈkændɪm/ verb 1. to say that you do not approve of something. She condemned the council for the delay. She condemned the council for the delay.

condemnation /ˈkændɪmeɪʃn/ noun 1. a shock to the brain caused by being hit on the head. She was condemned to death. She was condemned to death. She was condemned to death.

condemnation /ˈkændɪmeɪʃn/ noun 2. to state officially that a house is not suitable for people to live in. The whole block of flats has been condemned and will be pulled down.

condemnation /ˈkændɪmeɪʃn/ noun 3. saying that you do not approve of something. She condemned the council for the delay. She condemned the council for the delay.

condensation /ˈkɒndəˈneɪʃn/ noun 1. the whole block of flats has been condemned and will be pulled down.

condensation /ˈkɒndəˈneɪʃn/ noun 2. a film of water on a cold surface. Vapour will condense when it is cooled. Vapour will condense when it is cooled.

condensed milk /ˈkændɪzd mɪlk/ noun milk which has been made thicker and sweeter.

condescend /ˈkɒndɪsɛnd/ verb to speak or to act as if you are a better person than someone else.

condescending /ˈkɒndɪsɛndɪŋ/ adjective behaving in a way which shows you think you are a better person than someone else.

condiment /ˈkɒndɪmənt/ noun substances such as salt, pepper or mustard, used to give taste to food. Compare cruet

condition /ˈkɒndɪʃn/ noun 1. a state that something or someone is in. The car is in very good condition considering it is over thirty years old. He was taken to hospital when his condition got worse.

the state of

they have no concrete evidence against him.

a mixture of cement and sand, used in building. Concrete was invented by the Romans. The pavement is made of slabs of concrete. We concreted over the patio.

concessive /ˈkɒnsɪsɪv/ adjective

concise

conclude /ˈkɒnklʌd/ verb 1. to come to an end; to come to an opinion. He concluded by thanking all those who had helped arrange the exhibition.

conclude /ˈkɒnklʌd/ verb 2. to come to an opinion. The police are sure he is guilty, but when his condition got worse.

conclusion /ˈkɒnsɪklən/ noun 1. a state of agreement and peace. The police are sure he is guilty, but when his condition got worse.

concurrent /ˈkɒnkrənt/ adjective

conciliation /ˈkɒnsɪkləni/ noun 2. an agreement to settle a disagreement

conciliation /ˈkɒnsɪkləni/ noun 3. a state of agreement and peace

concord /ˈkɒŋkɔrd/ noun 1. an unalike mixture of food or drink

condo

condo
conditional

the place in which someone is living or working 2. Conditions in the refugee camps are very bad. 3. The meteorological office forecast poor weather conditions. 4. an illness 5. He is being treated for a heart condition. 6. an important part of a deal, something which has to be agreed before something else is done 7. They didn’t agree with some of the conditions of the contract. 8. One of conditions of the deal is that the company pays all travel costs. 9. on condition that only if 10. I will come on condition that you pay my fare.

conditonal adj /kənˈdɪʃənl/ 1. provided that certain things take place 2. to give a conditional acceptance to accept something, provided that certain things happen or certain conditions apply 3. conditional on subject to certain conditions 4. The offer is conditional on the board’s acceptance. 5. noun a part of a verb which shows that something might happen 6. I would come is a conditional form of ‘to come.’

conditioner /ˈkɒndɪʃənər/ noun 1. a liquid which puts hair into good condition 2. The hairdresser asked me if I wanted some conditioner after the shampoo. 3. I always use a combined shampoo and conditioner.

condolences /ˈkəndələnsiz/ plural noun expressions of feeling sad, especially at the death of someone 1. He expressed his condolences to the company on the death of their founder. 2. We sent our condolences to the family in the southern states which separated from the Union during the American Civil War (1861–65). 3. UT a building where each apartment is owned by the person who lives in it 4. They’re building a condominium on the site of the old hospital. 5. US an apartment in a condominium 6. His cousin has just bought an expensive condominium in Malibu. (NOTE: [senses 2 and 3] often shortened to condom)

condone /kəndəʊn/ verb to excuse or forgive something such as a fault or crime 1. He had cast aside the laws of conduct during the trial and was remarkably calm. 2. His conduct in class is becoming worse. 3. He was arrested for disorderly conduct in the High Street. 4. to direct the way in which someone does something 5. The VIPs were conducted to their seats. 6. The orchestra was conducted by a Russian conductor. 7. to allow something such as electricity or heat to pass through a substance 8. Copper conducts electricity very well. 9. to carry out 10. They are conducting an experiment into the effect of TV advertising. 11. The chairman conducted the negotiations very efficiently.

condensed tour /ˈkəndəst/ noun something such as a walk or a journey around a place, led by a person who tells you about the place. Synonym guided tour

condo /ˈkɒndəʊ/ noun US same as condominium (informal)

condoinium /ˈkɒndəˈmɪniəm/ noun 1. a system of rule of an area by two countries together 2. US a building where each apartment is owned by the person who lives in it 3. They’re building a condominium on the site of the old hospital. 4. US an apartment in a condominium 5. His cousin has just bought an expensive condominium in Malibu. (NOTE: [senses 2 and 3] often shortened to condo)

condone /kəndəʊn/ verb to excuse or forgive something such as a fault or crime

cordor /ˈkɒndəʊz/ noun a large South American bird similar to a vulture

conduct /kəndəkt/ 1. a way of behaving 2. His conduct in class is becoming worse. 3. He was arrested for disorderly conduct in the High Street. 4. to direct the way in which someone does something 5. The VIPs were conducted to their seats. 6. The orchestra was conducted by a Russian conductor. 7. to allow something such as electricity or heat to pass through a substance 8. Copper conducts electricity very well. 9. to carry out 10. They are conducting an experiment into the effect of TV advertising. 11. The chairman conducted the negotiations very efficiently.

conference /ˈkɒnfərəns/ noun 1. a discussion 2. The managers had a quick conference to decide what action to take. 3. to be
in conference to be in a meeting

classroom to be in a small room

to make your confession to admit that you have done something wrong. He confessed to six burglaries. She confessed that she had forgotten to lock the door. to admit your sins to a priest.

to lock the door.

The machine uses RAM to store system configuration information.

The annual conference of the Electricians' Union.

to take someone into your confidence to tell someone a secret

to confide in someone to confide in someone to tell someone a secret.

She's confident of doing well in the exam.

to confirm to make sure something is true

The act of making sure.

The police.

She went to church to do a confession.

a last-minute confession of a group or society

a meeting

a small cage with no room to move around.}

what is true

A new managing director has been appointed.

a telephone conversation involving three or more people using special equipment so that they can all talk to each other

to confess.

wanted to get up, but the doctor has confined her to bed. 2. to limit. Make sure you confine your answer to the subject in the question.

to enforce to make something certain

the result of the race was a dead heat.

to bring something into conflict with something

a certain state, and not wanting to change.

a small private room in a church where a priest hears confessions

a small place

a small piece of coloured paper thrown over the bride and bridesgroom after a wedding

the act of making some -

being secret or private

an extremely large fire

the army is engaged in armed conflict with rebel forces.

the police.

the result of the race was a dead heat.

the act of making sure.

a last-minute confession of a group or society

a meeting

a small cage with no room to move around.}

to take someone into your confidence to tell someone a secret

the result of the race was a dead heat.

the act of making sure.

a last-minute confession of a group or society

a meeting

a small cage with no room to move around.}
agree with someone or something ○ The defendant's version of events conflicts with that of the witnesses. ○ They gave conflicting advice.

different people gave pieces of advice which are the opposite of each other.

conflict of interest /ˌkɒnˈfɪlikt ʌv ˈɪntrəst/ noun a situation in which a person may profit personally from decisions which he takes in his job

confuse /kənˈfjuːz/ verb to act in the same way as other people ○ refused to conform to the regulations refused to do what the regulations say ○ The machine conforms to EU regulations.

confused /ˈkɒnfrəstʃən/ noun an angry meeting between opposing sides ○ an angry meeting between opposing sides 2. ○ an angry meeting between opposing sides ○ 

confusion /ˈkɒnfrəʒən/ noun a situation in which things are not organised in the correct way or are not clear ○ There were scenes of confusion at the airport when the snowstorm stopped all flights.

confront /kənˈfrʌnt/ verb 1. to threaten someone by approaching them ○ Don't confront a burglar on your own – he may be armed. 2. to be willing to deal with a difficult situation ○ We need to confront these issues before they get out of control. ○ to confront someone with the evidence to show the evidence to someone ○ When the police confronted him with the photographs he confessed.

confrontation /ˌkɒnfrəntəʃən/ noun an angry meeting between opposing sides

confrontational /ˌkɒnfrəntəˈʃənl/ adjective always attacking someone

confuse /kənˈfjuːz/ verb 1. to make someone feel surprised or confused

confused /ˈkɔnfrəstʃəd/ adjective unable to understand or to think clearly ○ I'm a bit confused – did we say 8.00 p.m. or 8.30? ○ Grandmother used to get rather confused in her old age.

confusedly /kənˈfjuːzdli/ adverb in a confused way

confusing /kənˈfjuːzɪŋ/ adjective difficult to understand ○ She found the instructions on the computer very confusing. Synonym unclear

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coniferous /ˌkənˈnəfərəs/ adjective referring to conifers

conifer /ˌkənˈnəfər/ noun a tree with long thin leaves called needles which stay green all year, and which produces fruit in the form of cones

congenital /ˌkʌnˈdʒɪnɪtl/ adjective (of an illness or other medical problem) which exists at or before birth

congested /ˌkʌnˈdʒɛstəd/ adjective 1. blocked or crowded ○ Following the accident, all the roads round the station soon became congested. ○ Something has to be done about London's congested road system. 2. with blood or liquid inside ○ With bronchitis and a congested nose, he has difficulty in breathing at night.

congestion /ˌkʌnˈdʒɛʃən/ noun 1. a situation where a place is filled with people or traffic 2. a condition in which a part of your body such as your nose is blocked with mucus ○ This spray should clear bronchial and nasal congestion. 3. a condition in which a part of your body has too much blood collected in it ○ Congestion of the liver may be due to heart failure.

conglomerate /ˌkʌnˌgləməreɪt/ verb to make a mass of things collected together

congratulate /ˌkənˈɡrætjʊleɪt/ verb to give good wishes on a special occasion or for having done something ○ He congratulated them on their silver wedding anniversary. ○ I want to congratulate you on your promotion.

congratulations /ˌkənˌɡrætjʊˈleɪʃənz/ plural noun good wishes to someone who has done well ○ Congratulations – you’re our millionth customer! ○ Congratulations on passing your exam! ○ The office sent him their congratulations on his wedding.

congregate /ˈkɔnɡrɪgjuːət/ verb to gather together. Synonyms assemble

congregation /ˌkɔnɡrɪˈɡeɪʃən/ noun the people who meet together in a church

congress /ˈkɒŋɡrɛs/ noun a meeting of a group

congressional /ˌkɒnˈɡrɛʃənl/ adjective referring to the US Congress

conical /ˈkɒnɪkl/ adjective shaped like a cone

coniferous /ˌkənˈnəfərəs/ adjective referring to conifers

confer /kənˈfɜːr/ verb (of liquid) to become solid (NOTE: When referring to blood, the usual word to use is clot.)

congenial /ˌkʌnˈdʒɪnɪəl/ adjective pleasant or friendly. Synonym agreeable
conjectural /ˈkɒnˈdʒekʃəl/, adj which has been guessed at
conjecture /ˈkɒnˈdʒekʧə/ noun the process of guessing something when you do not have all the information you need ○ It was pure conjecture on my part. □ verb to guess ○ They conjectured correctly that he would run out of money at some point.
conjugate /ˈkɒnjʊɡət/ adj referring to marriage
conjugate /ˈkɒnjʊɡət/ verb 1. to state the forms of a verb 2. (of verbs) to have different grammatical forms
conjunction /ˈkɒnˈdʒʌŋkʃən/ noun 1. a word which connects different sections of a sentence ○ 'And' and 'but' are conjunctions. 2. □ in conjunction with together with something or someone ○ The icy road in conjunction with fog made driving conditions very difficult.
conjunctivitis /ˈkɒnˌdʒʌŋktɪvɪtɪs/ noun a medical condition which affects the eyes conjure /ˈkɒnjʊər/ verb 1. to do magic tricks with objects such as cards ○ Here is a picture of a magician conjuring a rabbit out of a hat. 2. to create something as if by magic ○ to conjure up an image to bring an image into someone’s mind ○ His writing about the south of France conjures up scents of lavender and olive oil. □ a name to conjure with with an important name ○ He’s a name to conjure with in the advertising industry.
conjuror /ˈkɒnjʊərər/ noun a person who does magic tricks with objects such as cards
conk out /ˈkɒŋk ˈaut/ verb to stop working
conman /ˈkɔnmeɪn/ noun a person who tricks people in order to get money, by making them believe something (informal) (NOTE: The plural is conmen.) □ connect /ˈkɒnɛkt/ verb 1. to join ○ The computer should have been connected to the printer. ○ Has the telephone been connected yet? ○ Connect the two red wires together. 2. to link up with ○ the flight from New York connects with a flight to Athens the plane from New York arrives in time for passengers to catch the plane to Athens ○ this train connects with the 12.45 this train allows passengers to catch the 12.45
connected /ˈkɒnɛktɪd/ adj joined ○ connected to the Williams family related to the Williams family
connection /ˈkɒnˈnekʧən/ noun 1. a relationship between things ○ There is a definite connection between smoking and lung cancer. ○ He said that there was no connection between how much he had had to drink and his falling over in the street. □ in connection with your visit referring to your visit 2. something such as a train or plane which you catch after getting off another train or plane ○ My train was late and I missed my connection to Birmingham. 3. a wire which connects pieces of equipment ○ There is a loose connection somewhere.
connective tissue /ˈkɒnˌnektɪv ˈtɪʃuː/ noun the parts inside your body which support and connect things such as your bones or organs
connector /ˈkɒnˌnektər/ noun something which connects things, especially two pieces of equipment, or parts of a single object or structure
connotation /ˈkɒnətʃən/ noun the act of conveying at something
converse /ˈkɒnvrəs/ verb □ to converse at something to allow something to take place, especially something that is illegal or immoral
connoisseur /ˈkɒnəˌsɔːr/ noun an expert, a person who knows a lot about something
connotation /ˈkɒnətʃən/ noun an additional meaning
conquer /ˈkɒŋkər/ verb to defeat by force conqueror /ˈkɒŋkərər/ noun a person who takes control of a country by force
conquest /ˈkɒŋkwest/ noun 1. the act of taking control of a country or people by force ○ the Norman Conquest in 1066 2. a country or person that has been conquered
conscience /ˈkɒnˌsɛns/ noun a feeling that you have done right or wrong
conscientious /ˈkɒnˌsɛntʃəs/ adj working carefully and well ○ She’s very conscientious about getting the invoices right.
conscious /ˈkɒnʃəs/ adj awake and able to know what is happening around you ○ She had a local anaesthetic and was conscious during the operation. □ a conscious decision a decision which you have thought carefully about ○ Refusing the offer was a conscious decision on his part. ○ He made a conscious decision to try to avoid her in future.
consciously /ˈkɒnʃəsli/ adv in a conscious way
consciousness /ˈkɒnʃəsnəs/ noun the fact of being conscious ○ to lose consciousness to become unconscious ○ to regain consciousness to become conscious again ○ He never regained consciousness after the accident.
conscripts noun /ˈkɒnskrɪpt/ a person who is made to join the armed services ○ The conscripts had hardly any time to train before being sent to the front. □ verb /ˈkɒnˈskrɪpt/ to order someone to join the armed services ○ All men under 35 were conscripted into the armed forces. Synonym call up
conscription /ˈkɒnˌskripʃən/ noun a legal obligation to join the armed services (NOTE: The US term is draft.)

consecrate /ˈkɒnsɪkreet/ verb 1. to perform a religious ceremony to make something such as a building or someone such as a king or priest holy. 2. to consecrate your life to something to spend your life doing something which helps other people. She consecrated her life to helping the homeless.

consecration /ˈkɒnsɪkredʒən/ noun 1. an occasion when something or someone is consecrated. 2. the practice of consecrating your life to something or someone. The consecration of her life to helping the poor.

consecutively /ˈkɒnsɪkjuːtɪvli/ adverb one after the other.

consensual /ˈkɒnsɛnsjuəl/ adverb with the agreement of all the people involved.

consensus /ˈkɒnsɛnsəs/ noun an opinion which most people agree on.

consent /ˈkɒnsɛnt/ noun agreement. Doctors must obtain a patient’s consent before operating. 1. to withhold your consent to refuse to agree to something. 2. Her parents withheld their consent to the marriage.

consent to something to agree to something else. The judge consented to the prosecution’s request.

consequence /ˈkɒnsɛkwəns/ noun 1. something which happens because of something else. 2. We walked all day in the rain, with the consequence that all of us got cold.

consequent /ˈkɒnsɛkwənt/ adjective which follows as a result of something else. 1. The declaration of war was consequent on the country’s non-compliance with the UN resolutions.

consequential /ˈkɒnsɛkwənsɪəl/ adjective as a result of.

consequently /ˈkɒnsɛkwəntli/ adverb because of this. We walked all day in the rain and consequently all caught colds.

conservation /ˈkɒnsɜːvəʃən/ noun 1. the careful use of things such as energy or natural resources. The company is spending more money on energy conservation. 2. the process of looking after old things such as buildings or items in a museum.

conservationist /ˈkɒnsɜːvəʃənist/ noun a person who encourages the preservation of the countryside and the careful management of natural resources.

conservatism /ˈkɒnsɜːvəˌtɪzəm/ noun 1. the fact that someone is conservative. 2. the ideas and beliefs of the Conservative political party. 3. Conservatism had a great effect on British society during the 1980s.

conservative /ˈkɒnsɜːvərətɪv/ adjective 1. not wanting to change. He has very conservative views. 2. the fact that someone or something is considered (to be) one of the best lawyers. He has very conservative views.

consider /ˈkɒnsɪdər/ verb 1. to think deliberately about something. Please consider seriously the offer which we are making. 2. We are giving serious consideration to the possibility of moving.

considerate /ˈkɒnsɪdərət/ adjective 1. to be considerate of someone. We have to consider the position of the children after the divorce.

considerably /ˈkɒnsɪdərəbli/ adverb to a fairly large extent.
considered 167 consent

considered /kan'sidəd/ adj which has been thought about ○ The matter is under consideration. 2. a thing which has an effect on a decision ○ The safety of the children outweighs all other considerations. 3. a small amount of money ○ for a small consideration for a small payment

considered /kan'sidəd/ adj which has been thought about carefully ○ considering /kan'sidərɪŋ/ conj, prep when you think (of) ○ He plays the violin extremely well, considering he’s only five. ○ He owes it to more gratefully, considering the amount of help you have given him.

consign /kan'sain/ verb to hand something over to someone ○ to consign goods to someone to send goods to someone for him to use or to sell or store for you

consignment /kan'səmənt/ noun 1. the sending of goods to someone who will sell them for you ○ The consignment of books to our French distributor was easily organised. 2. a quantity of goods sent for sale ○ A consignment of goods has arrived. ○ We are expecting a consignment of cars from Japan.

consistent /kan'sistənt/ adj to consist of ○ The package tour consists of air travel, six nights in a luxury hotel, all meals and visits to places of interest.

consistency /kan'sɪstənsi/ noun 1. the fact of being the same throughout ○ I wish there was more consistency in his reports. 2. the degree to which a substance is, e.g., thick or smooth ○ The consistency of the sauce should be that of thick syrup. ○ In order to obtain the desired consistency, it may be necessary to add a little water.

consistent /kan'sistənt/ adj 1. ○ consistent with something which agrees with something ○ The measures taken must be consistent with government policy. 2. always at the same level ○ Some of his work is very good, but he’s not consistent.

consistently /kan'sɪstəntli/ adv always

consolation /'kɒnsəleɪʃn/ noun something which makes you feel less sad or annoyed, e.g. after a loss or a failure. Synonym comfort

consolation prize /'kɒnsəleɪʃn prəz/ noun a prize for making an effort in a competition, even though you did not win

console /nəʊn /'kɒnsəl/ 1. a flat table with the keyboard of something such as a musical instrument or machine ○ The sound engineer at the console controls the sound coming from the stage. 2. a small with a television set inside ○ We have a console which contains both the TV and video. ○ verb /'kɒn'səul/ to help someone to feel less sad or annoyed ○ The priest wanted to console her for the loss of her father. ○ I tried to console her but she cried herself to sleep. Synonym comfort

constant 1. to console yourself to do something to make yourself feel less sad or annoyed ○ After hearing he had failed some of his exams, he consoled himself with the thought that his brother had done even worse than he had.

consolidate /kan'səldət/ verb 1. to make firm or sure ○ Having entered the market, the company spent a year consolidating its position. ○ The team consolidated their lead with a second goal. 2. to join together to make one single unit ○ The two businesses consolidated to form one group.

consolidation /'kɒnsəldəʃn/ noun 1. the process of making something firm ○ After a period of consolidation, the company is now ready to expand overseas. 2. the act of joining several companies together to make one single unit ○ The consolidation of the businesses went smoothly.

consort noun /'kɒnsɔr/ a letter representing a sound which can only form a word when combined with a vowel

comment. The five vowels are ‘a’, ‘e’, ‘i’, ‘o’ and ‘u’. All the other letters of the alphabet are consonants.

conspicuous /'kɒnsəpiʃəs/ adj very obvious ○ they were conspicuous by their absence it was very obvious that they were not there

conspicuously /'kɒnsəpiʃəsli/ adv very obviously. Synonym noticeably. Antonym inconspicuously

conspiracy /'kɒnsəprəzəri/ noun a secret plan, especially to do something illegal or bad. Synonym plot

consort /'kɒnsɔr/ noun a person who is part of a conspiracy

consortial /'kɒnsɔrtaɪəl/ adj like someone who has a secret plan

conspire /'kɒnspaɪr/ verb to make secret plans or to take part in a conspiracy

constable /'kɒnstəbl/ noun a police officer of the lowest rank. (NOTE: The US term is police officer.)

constabulary /'kɒstəbləri/ noun the police force of a district

constant /'kɒnstənt/ adj 1. not changing or stopping ○ The constant noise of music from the bar next door drives me mad. 2. loyal to someone and always with them ○ His dog was his constant companion. 3. with
constantly 168 consult

a value which does not change ○ The calculations are in constant dollars.  noun a number or thing which does not change ○ The speed of light is a constant. ○ Death and taxes are the only constants in life.

constantly /ˈkɒnstəntli/ adv all the time. Synonym continually

constellation /ˈkɒnstələtʃən/ noun a group of stars in the sky, often forming a pattern

consternation /ˈkɒnstərəʃən/ noun a shock or surprise. Synonym dismay

constipated /ˈkɒnstɪpiətɪd/ adj unable to pass solid waste out of your body easily

constitution /ˈkɒnstʃuːʃən/ noun the condition of being constipated

constituency /ˈkɒnstɪtjuːnɪti/ noun an area of the country which elects a Member of Parliament (NOTE: The plural is constituencies.)

constituent /ˈkɒnstitjuːənt/ adj (of a part) which goes to make up a whole ○ The constituent parts of that sentence are subject, verb, and object. ○ What are the constituent parts of an omelette?  noun 1. a part which goes to make up a whole ○ Before starting the experiment, make sure that all the chemical constituents are ready. 2. a person who may vote in a constituency ○ A good MP tries to represent the views of his constituents. ○ She has had a mass of letters from her constituents about airport noise.

constitute /ˈkɒnstitjuːt/ verb to be or form a particular thing ○ Selling the photographs to a newspaper constitutes a serious breach of security. ○ Women now constitute the majority of the committee.

constitution /ˈkɒnstruʃən/ noun 1. the ability of a person to stay healthy ○ She has a very strong constitution. ○ to have the constitution of an elephant or an ox to be extremely healthy, to have a very strong constitution (informal) ○ Aunt Maud has the constitution of an elephant. 2. the laws and principles under which a country is ruled, which give the people rights and duties, and which give the government powers and duties ○ Unlike most states, Britain does not have a written constitution. ○ Freedom of speech is guaranteed by the American Constitution. 3. the written rules of something such as a society or club ○ Under the society’s constitution, the chairman is elected for two years.

constitutional /ˈkɒnstruʃənəl/ adj 1. according to a country’s constitution ○ Unilateral action by the Minister of Defence is not constitutional. 2. according to a society’s constitution ○ The reelection of the chairman is not constitutional.  noun a short walk which you think is good for your health ○ After a big lunch I went for a constitutional walk which I think was good for my health.

consult /ˈkɒnsəlt/ verb 1. to stop someone doing something which they want to do ○ His movements were constrained by his tight suit. ○ Entrepreneurs feel constrained by the mass of bureaucracy and red tape. 2. to force someone to do something ○ Her lack of cash constrained her to sell her house. ○ He felt constrained to attend every single meeting.

constraint /ˈkɒnstrænt/ noun something which limits your ability to act. Synonym restriction

consultative /ˈkɒnstrəltɪv/ adj which aims to help or improve. Synonym useful

constructive /ˈkɒnstrʌktɪv/ adj which aims to help or improve. Synonym useful

constructively /ˈkɒnstrʌktɪvli/ adv in a constructive way

consult /ˈkɒnsəlt/ noun a person who represents a country in a foreign city, and helps his country’s citizens and business interests there

consultant /ˈkɒnsəltənt/ noun the house or office of a consultant

consult /ˈkɒnsəlt/ verb 1. to ask someone for advice ○ He consulted his accountant about his tax. 2. to look at something to get
consultancy /kənˈsʌltəns/ noun 1. the act of giving advice on a subject that you have a lot of knowledge about. ○ He offers a consultancy service. ○ She runs a consultancy firm, offering advice on planning. ○ Since he’s been made redundant, he’s been doing consultancy work. 2. the post of consultant in a hospital. ○ She was appointed to a consultancy in a London hospital.

consultant /kənˈsʌltənt/ noun 1. a senior hospital doctor who is an expert in a particular medical condition or illness. ○ We’ll make an appointment for you to see a consultant. 2. an expert who gives advice. ○ His tax consultant advised him to sell the shares.

consultation /kənˈsʌltəʃən/ noun 1. the act of consulting someone. ○ After consultations with the police, the government has decided to ban the protest march. ○ A 30-minute consultation with my lawyer cost me more than I earn in a week. 2. an act of visiting a doctor for advice. ○ She had a consultation with an eye surgeon.

consultative /kənˈsʌltətɪv/ adj asked to give advice

consulting room /kənˈsʌltɪŋ ruːm/ noun a room where a doctor sees his patients

consume /kənˈsjuːm/ verb 1. to eat or drink. ○ The guests consumed over 100 hamburgers. 2. to use up. ○ The world’s natural resources are being consumed at an alarming rate. ○ The new car consumes about half the amount of petrol of an ordinary car.

consumer /kənˈsjuːər/ noun 1. a person or company that buys goods or services. ○ Gas consumers are protesting at the increase in prices. ○ Consumers are buying more from supermarkets and less from small shops. Synonym buyer

consumer durables /kənˌsjuːər dəˈbrelz/ plural noun goods bought by the public which will be used for a long time, e.g. washing machines or cars

consumer goods /kənˌsjuːər ˈgoʊdz/ plural noun goods bought by members of the public

consuming /kənˈsjuːmɪŋ/ adj which takes up all your time and energy

consummate /kənˈsʌmət/ verb, extremely skilled at something. ○ She’s a consummate professional. ○ He was a consummate Japanese scholar.

consumption /kənˈsʌmptʃən/ noun 1. the act of eating or drinking something. ○ The meat was condemned as unfit for human consumption. ○ The consumption of alcohol on the premises is not allowed. 2. the quantity of something that someone eats or drinks. ○ Unless you reduce your consumption of fatty foods, you risk having a heart attack.

contact /ˈkɑːntrakt/ noun 1. a touch. ○ Avoid any contact between the acid and the skin. ○ Anyone who has been in physical contact with the patient must consult their doctor immediately. 2. the act of communicating with someone. ○ We don’t have much contact with our old friends in Australia. ○ to get in contact with someone to communicate with someone you have not spoken to or written to previously. ○ was put in contact with a good lawyer when the name and address of a good lawyer. ○ have lost contact with someone. ○ do not communicate with the person any longer. 3. a person whom you know. ○ He has a lot of contacts in the newspaper world. ○ Who is your contact in the ministry? ○ verb to get into communication with someone. ○ He tried to contact his office by phone. ○ Can you contact the ticket office immediately?

contact lens /ˈkɑːntrækt lɛnz/ noun a small piece of glass or plastic which you wear in the eye to help you see more clearly.

contagion /kənˈteɪʒən/ noun the spreading of a disease by touching an infected person or things which an infected person has touched.

contagious /kənˈteɪʒəs/ adj 1. (of a disease) which can spread to other people by touching an infected person or objects which an infected person has touched. ○ Did you have any contagious diseases when you were a child? ○ You child is no longer contagious and can go back to school. Compare infectious 2, which can be passed on to someone else. ○ He’s a great music teacher and his enthusiasm for music is very contagious.

contain /kənˈteɪn/ verb 1. to hold, to have inside. ○ the bottle contains acid. ○ The envelope contained a cheque for £1000. ○ A barrel contains 230 litres. ○ I have lost a briefcase containing important documents. 2. to limit or prevent something. ○ The army tried to contain the advance of the enemy forces. ○ The party is attempting to contain the revolt among its members.

container /kənˈteɪnər/ noun 1. an object such as a box or bottle which holds something else. ○ We need a container for all this rubbish. ○ The gas is shipped in strong metal containers. 2. a special very large case for easy loading onto a large vehicle or ship.
The crane was loading the containers onto the ship.  

contention /ˈkɒntɪnɪʃn/ noun the process or act of keeping something under control

contaminate /ˈkɒntəmɪneɪt/ verb to make something dirty by touching it or by adding something to it. Synonym pollute. Antonym purify

contamination /ˈkɒntəmɪneɪʃn/ noun the act of contaminating something. Synonym pollution

contemplate /ˈkɒntəmpleɪt/ verb 1. to look at something  

contemplation /ˈkɒntəmpləʃn/ noun deep thought

contemplative /ˈkɒntəmplətɪv/ adj spending time thinking carefully about something, especially in connection with a religious belief

contemporary /ˈkɒntəmprərri/ adj happening at the same date or period

content /ˈkɒntent/ noun the feeling of not respecting someone. Synonym disdain. Antonym admiration  

contention /ˈkɒntɪnɪʃn/ noun 1. an argument  

contentious /ˈkɒntɛntʃəs/ adj which deserves your contempt. Synonym despiseful

content of court /ˈkɒntɛnt ʌv kɔrt/ noun showing lack of respect to a court, e.g. by bad behaviour in court or by refusing to carry out a court order

contentious /ˈkɒntɛntʃəs/ adj showing that you do not respect someone or that you do not believe they are important  

content with /ˈkɒntɛnt wɪð/ to be forced to deal with something unpleasant  

The witness contended that the injury to the head was consistent with being hit with a blunt instrument.
contiguous /kənˈtaɪdʒəs// adj touching, next to something (formal)

continental /ˈkɒntɪnentəl/ noun 1, one of the major land areas in the world, which usually contains several countries, e.g. Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe 2. the Continent (in Britain) the rest of Europe, as opposed to Britain itself which is an island ■ adj able to control the passing of liquid or solid waste from the body • The old lady is barely continent. Antonym incontinent

Continental /ˈkɒntɪnentəl/ noun the mainland of Europe, as compared with the British Isles • They go to the Continent on holiday each year, sometimes to France, sometimes to Switzerland. • on the Continent in mainland Europe

continental /ˈkɒntɪnentəl/ adj 1. referring to a continent 2. referring to Europe excluding the British Isles • We’ve decided to take a continental holiday this year.

Continental /ˈkɒntɪnentəl/ noun a European • The Continentials seem to play a different type of football from us.

continental climate /ˈkɒntɪnentəl klaɪmət/ noun the type of weather that is typical of the continent of Europe: hot dry summers and very cold winters

continental shelf /ˈkɒntɪnentəl ʃelf/ noun the area round the edges of a continent where the land slopes gradually into the sea, before the water suddenly becomes much deeper

contingency /kəntˈɪndʒənsi/ noun a possible state of emergency when decisions will have to be taken quickly (NOTE: The plural is contingencies)

contingent /kəntˈɪndʒənt/ adj • contingent on or upon something which depends on something • The launch of the space shuttle is contingent upon the weather. • noun a group of people such as soldiers • The army was formed of contingents of freedom fighters from various countries. • A large contingent of farmers marched to the Parliament building.

continental /ˈkɒntɪnjuəl/ adj which goes on all the time

continually /kənˈtɪnjuəli/ adv very often, almost all the time

continuation /kənˈtɪnjuəʃən/ noun 1. the process of going on without stopping • How can we ensure the continuation of the peace talks? 2. something which has been continued • Broad Street is in fact a continuation of the High Street.

continue /kənˈtɪnjuː/ verb to go on doing something or happening • He continued working, even though the house was on fire. • The engine continued to send out clouds of black smoke. • The meeting started at 10 a.m. and continued until 6 p.m. • The show continued with some children’s dances.

continued /kənˈtɪnjuəd/ adv 1. without interruption or change from the beginning up to the present time 2. begun again after a break or interruption

continuing /kənˈtɪnjuɪŋ/ adj which continues

continuing education /kənˈtɪnjuɪŋ ɪˈdʒuːˈkeɪʃən/ noun education of adults after further or higher education

continuity /kənˈtɪnjuəti/ noun the way in which the scenes in a film or television programme continue without a break. Antonym interruption

continuous /kənˈtɪnjuəs/ adj with no break • She has been in continuous pain for three days. • A continuous white line means that you are not allowed to overtake.

continuously /kənˈtɪnjuəli/ adv without a break

continuous tense /kənˈtɪnjuəs ˈtens/ noun the form of a verb showing that something is going on and has not stopped

continuum /kənˈtɪnjuəm/ noun a thing which continues and develops gradually, with no clear divisions between its parts

contort /kənˈtɔːrt/ verb to twist something into a position that is unnatural

contorted /kənˈtɔːtəd/ adj extremely or violently twisted out of shape

contour /ˈkɒntɔːr/, contour line /ˈkɒntɔːr lʌn/ noun a line on a map to show ground of the same height above sea level. Synonym outline

contraband /ˈkɒntrəbænd/ noun (goods) on which customs duty has not been paid (NOTE: no plural)

contraception /ˌkɒntrəˈsepʃən/ noun a way of preventing a woman from becoming pregnant by using a device such as a condom or a particular type of drug

contraceptive /ˌkɒntrəˈseptɪv/ adj which prevents a woman from becoming pregnant or a contraceptive device such as an IUD • The contraceptive pill is available from doctors and clinics. • noun a drug or condom which prevents pregnancy • The chemist sells various types of contraceptives. • an oral contraceptive such as the pill

contract /ˈkɒntrækt/ noun • a legal agreement • I don’t agree with some of the conditions of the contract. • under contract bound by the conditions of a contract • The
company is under contract to a French supermarket. 

contraction /kənˈtræktʃə/ [noun] 1. an act of becoming shorter or smaller. 2. a part of the eye. 3. the act of metal contracts when it gets cold, and expands when it is hot.

contraction /kənˈtræktʃən/ [noun] 1. an act of becoming shorter or smaller. 2. the movement of the muscles of the womb, when a baby is being born. 3. The first strong contractions will come about every twenty minutes. 4. She had two contractions in the car on the way to the maternity hospital.

contractor /kənˈtræktər/ [noun] a person who does work according to a signed agreement.

contractual /kənˈtræktʃuəl/ [adj] according to a contract.

contradict /kənˈtrədɪkt/ [verb] 1. to say that what someone else says is not true. 2. to be different from what has been said before.

contradiction /kənˈtrədɪkʃən/ [noun] stating or being the opposite. 3. a phrase which is formed of two parts which contradict each other, and so have no meaning. 4. A truthful politician is a contradiction in terms.

contradictory /kənˈtrədɪktrɪəri/ [adj] which states or is the opposite.

contraflow /kənˈtræfləʊ/ [noun] a system where traffic on one lane of a motorway is made to go down one of the opposite lanes in the wrong direction, used when the road is being repaired.

contralto /kənˈtrɔːltəʊ/ [noun] 1. a low-sounding singing or speaking voice. 2. a woman with a low-sounding voice. 3. We need more contraltos in our choir. (Note: The plural is contraltos.)

contraption /kənˈtræpʃən/ [noun] an unorthodox machine or device.

contrary /kənˈtræri/ [adj] 1. opposite. 2. Most people agree with the speaker, but one or two expressed contrary views. 3. Contrary to what you would expect, the desert gets quite cold at night.

contrary to [phrasal verb] in opposition to. 2. Contrary to what you would expect, the desert gets quite cold at night.

contrite /kənˈtrət/ [adj] of a person who regrets what has happened.

contrition /kənˈtrɪʃən/ [noun] a feeling of being sorry. Synonym remorse.

counter /kənˈtraʊər/ [noun] 1. a person or organisation that contributes. 2. a contributory factor one of the things which have helped produce the situation.

counter /kənˈtraʊər/ [verb] to manage to do something.


control /kənˈtrəʊl/ [noun] 1. the fact of keeping someone or something in order or being able to direct them. 2. The club is under the control of three shareholders. 3. He lost control of his business and resigned. 4. The teacher has no control over the class. 5. The fact or process of limiting something. 6. Under control limited.

contrive /kənˈtraɪ/ [verb] to manage to do something.
Our spending has got out of control.

The police couldn’t control the crowds.

The situation is run out of control.

The aircraft.

We must try to control the sales.

The police couldn’t control the crowds.

The aircraft.

The police couldn’t control the crowds.

The aircraft.

We must try to control the sales.

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The police couldn’t control the crowds.

The aircraft.
conversant /ˈkɒnvərənt/ adj having knowledge or experience of something.

- conversion /ˈkɒnvərʃən/ noun a talk. 1. We had a long conversation with the bank manager. 2. Why did he suddenly change the subject of the conversation?
- converse /kənˈvərs/ (dated) adv the opposite. If this is true then the converse must be false. 1. They were conversing seriously in French.
- conversely /kənˈvərsli/ adv in the opposite way.

conversion /ˈkɒnvərʃən/ noun 1. the act or process of changing one thing into another. 2. the conversion of an old chapel into a modern house. 3. She underwent a sudden conversion to Islam. 4. She tried to carry on a conversation with him while he was working.

 conveying /ˈkɒnvɛrɪŋ/ noun the action of exchanging property from one owner to another.

convoy /ˈkɒnvəʊ/ noun a moving surface in a factory, which takes something from one part of the factory to another.

convincing /ˈkɒnvɛnsɪŋ/ adj very certain.

convinced /kənˈvɪnst/ adj very certain.
cook /kuk/ noun a person who gets food ready. □ He worked as a cook in a pub during the summer. Synonym chef □ He's a very good cook he makes very good food. ■ verb 1. to get food ready for eating, especially by heating it. □ Don't bother your mother when she's cooking the dinner. □ How do you make cabbage? 2. to get food ready by heating. □ The chicken is cooking in the oven. □ How long do these vegetables take to cook? 3. □ to cook the books, the accounts to deliberately write down the wrong amounts of money in account books (informal) □ The accountant had been cooking the books for years.

cookbook /'kokbʊk/ noun a book of recipes

cooked /'kʊkt/ adj which has been heated to prepare it for eating

cooked breakfast /'kʊkt 'bɹɛkfst/ noun a breakfast which includes food such as bacon, eggs and sausages. Compare continental breakfast

cook /'kʊk/ noun 1. usually US a biscuit, a small flat hard sweet cake. □ She bought a packet of cookies. 2. a computer file sent to your computer by a website when you visit it. It stores information about you which can be used when you next visit the website.

cooking /'kʊkɪŋ/ noun 1. the action of getting food ready to eat, especially by heating it. □ He does the cooking, while his wife serves in the restaurant. 2. a particular style of preparing food. □ The restaurant specialises in French provincial cooking.

cooking apple /'kʊkɪŋ æpəl/ noun a sour apple which is good for cooking, not for eating raw

cool /kʊl/ adj 1. quite cold □ Blow on your soup to make it cool. □ It was hot on deck but cool down below. □ Wines should be stored in a cool cellar. □ It gets cool in the evenings in September. 2. not enthusiastic □ I got a cool reception when I arrived half an hour late. □ The board was quite cool towards the proposal. 3. calm □ The nurses remained cool and professional when dealing with all the accident victims. 4. fashionable, interesting □ a cool party □ It's cool to wear white trainers. (NOTE: cooler – coolest) ■ verb to make something cool; to become cool □ She boiled the jam for several hours and then put it aside to cool. ■ noun 1. a colder area which is pleasant □ After the heat of the town centre, it is nice to sit in the cool of the garden. 2. the state of being calm □ As soon as the reporters started to ask her questions she lost her cool.

cool box /'kʊlbʊks/ noun a container which you can carry and which is used for keeping food and drinks cool.

cool down /'kʊldʌn/ verb 1. to make something cool or to become cool. □ Although it is very hot in the desert during the daytime, it always cools down in the evening. □ This coffee is too hot – I'm waiting for it to cool down a bit. 2. to calm someone, or to become calmer. □ He was furious with his secretary, but after a while he cooled down. □ We tried to cool him down but it just made him more angry.

cooling /'kʊlnɪŋ/ adjective which makes you feel cool

coolly /'kʊlɪ/ adverb in a cool, calm way

coolness /'kʊlnəs/ noun 1. the fact of being cool. □ the coolness of the evening 2. the feeling of being calm. □ his coolness under fire. 3. the act of behaving in a way that is not friendly or enthusiastic. □ I was surprised by the coolness of her greeting.

coop /'kuːp/ verb □ to coop someone up to keep someone in a small place. □ I don't like being cooped up in this little office.

coop /'kʊp/ noun a cooperative store (informal)

cooperate /'kʊəpərer/ verb □ to cooperate with someone to work with someone. □ Several governments are cooperating in the fight against international drug smuggling.

cooperation /'kʊəpərəʃən/ noun the action of working together with someone else

cooperative /'kʊəpərətɪv/ adjective 1. working with the profits shared between the workers. □ a cooperative farm □ a cooperative store. 2. helpful and willing to work with other people. □ The bank manager was not at all cooperative. □ noun a business which works on a profit-sharing basis. □ a workers' cooperative

co-opt /'kʊəpt/ verb to ask someone to join a committee without being formally elected to it

coordinate noun /'kʊərədɪnət/ a set of numbers which fix a point on a map or graph
□ What are the coordinates of that hill? □ I don't think it is marked on the map. □ Draw the X–Y coordinates. ■ verb /'kʊərədɪnɪt/ □ to make people or things work together or fit in with each other. □ His job is to coordinate the work of the various relief agencies. □ The election campaign was coordinated by the party headquarters.

coordinated /'kʊərədɪnətɪd/ adjective 1. bringing different or widespread groups or parts together. 2. moving different parts, es-
coordinates
noun 1.
the act of coordinating 2. Better coordination between departments would have allowed everyone to know what was happening. 2. the ability to move parts of your body properly. 3. She has excellent coordination for a little girl of 18 months.

copier /ˈkɒpjər/ noun a machine which makes copies

copilot /ˈkɒpɪloʊt/ noun a pilot who helps the main pilot to fly an aircraft

copious /ˈkɒpiəs/ adj in large amounts, in good supply

cop out /ˈkɒp aʊt/ verb to stop doing an activity, e.g. because of feeling afraid or not wanting to do it

cop-out /ˈkɒp aʊt/ noun a poor excuse or explanation for refusing to face up to something

copper /ˈkɒpər/ noun 1. a reddish metal which turns green when exposed to air. 2. Copper is a good conductor of electricity. 3. The end of the copper wire should be attached to the terminal. 4. a policeman who is out there’s a copper coming. 3. a small coin made of copper or other brown metal. 4. It only costs a few coppers. 5. The beggar was asking for any spare coppers.

copse /ˈkɒps/ noun a small area of young trees

copulate /ˈkɒpjuːlət/ verb to have sex

copulation /ˈkɒpjuːleɪʃən/ noun the act of having sex

copy /ˈkɒpi/ noun 1. something made to look the same as something else. 2. This is an exact copy of the painting by Picasso. (NOTE: The plural is copies.) 2. one book; one newspaper. 3. Where’s my copy of today’s Times? 4. I lent my old copy of Shakespeare to my brother and he never gave it back. 5. Can I borrow your copy of the telephone directory? (NOTE: The plural is copies.) 3. text written to be used in a newspaper or advertisement. 4. He sent in his copy three days late. 5. We need more copy for this page. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 6. verb to make or do something which looks like something else. 7. To knit the pullover, just copy this pattern. 8. I get very annoyed because he copies everything I do. 9. copycat /ˈkɒpɪkæt/ (informal) noun a person who copies what someone else does 10. adj which copies something else. 11. a copycat murder.

copyright /ˈkɒpiːraɪt/ noun an author’s legal right to do something such as publish a book or put on a play and not to have it copied without permission. 2. Who holds the copyright for the play? 3. She is being sued for breach of copyright. 4. a book which is in copyright a book which is protected by the copyright laws. 5. a book which is out of copyright a book by a writer who has been dead for more than seventy years and which anyone can publish. 6. verb to register something as your copyright. 7. The title was copyrighted some years ago.

coral /ˈkɔrəl/ noun a rock-like substance formed of the bones of small animals in the sea

cord /ˈkɔrd/ noun a strong thin rope. 1. Pull the cord to open the parachute. 2. In an emergency, pull the cord to stop the train.

cordial /ˈkɔrdɪəl/ adj friendly. 1. His greeting was not very cordial. Synonym pleasant. Antonym unfriendly. 2. noun the concentrated juice of a fruit to which water is added. 3. Fruit cordials such as lemon, orange or lime are popular summer drinks.

cordless /ˈkɔrdləs/ adj not needing to be connected to an electricity supply

cordon /ˈkɔrdən/ noun 1. a barrier such as a rope or a line of police or soldiers surrounding an area to prevent people entering or leaving. 2. Police formed a cordon round the referee to protect him from the fans. 3. There was a police cordon round the court-house. 4. a fruit tree grown as a single stem, with little side shoots. 5. We planted a cordon pear against the wall. 6. verb to cordon off a street to block a street to prevent anyone entering it. 7. The police had cordoned off the side streets and forced the protesters to march down the main road.

cords /ˈkɔrdz/ plural noun corduroy trousers. 1. Cords are warmer than jeans.

corduroy /ˈkɔrdʊrəʊ/ noun 1. a cloth with raised lines on the surface. 2. He was wearing a corduroy jacket. 3. a pair of corduroys a pair of trousers made of corduroy. 4. He was wearing a pair of dirty old corduroys and green wellingtons.

core
noun 1. the central part. 2. the core of an apple. 3. an apple core the hard part in the middle of an apple, containing the seeds. 4. He threw the apple core into the lake. 5. rotten to the core completely bad. 6. The local police force is rotten to the core. 7. verb to take. 8. to take a core sample to cut a long round piece of soil or rock for testing.
coriander

out the central part of a fruit such as an apple
○ Peel and core the apples before putting them in the oven.
coriander /ˈkɒriəndər/ noun a small herb, whose seeds and leaves are used for flavouring
cork /ˈkɔrk/ noun 1. a piece of light wood from the bark of a tree, which closes wine bottles ○ He pulled the cork out of the bottle.
○ The little boat bobbed up and down on the surface of the water like a cork. 2. material made from the very light bark of a type of tree ○ She placed little cork mats on the table to stop the wine glasses marking it. ■ verb to put a cork into a bottle ○ When they had drunk half the bottle, she corked it up to use the following day.
corkscrew /ˈkɔrkskruː/ noun a special tool for taking corks out of bottles
corn /ˈkɔrn/ noun the bottom part of the stem of a plant which can be planted and from which new shoots will grow
cormorant /ˈkɔrəmɔːnt/ noun a black seabird which eats fish, often near fishing grounds but also on lakes and rivers
corn 1. /ˈkɔrn/ noun 1. cereal plants such as wheat or barley ○ a field of corn 2. maize, a cereal crop which is grown in many parts of the world 3. a hard painful lump of skin, usu-
ally on your foot, where something, such as a tight shoe, has rubbed it ○ He has a corn on his little toe.
cornea /ˈkɔrnɪə/ noun the transparent part of the front of the eyeball
corned beef /ˈkɔrnɪd/ˈbɪft/ noun salted, preserved beef
○ corner /ˈkɔrnə/ noun 1. a place where two walls, sides or streets meet ○ The bank is on the corner of London Road and New Street. ○ Put the plant in the corner of the room nearest the window. ○ The number is in the top right-hand corner of the page. ○ The motorbike went around the corner at top speed. ○ to paint yourself into a corner to get yourself into a situation that you cannot get out of. 2. a free kick taken from the corner of the field near the opponents’ goal in games such as football ■ verb 1. to turn a corner ○ This new model corners very well. 2. to catch someone so that they cannot get away ○ The police cornered the escaped prisoners in an alleyway. 3. ○ to corner the market to own most or all of the supply of a certain thing and so control the price ○ The syndicate tried to corner the market in silver. ○ to turn the corner 1. to go round a corner ○ As she turned the corner she saw the bus coming. 2. to get better after being ill or in difficulties ○ He has been in bed for weeks, but he seems to have turned the corner.
corner shop /ˈkɔrnər ʃɒp/ noun a small general store in a town, sometimes on a street corner
cornerstone /ˈkɔrnərstɔːn/ noun 1. a stone at the bottom of a corner of a building, often with writing on it to show when it was put there ○ The mayor laid the cornerstone of the new library. 2. a strong foundation or ba-
sis ○ Taking a lot of exercise is still one of the cornerstones of a long life.
cornet /ˈkɔrnɛt/ /ˈkɔrnɛt/ noun a type of small trumpet ○ He plays the cornet in the brass band.
cornfield /ˈkɔrnfiلد/ noun a field in which corn is grown
cornflakes /ˈkɔrnflæks/ plural noun a breakfast food made of small dried pieces of maize ○ I’ll just have a bowl of cornflakes and a cup of coffee for breakfast.
cornflour /ˈkɔrnflɔːr/ noun a very smooth type of flour made from maize, used in cooking to make sauces thicker (NOTE: The US term is cornstarch.)
cornflower /ˈkɔrnflɔːr/ noun a wild flower with bright blue flowers
cornice /ˈkɔrnɪs/ noun a decorated narrow line of wood or stone round a ceiling (techni-
corn on the cob /ˈkɔrn ɒn daˈkɔb/ noun a head of maize, with seeds on it, served hot with butter
corny /ˈkɔrnɪ/ adj old or out-of-date (NOTE: Cornish – corniest)
corollary /ˈkɔrələri/ noun a natural result, something which follows naturally. Synonym consequence
corona /ˈkɔrənə/ noun a circle of light which appears as a ring round the Moon or Sun
coronary /ˈkɔrənɔrɪ/ noun a coronary thrombosis (informal) ○ He had a coronary and was rushed to hospital. (NOTE: The plural is coronaries.) ○ adj referring to any structure shaped like a crown
coronary thrombosis /ˈkɔrənɔrɪ ˈθɔmbəsɪs/ noun a blood clot which blocks the supply of blood to the heart, leading to a heart attack
coronation /kəˌnɔneɪʃ(ə)n/ noun the official ceremony at which a king, queen or em-
peror is crowned
○ coroner /ˈkɔrənər/ noun a public official, either a doctor or a lawyer, who tries to find out the reason for a sudden or violent death
corporal /ˌkɔrpərəl/ adj referring to the body ○ noun a rank in the army below ser-
gent ○ The major ordered the corporal to take down the flag. (NOTE: can be used with the surname: Corporal Jones)
corporal punishment 178 corrosive

**corporal punishment** /ˈkɔrəpəl pʌnˈmıʃən/ noun an act of punishment by hitting someone.

- **corporate** /ˈkɔrəpərt/ adj referring to a body such as a company ○ Corporate responsibility rests with the whole management. ○ Corporate profits are down this year.

- **corporation** /ˈkɔrpərəʃən/ noun 1. a town council ○ The corporation has privatised the refuse collection service. ○ The corporation swimming pool is closed on Mondays. 2. a large firm ○ Working for a big corporation can be rather impersonal.

- **corporation tax** /ˈkɔrpərəʃən tɑks/ noun a tax on profits made by companies. Abbr CT

- **corps** /ˈkɔrs/ noun 1. a military group or organised group ○ The diplomatic corps all the diplomats living in a certain country. (NOTE: The plural is corps /ˈkɔrs/. Do not confuse with core.)

- **corpses** /ˈkɔrpəz/ noun a dead body

- **corpulent** /ˈkɔrpjuəlt/ adj (of a person) extremely fat. Synonym obese

- **corpus** /ˈkɔrpus/ noun 1. all the works written by an author or about an author ○ The library has a huge Dickens corpus which is available to students. ○ She is studying references to food in the Shakespeare corpus. 2. the mass of text and words stored in a computer ○ None of the dictionaries in the list states where their corpus comes from. (NOTE: The plural is corpora.)

- **corral** /ˈkɔrəl/ noun an area surrounded by a fence to enclose animals such as cows or horses ○ The cattle were brought to the OK Corral.

- **correct** /ˈkɔrɛkt/ adj right or without any mistakes ○ Would it be correct to say that the shop has not made a profit for several months? ○ Can you tell me the correct time? ○ You have to give correct answers to all the questions if you want to win first prize. ○ You are correct in thinking that the weather in Greece is hot. ○ verb to take away mistakes in something ○ You must try to correct your driving mistakes, or you will never pass the test. ○ The computer keeps switching itself off – can you correct this fault?

- **correction** /ˈkɔrəkʃən/ noun showing a mistake in something, making something correct ○ He made a few small corrections to the letter. Synonym alteration

- **corrective** /ˈkɔrɛktɪv/ adj which corrects ○ Corrective surgery will be needed to prevent him having one leg shorter than the other.

- **core** /kɔr/ noun 1. the centre of something ○ The computer keeps switching itself off – can you correct this fault?

- **corroborate** /kərəˈbəreɪt/ verb to support a statement, especially a statement made in court, by giving information that shows it is true. Synonym verify. Antonym contradict

- **corrosive** /kərəˈsɪv/ adj which eats away metal, or a substance which does this ○ The figures act as a welcome corrective to the government’s very optimistic forecast.

- **correctly** /kərɛktli/ adv in a correct way

- **correlate** /kərəˈleɪt/ verb 1. to match or be the same as something else ○ The figures in your report do not correlate with those I got from the warehouse. ○ The number of people affected by asthma appears to correlate to the amount of air pollution. 2. to check to see if something matches or is the same as something else ○ We need to correlate the data from the two sources.

- **correlation** /kərəˈleɪʃən/ noun a connection between things

- **correspond** /kərəˈspond/ verb 1. to correspond to fit with ○ The findings correspond to my own research.

- **correspondence** /kərəˈspondəns/ noun 1. letters ○ They had been carrying on a correspondence for years. ○ She was told by her father to break off the correspondence.

- **correspond in correspondence** with someone to write letters to someone and receive letters back ○ I have been in correspondence with the company about a refund but with no success. 2. the fact that one thing matches or is similar to another ○ There isn’t much correspondence between theory and practice.

- **correspondence course** /kərəˈspondəns kɔrəs/ noun lessons given by post

- **correspondent** /kərəˈspondənt/ noun 1. a journalist who writes articles for newspapers or reports for television or radio on a particular subject ○ A report from our football correspondent ○ He is the Paris correspondent of the ‘Telegraph’. 2. a person who writes letters ○ A correspondent in Australia sent us an email.

- **corresponding** /kərəˈspondɪŋ/ adj which relates to something

- **correspondingly** /kərəˈspondɪŋli/ adv in a way which corresponds

- **corridor** /kərəˈdɔr/ noun a long narrow passage ○ The ladies’ room is straight ahead at the end of the corridor. ○ There is an underground corridor to the next building.

- **corroborate** /kərəˈbəreɪt/ verb to support a statement, especially a statement made in court, by giving information that shows it is true. Synonym verify. Antonym contradict

- **corrode** /kərəˈdəʊ/ verb to damage or change a substance, e.g. by the effects of water, air or chemicals

- **corrosion** /kərəˈsɪʃən/ noun the damage caused to metals by the effects of water, air or chemicals

- **corrosive** /kərəˈsɪv/ adj which eats away metal, or a substance which does this
corrugated /ˈkɒrɡətɪt/ adj bent into folds like waves

corrugated iron /ˈkɔrɡətɪt ɪrən/ noun sheets of metal which are folded into waves

corrugated /ˈkɔrɡətɪt/ adj. (of a person) who is not honest or who takes bribes ○ The Prime Minister promised to sack any officials who were found to be corrupt. 2. (of a computer disk) with data which contains mistakes ○ Power loss can make the data corrupt. ■ verb 1. to make someone dishonest or lacking in morals ○ ‘Power corrupts, absolute power corrupts absolutely.’ ○ He was accused of corrupting young people. ○ He was corrupted by his rich friends from college. 2. to cause mistakes in computer data ○ The data on this disk has been corrupted.
corruption /ˈkɔrɡərpʃən/ noun 1. the practice of paying money to someone, usually an official, so that he does what you want ○ Bribery and corruption are difficult to control. ○ Corruption in the civil service will be rooted out. 2. the process of damaging data ○ You have to watch out for corruption of data.
corruptly /ˈkɔrɡərpəli/ adv in a corrupt way
corset /ˈkɔrseɪt/ noun 1. a tight piece of underwear worn by women to support their bodies (dated) ○ She was glad to get back home and remove her corset. 2. a stiff piece of underwear, worn around the waist or the chest to support the body after a back injury ○ Would an orthopaedic corset help him with his bad back?
cortege /ˈkɔrtədʒ/, cortege noun a funeral procession
cortex /ˈkɔrktɛks/ noun the outer layer of an organ (NOTE: The plural is cortices.)
cortisone /ˈkɔrtɪzən/ noun an artificial hormone used against skin problems such as allergies, and arthritis
cos /kɒz/ short for because (informal) ○ You’ve got to do what I say ‘cos I’m bigger than you!
cosh /kɒʃ/ noun a short stick for hitting (NOTE: The plural is coshes.) ■ verb to hit someone on the head ○ He coshed the security guard.
cos lettuce /kɒz ˈlɛtsət/ noun a type of tall lettuce
cosmetic /ˈkɔzmɛtɪk/ adj which improves someone’s or something’s appearance

cosmetics /ˈkɔzmɛtɪks/ plural noun substances which improve someone’s appearance ○ My wife keeps all her cosmetics in a little bag.
cosmetic surgery /ˈkɔzmɛtɪk ˈsɜːdʒərɪ/ noun surgery to improve someone’s appearance. Synonym plastic surgery

cosmic /ˈkɒzmɪk/ adj 1. referring to the universe ○ Cosmic rays are radiation entering the Earth’s atmosphere from outer space. 2. very large, affecting the whole world ○ A war which might reach cosmic proportions.
cosmopolitan /ˈkɔzməpələnt/ adj 1. made up of people from different parts of the world ○ Berlin is a very cosmopolitan city. 2. comfortable and confident in different cities or with people of different nationalities ○ Her cosmopolitan upbringing has made her a very interesting person. ○ Born in Canada, brought up in Hong Kong and in England, by the age of ten he was more cosmopolitan than other children.
cosmos /ˈkɒzməs/ noun the universe ○ cost /kɒst/ noun 1. a price which you have to pay for something ○ What is the cost of a return ticket to London? ○ Computer costs are falling each year. 2. at all costs at no matter what price ○ At all costs, we have to be in Trafalgar Square by 12 o’clock. 2. to pay costs to pay the expenses of a court case ○ He lost his case and was ordered to pay costs. ○ the judge awarded costs to the defendant the judge said that the defendant would not have to pay the costs of the case. ■ verb to have a price ○ Potatoes cost 40p a kilo. ○ Petrol seems to cost more all the time. ○ what does it cost? how much is it? 2. to cost the earth to be very expensive ○ Caviar costs the earth. 2. to cost an arm and a leg to be very expensive ○ Don’t buy your kitchen there – it’ll cost you an arm and a leg. ○ The repairs to his car cost him an arm and a leg. ● fortune, small co-star /ˈkɔstər/ noun the other leading actor or actress in a film or play ○ His co-star in the film was an Italian actress. ■ verb to act in a play or film as a co-star ○ She co-starred with James Dean. (NOTE: co-starring – co-starred) costs /kɒsts/ noun the expenses in – a mistake which results in a costly mistake 2. a calculation of a selling price, based on the costs of making a product ○ cost /kɒst/ adj very expensive ○ a costly mistake a mistake which results in a lot of money being spent ○ Telling them we would pay all their expenses was a costly mistake. 2. cost of living /kɒst əv ‘lɪvɪŋ/ noun money which has to be paid in order to live, e.g. for food, heating and rent costs /kɒsts/ plural noun the expenses involved in a court case
costume /ˈkɒstum/ noun a set of clothes worn by an actor or actress in a play or film or on TV

costume drama /ˈkɒstjuːm dʒəˈmeɪ/ noun a play set in a previous historical period

costume jewellery /ˈkɒstjuːm dʒuəri/ noun jewellery that does not contain precious stones or metals

cosy /ˈkɒzɪ/ adj comfortable and warm ○ She wrapped herself up in a blanket and made herself cosy on the sofa. (NOTE: cosier – cosiest. The US spelling is cozy.)

cot /ˈkɒt/ noun 1. a child’s bed with sides ○ The baby was fast asleep in her cot. ○ It was some time before he cot – cosiest ○ He gave a little cough to attract the waitress’s attention. ○ verb to send air out of your lungs suddenly because your throat hurts ○ The smoke from the fire made everyone cough. ○ People with the go around coughing and sneezing.

cough mixture /ˈkɒf ˈmɪks/ noun a liquid medicine to cure a cough

cough sweet /ˈkɒf swɪt/ noun a sweet with medicine in it against coughs

counsellor /ˈkənsələr/ noun an elected member of a town council (NOTE: Do not confuse with councillor.)

council tax /ˈkənsəl tæks/ noun the tax charged by a local council to help pay for its services

counsel /ˈkənsəl/ noun 1. advice ○ I should have listened to his wise counsel. 2. a lawyer ○ counsel for the defence or defence counsel ○ counsel for the prosecution or
Counselling 181

1. <vertical_script>counter</vertical_script> /ˈkaʊntə/ noun the practice of counting or of adding something
2. <vertical_script>counter</vertical_script> <vertical_script>an</vertical_script> /ˈkaʊntər/ noun a device for marking the number of items purchased
3. <vertical_script>counter</vertical_script> <vertical_script>attack</vertical_script> /ˈkaʊntər ətæk/ noun an attack against someone who has just attacked you
4. <vertical_script>counter</vertical_script> <vertical_script>defence</vertical_script> /ˈkaʊntər dɪˈfens/ noun a defence against a charge
5. <vertical_script>counter</vertical_script> <vertical_script>foil</vertical_script> /ˈkaʊntər fɔɪl/ noun a strip of paper which you keep after giving someone a cheque
countersign /ˈkaʊntəsaɪn/ verb to sign a document which someone else has already signed, showing that you authorise it
countess /ˈkaʊntəs/ noun 1. (in European aristocracy) the wife of a count 2. (in the British aristocracy) the wife of an earl
countless /ˈkaʊntlɪs/ adjective very many. Antonym few
count noun /ˈkaʊnt n/ a noun that can be used with 'a' or 'an' and has a plural form

➤ count on /ˈkaʊnt n/ verb to be sure that someone will do something

➤ country /ˈkaʊntri/ noun 1. a land which is separate and governs itself ○ the countries of the EU ○ Some African countries voted against the plan. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is countries.) 2. land which is not the town ○ He lives in the country. ○ We went walking in the hill country. ○ Road travel is difficult in country areas. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning)
country club /ˈkaʊntri ˈklʌb/ noun a club in the country, usually offering special sports facilities such as golf or horse riding
country house /ˈkaʊntri ˈhɔʊs/ noun a large house in the country, with gardens and a park, and sometimes a farm
countryman /ˈkaʊntrɪmən/ noun 1. a person who lives in the country, not in the town ○ Countrymen are protesting about the new tax. 2. a person who comes from the same country as you ○ He felt ashamed of his countrymen when he saw them fighting at the football stadium. (NOTE: The plural is countrymen.)
country music /ˈkaʊntri ˈmjuːzɪk/, country and western /ˈkaʊntri ən ˈwestən/ noun a style of music popular in the southeastern United States, especially Tennessee

country side /ˈkaʊntri sайд/ noun land away from towns ○ the beautiful English countryside in spring ○ The countryside is in danger of being covered in new houses. (NOTE: no plural)

➤ county /ˈkaʊnti/ noun an administrative district. Synonym region (NOTE: The plural is counties.)
county council /ˈkaʊnti ˈkʌnsɪkl/ noun a group of people elected to run a county
county town /ˈkaʊnti ˈtaʊn/ noun the main town of a county, where the administrative offices are
coup /kuːp/ noun 1. the act of taking over a government by force ○ The army took over after yesterday’s bloody coup. ○ The officers who planned the failed coup were all executed. Full form coup d’état 2. a great success, a successful move ○ Getting the Minister of Education to open the school exhibition was a coup for the organisers.
coupé /ˈkɔːp/ noun a car with two doors and a fixed roof
couple /ˈkaʊpl/ noun 1. two things together 2. two people together ○ They are a charming couple. ○ Several couples strolled past hand in hand. ■ verb 1. to connect or combine ○ High tides coupled with strong winds caused flooding along the coast. 2. to join two machines together ○ Couple the trailer to the back of the truck. ○ a couple of 1. two ○ I have a couple of jobs for you to do. ○ The film lasted a couple of hours. 2. a few ○ Can you move the chairs a couple of yards to the left? ○ Do you mind waiting a couple of minutes while I make a phone call? coupon /ˈkaʊpən/ noun a piece of paper which is used in place of money or in place of a ticket. Synonym voucher
courage /ˈkaʊrɪdʒ/ noun being brave when in a dangerous situation ○ She showed great courage in attacking the burglar. Synonym bravery. Antonym cowardice (NOTE: no plural)
courageous /ˈkaʊrɪdʒəs/ adjective brave. Antonym cowardly
courageously /ˈkaʊrɪdʒəsli/ adverb bravely
courgette /ˈkɔrjɪt/ noun the young fruit of the marrow (NOTE: The US term is zucchini.)
courier /ˈkjuəri/ noun 1. a person who carries messages ○ a motorcycle courier 2. a guide for tourists on a package tour ○ We were met at the airport by a courier. ○ The courier tried hard to deal with all our complaints about the hotel.
course /kɔːs/ noun 1. in due course after a certain amount of time ○ If you study for several years at college, in due course you will get a degree. ○ Put a coin in the slot and in due course the machine will produce a ticket. ○ in the course of during ○ He’s got much richer in the course of the last few years. 2. a series of lessons ○ I’m taking a maths course. ○ She’s going on a painting course. ○ She has finished her secretarial course. ○ The hotel offers weekend courses in watercolour painting. 3. a series of treatments ○ He’s taking a course of antibiotics. 4. a separate part of a meal ○ a five-course meal ○ The first course is soup, and then you can have either fish or roast lamb.
coursebook /ˈkɔːsbʊk/ noun a book used by students taking a certain course
coursework /ˈkɔːsɜːkwɜːk/ noun work which students must complete during an academic course

court /kɔːt/ noun 1. a room with a judge who tries criminals, sometimes with a jury ○ The court was packed for the opening of the murder trial. ○ Please tell the court what you saw when you opened the door. ○ The defen-
court card 183

court card was in court for three hours. □ to take someone to court to tell someone to appear in court to settle an argument. 2. an area where sports such as tennis, basketball or squash are played. □ The tennis courts are behind the hotel. □ to be on court to be playing tennis. □ They were on court for over three hours. 3. a group of people living round a king or queen. □ The people at court were very cold towards the young princess. □ It was dangerous to be a pretty young girl at the court of Henry VIII. □ verb 1. to try to persuade a woman to marry you. (dated) □ King Henry courted Anne Boleyn for some months. 2. to be often together before getting married. □ Do you remember when we were courting and you took me to see the sun set? 3. to try to get someone to support you. □ He has been courting the shareholders to win their approval for the scheme. 4. □ to court disaster to risk disaster happening. □ You are courting disaster if you try to drive a sports car without a licence.

court card /'kɔːt kɑrd/ noun the king, queen or jack in a set of cards
court case /'kɔːt keɪs/ noun a legal action or trial
courteous /'kɔːtɪəs/ adj polite

courteously /'kɔːtɪəslɪ/ adv politely
courtesy /'kɔːtɪsɪ/ noun 1. politeness. □ The hotel staff showed us every courtesy. □ She might have had the courtesy to apologise. □ Children should show some courtesy towards their grandparents. 2. □ (by) courtesy of as a gift from, with the kind permission of □ a box of chocolates by courtesy of the management. □ He arrived home two hours late, courtesy of the train service.
courtesy bus /'kɔːtɪsɪ bʌs/.
courtesy car /'kɔːtɪsɪ kɔːr/.
courtesy coach /'kɔːtɪsɪ kɔːʃ/.
courtesy of a person who designs expensive fashionable clothes for women;
cové /'kɔvə/ noun 1. a small bay. □ Do you remember the small cove where we loved to go swimming? 2. a man (old) □ He’s a strange cove.
courtier /'kɔrtiə/ noun a member of a royal court.
courthouse /'kɔrtθɔuz/ noun especially US a building where trials are held.
courtier /'kɔrtiə/ noun a member of a royal court.
court-martial /'kɔrtmərʃ(ə)l/ noun 1. a court which tries someone serving in the armed forces for offences against military discipline. □ He was found guilty by court-martial and sentenced to imprisonment. 2. the trial of someone serving in the armed forces by the armed forces authorities. □ The court-martial was held in the army headquarters. (NOTE: The plural is courts-martial.) □ verb to try someone who is serving in the armed forces. □ He was court-martialled for leaving his post when the enemy attacked. (NOTE: court-martialled. The US spelling is court-martialed.)
court of appeal /'kɔrt əv ˈspɛil/ noun a court to which a person may go to ask for a decision or a sentence to be changed. Also called Appeal Court.
court order /'kɔrt ˈɔːdər/ noun an order issued by a judge.
courtroom /'kɔtrʊm/ noun a room where a judge holds a trial.
courtship /'kɔrtʃɪp/ noun 1. a period when a man and a woman form a romantic relationship before getting married. □ Their courtship lasted more than six months which was very short in those days. 2. a special display put on by animals to attract the opposite sex. □ Some birds perform very elaborate courtship dances.
courtyard /'kɔːtʃərd/ noun a small square area surrounded by buildings.

cousin /'kɔsɪn/ noun 1. a son or daughter of your uncle or aunt. □ Our cousins from Canada are coming to stay with us for Christmas. □ We didn’t have a Christmas card from Cousin Charles this year.
courtier /'kɔrtʃɪər/ noun a person

couscous /'kʌskʊs/ noun 1. a food made of small grains of wheat. 2. a dish of meat and couscous.
courage /'kʌrɪdʒ/ noun 1. the quality of being brave. 2. □ (by) courage □ (emboldened) with courage. □ She read the book from cover to cover.
cové /'kɔvə/ noun 1. a thing put over something to keep it clean. □ Keep a cover over your computer when you are not using it. □ Put a cover over the meat to keep the flies off. 2. the front and back of a book or magazine. □ She read the book from cover to cover. 3. a place where you can hide or shelter. □ They ran for cover when it started to rain. □ under cover under a roof, not in the open air. □ If it rains the buffet will be served under cover. □ under cover of night or darkness at night, when everything is hidden. □ The commandos attacked under cover of night. □ They crept out of the city under

courage /'kʌrɪdʒ/ noun 1. the quality of being brave. 2. □ (by) courage □ (emboldened) with courage. □ She read the book from cover to cover. 3. a place where you can hide or shelter. □ They ran for cover when it started to rain. □ under cover under a roof, not in the open air. □ If it rains the buffet will be served under cover. □ under cover of night or darkness at night, when everything is hidden. □ The commandos attacked under cover of night. □ They crept out of the city under
coverage

cover of darkness. 1. to take cover to shelter
○ It started to rain and they took cover under a tree. ○ When the robbers started shooting, the policeman took cover behind a wall. 4. an envelope or wrapping paper to send something in a separate envelope 2. to send a magazine under plain cover to send a magazine in an ordinary envelope with no company name printed on it 1. verb, 2. to put something over something to keep it clean ○ You should cover the furniture with sheets before you start painting the ceiling. 2. to hide something ○ He covered the hole in the ground with leaves. ○ She covered her face with her hands to provide enough money to pay for something ○ The damage was covered by the insurance. ○ The prize covers all the costs of the holiday. 4. to deal with something completely ○ That covers all the points on the agenda. 5. to write a report on an event for a newspaper, radio or TV programme ○ The journalists covering the story were briefed by the police. 6. to travel a certain distance ○ They made good progress, covering twenty miles a day.

coverage /ˈkʌvərɪdʒ/ noun [C, U] press coverage, media coverage the amount of space or time given to an event in newspapers or on TV ○ The company had good media coverage for the launch of its new car. ○ Coverage of Wimbledon continues on BBC2.

cover charge /ˈkʌvər tʃeɪdʒ/ noun (in a restaurant) a charge per person in addition to the charge for food

covered /ˈkʌvərd/ adj with a roof or lid over.

cover girl /ˈkʌvər ɡɜːrl/ noun a female model whose picture appears on the front cover of a magazine

covering /ˈkʌvərɪŋ/ noun a thing which covers

covering letter /ˈkʌvərɪŋ lɛtər/ noun a letter explaining what is enclosed with it

cover note /ˈkʌvər noʊt/ noun a letter giving agreement for an insurance sent before the policy is issued (NOTE: The US term is binder.)

covet /ˈkʌvət/ verb to want something which belongs to someone else

coveted /ˈkʌvətɪd/ adj which everyone wants. Synonym sought-after

cow /kau/ noun 1. a large female farm animal, kept to give milk ○ a field of cows ○ The farmer was milking a cow. 2. until the cows come home for a very long time (informal) ○ You can wait until the cows come home before getting paid. 2. a female of other animals ○ a cow elephant ○ a cow whale 3. a woman (rude) ○ That stupid cow!

cover /ˈkʌvər/ verb to frighten someone, to bully ○ He covered all the others into doing what he wanted. Synonym intimidate

coward /ˈkɔərd/ noun a person who is not brave

cowardice /ˈkɔərdɪs/ noun the state of not being brave. Synonym weakness. Antonym courage

cowardly /ˈkɔədli/ adj not brave. Antonym brave

cowboy /ˈkɔubɔɪ/ noun 1. a man who looks after cows in the west of the United States 2. a workman who does bad work and charges a high price ○ a cowboy builder ○ The people we got in to paint the house were a bunch of cowboys.

cowboy hat /ˈkɔubɔɪ hæt/ noun a large wide-brimmed hat worn by cowboys

cover /ˈkʌvər/ verb to crouch down because you are afraid

coworker /ˈkɔuˌrɛrk/ noun someone who shares their work with one or more people

cox /kɔks/ noun a person who steers a rowing boat ○ She’s the cox of the university crew. (NOTE: The plural is coxes.) 1. verb to steer a rowing boat ○ She coxed the boat to victory in the regatta.

coy /kɔɪ/ adj timid or shy

coyote /ˈkɔɪət/ noun an American wild animal, like a small wolf

crab /kræb/ noun 1. an edible sea animal with eight legs, which walks sideways ○ The children caught several little crabs in the rock pools. 2. the meat of this animal, used as food ○ He ordered a crab sandwich. 3. to catch a crab to miss a stroke when rowing ○ One of the rowers caught a crab and all the others stopped rowing.

crabby /ˈkræbɪ/ adj bad-tempered

crack /kræk/ noun 1. a sharp sound ○ the crack of a whip ○ The crack of a twig behind her made her turn round. 2. a long thin break in something hard ○ A crack appeared in the ceiling. ○ Her ring fell down a crack in the floorboards. ○ The field is so dry it is full of cracks. 3. to have a crack at something to try to do something (informal) ○ I’ve never tried windsurfing before but I’m willing to

coverage 184

crack
crack down 185 crank

have a crack at it. 4, a joke  ○ She made a nasty crack about his bald patch. 5, a highly addictive form of the drug cocaine. 6, at (the) crack of dawn as soon as it starts to be light  ○ If we want to miss the traffic we must set off at (the) crack of dawn. 1, to make a sharp sound  ○ A twig cracked as he stepped on it. 2, to make a long thin break in something  ○ The stone cracked the glass. 3, to crack jokes to tell jokes  ○ He spent the entire lunch break cracking jokes. 4, to find out how a code works  ○ They spent months trying to crack the enemy codes.

cracked /krækt/ adj with a crack in it

cracker /ˈkrækə/ noun 1, a dry biscuit made of flour and water  ○ After the main course they served cheese and crackers. 2, a little firework which makes a series of bangs  ○ Crackers were going off all round the procession to the temple. 3, same as Christmas cracker

cracker /ˈkrækə/ noun (informal)
cracking /ˈkrækɪŋ/ adj very fast  ○ a cracking pace a fast speed  ○ The marathon set a cracking pace and no one else could keep up.

crack /ˈkræk/ noun 1, a small dry sound  ○ He was woken by the crackle of flames. 2, to make little dry sounds, like something burning  ○ The bonfire crackled away in a corner of the garden.

crackling /ˈkrækliŋ/ noun hard baked pork skin

crackpot /ˈkrækpɒt/ adj eccentric or slightly odd (informal)  ○ It’s just one of his crackpot ideas for making money. 1, noun an eccentric person (informal insult)

cradle /ˈkrred/ noun 1, a baby’s bed which can be rocked  ○ She rocked the baby to sleep in its cradle. 2, from the cradle to the grave for the whole of your life  ○ The government is abandoning the cradle-to-grave insurance scheme. 3, a support for a piece of machinery  ○ A place where something started  ○ Greece is the cradle of Western civilisation.  ν verb to hold something gently in your arms or hands  ○ The little girl was cradling her doll.

craft /krɑːft/ noun 1, the skill of making something by hand  ○ traditional rural crafts such as thatching  ○ He learnt the craft of furniture-making as a boy. 2, something made skillfully by hand  ○ local crafts for sale  ○ a craft fair  ○ The sleek craft slipped out of harbour.  ○ All sizes of craft took part in the rescue.  ○ The plural in this meaning is craft.

craft /krɑːft/ suffix 1, vehicle  ○ aircraft  ○ spacecraft  ○ 2, art  ○ Stagecraft is the art of writing plays and putting them on.  ○ Witchcraft is the art of casting spells.  ○ The plural is craftsmen.

crafty /ˈkrɑːfti/ adj cunningly

craftsmanship /ˈkrɑːftsmæŋʃip/ noun the skill of a craftsman

craftswoman /ˈkrɑːftswʊmən/ noun a woman who is expert at making things by hand  ○ The plural is craftsmen.

cramp /kræmp/ noun a tight muscle which will not relax  ○ He went swimming and got cramp in the cold water.  ○ She woke up with cramp in her right leg.  ○ Synonym spasm  ν verb to cramp someone’s style to stop someone doing what he wants, or developing  ○ Having my mother-in-law for Christmas tends to cramp our style a bit.

cramped /ˈkræmpɪd/ adj full of things or people squeezed tightly together. Antonym empty

cramp /kræmp/ noun a pain in a tight muscle which will not relax.

cripple /ˈkrɪpl/ noun or verb crippleness  ○ Synonym disable

cranberry /ˈkrænbəri/ noun a bitter wild red berry, used to make a sharp sweet sauce or drink

cranial /ˈkrænɪəl/ noun 1, the bones covering the top part of the head

cranium /ˈkrænɪəm/ noun the bones covering the top part of the head

craze /ˈkreɪz/ noun a man with a right angle, often mounted on a shaft  ○ You’ll...
need a crank to start the engine. 2. a very strange person. She’s a bit of a crank when it comes to food, because there are so many things she won’t eat. 1 verb to start an engine by turning it with a handle. 2 Thank goodness I don’t have to crank the car every time I use it.

**crank out** /ˈkræk/ (slang informal) verb to produce a series of things as if by a machine.

**crankshaft** /ˈkræŋkʃaʊft/ noun a part of a car engine which converts the up-and-down motion of the pistons into a circular motion.

**crevice** (slang offensive) noun 1. a very narrow gap or crevice in a wall or rock.

**creamy** /ˈkriːmi/ adjective 1. smooth and thick like cream.

**cremation** /ˈkrɛməʃən/ noun 1. the process of burning a dead body in a kiln to reduce it to ashes. 2. a glass container for ashes, often shaped like a jar.

**cream** /kriːm/ noun 1. a milky white liquid produced by processing milk, esp. whole milk. 2. a rich, dense, smooth, white substance, esp. one made from milk. 3. a family of dairy products produced by processing milk. 4. a white, smooth, paste-like substance, esp. one made from milk. 5. a thick, smooth, white, paste-like substance, esp. one made from milk. 6. a smooth, silky, white, paste-like substance, esp. one made from milk.

**cream cracker** noun 1. a wafer-shaped cracker that is hard and dry.

**cream cheese** noun 1. a spread made from a thick, smooth, white, paste-like substance made from milk.

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cream cake 187

cream. ◯ whipped cream cream, beaten until it is stiff and often flavoured with sugar and vanilla 2. a soft substance used, e.g. for cleaning ◯ face cream ◯ shaving cream ◯ shoe cream 3. the top few ◯ the cream of the medical students ◯ coloured like cream, a very pale brown ◯ He was wearing a cream shirt. ◯ Do you like our new cream carpet? ◯ verb ◯ to beat into a smooth paste ◯ Cream the hutter and sugar in a bowl. Synonym blend cream cake /ˌkrɛm ˈkeɪk/ noun any cake or pastry filled with whipped cream cream cheese /ˌkrɛm ˈtʃiːz/ noun a soft white cheese cream tea /ˈkrɛm ˈtiː/ noun afternoon tea, with scones, thick cream and jam creamy /ˈkrɛmɪ/ adj 1. full of cream ◯ Because of my diet, rich creamy puddings are a thing of the past. 2. smooth and liquid like cream ◯ a tempting piece of creamy cheese oozing onto the plate ◯ The chocolate pudding is too solid, it is nicer when it is a little creamier. (NOTE: creamier – creamiest)

crease /ˈkrɛs/ noun 1. a fold made by ironing ◯ Trousers should have a crease in front. 2. a fold made accidentally ◯ She ironed his shirts to remove the creases. 3. (in cricket) a line marking the place where a batsman stands in front of the wicket ◯ verb ◯ to make folds accidentally in something ◯ After two hours in the car, my skirt was badly creased and had to be pressed. creased /ˈkrɛst/ adj showing creases from having been crushed or folded ◯ Hang up your clothes as soon as you arrive otherwise everything will stay creased.

creates /ˈkrɛtɪst/ verb 1. to make, to invent something ◯ Do you believe that God created the world? ◯ A government scheme which aims at creating new jobs for young people. 2. to make a fuss (dated) ◯ Tim’s creating again: he hates having to get dressed. creation /ˈkrɛʃən/ noun 1. a thing which has been made ◯ For dessert they served some sort of chocolate and cream creation. ◯ The model appeared on the catwalk wearing a pink and blue creation. 2. the act of creating ◯ The aim is the creation of new jobs for young unemployed people.

creative /ˈkrɛtɪv/ adj full of ideas, always creating things creative writing /ˈkrɛtɪv wriːtɪŋ/ noun the writing of stories, poems, and other works of the imagination creativity /ˈkrɛtɪvɪtɪ/ noun being full of ideas, always creating things creator /ˈkrɛtər/ noun a person who makes or invents something. Synonym maker. Antonym destroyer
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>crede</td>
<td>a statement of what you believe; Retraining for the unemployed is one of the government’s creeds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>creek</td>
<td>a little inlet of the sea or a small river.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>creep</td>
<td>1. To move around quietly; 2. To creep up on someone to come up close behind someone without making any noise.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>creepier</td>
<td>describing something that is more uncomfortable (informal). Synonym eerie (NOTE: creeps – creepiest).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crescent</td>
<td>1. A curved shape, like a new moon; 2. A crescent moon hung like a silver crescent over the lake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crew</td>
<td>a man who is a member of a ship’s crew (NOTE: The plural is crewmen.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crewneck</td>
<td>a sweater with a tight round neckline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crib</td>
<td>a baby’s bed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Crede**

Crede /ˈkredə/ noun the list of people who helped to make a film or TV programme

**Creedworthy**

Creedworthy /ˈkredwaʊðə/ adj able to buy goods on credit

**Credulous**

Credulous /ˈkredjuəls/ adj believing anything easily. Synonym gullible. Antonym astute

**Creek**


**Creep**

Creep /kriːp/ verb 1. to move around quietly; 2. to creep up on someone; 3. to go along slowly. Synonym clamber.

**Creepy**

Creepy /ˈkriːpi/ adj which makes you feel strangely uncomfortable (informal). Synonym eerie (NOTE: creepier – creepiest).

**Cremate**

Cremate /ˈkremət/ verb to burn a dead body. Synonym incinerate

**Cremation**

Cremation /ˈkreməʃən/ noun the burning of a dead body

**Crematorium**

Crematorium /ˈkremətəriəm/ noun a place where the bodies of dead people are burnt (NOTE: The plural is crematoria. The US term is crematory.)

**Creole**

Creole /ˈkrɪoʊl/ noun 1. A person of mixed African and European family from the West Indies or from the southern states of the United States or from the southern states of the United States; 2. A person who is a descendant of one of the original French settlers in the West Indies or the southern states of the United States, especially Louisiana. Synonym: She comes from an old Creole family.

**Creeper**

Creeper /ˈkriːpə/ noun a plant which grows close to the ground or climbs up walls. Synonym climber.

**Crest**

Crest /ˈkrest/ noun 1. The highest point along the length of a mountain or a wave; 2. The highest point of something.

**Crestfallen**

Crestfallen /ˈkrestfələn/ adj depressed. Synonym downcast. Antonym confident

**Crevasse**

Crevasse /ˈkrɛvəs/ noun a deep crack in hard ground. Synonym fissure

**Crevice**

Crevice /ˈkriːvəs/ noun a small crack in a rock or wall

**Crew**

Crew /kruː/ noun the people who work on a vehicle such as a boat, aircraft or bus. Synonym: The lifeboat rescued the crew of the sinking ship.

**Crewcut**

Crewcut /ˈkruːkʌt/ noun a very short haircut

**Crewman**

Crewman /ˈkruːmən/ noun a man who is a member of a ship’s crew (NOTE: The plural is crewmen.)

**Crew Neck**

Crew neck /kruː nɛk/ noun 1. A garment’s round neckline; 2. A sweater with a tight round neckline

**Crib**

Crib /ˈkrɪb/ noun 1. US a baby’s bed; 2. A model of the scene of the first Christmas dis-
played in a church at Christmastime 3. a word-for-word translation or list of answers to help a student with homework ■ verb to copy something (informal) Synonym cheat (NOTE: cribbing – cribbed) crick noun a pain in the neck or back ■ verb to cause a pain in the neck or back • cricket /'krɪkɪt/ noun 1. a game played between two teams of eleven players using bats and a hard ball ○ We haven’t played much cricket this year – the weather has been too bad. ○ We are going to a cricket match this afternoon. 2. it’s not cricket it is not fair (informal) 3. a little insect which makes a singing noise cricketer /'krɪktə/ noun a person who plays cricket cried /krɪd/ cries /krɪz/ ■ cry 2. crime /'krɑːm/ noun 1. illegal acts in general ○ We must try to reduce the levels of crime in the inner cities. ○ The government is trying to deal with the problem of teenage crime or with the teenage crime problem. 2. an illegal act ○ More crimes are committed at night than during the daytime. crime prevention /'krɑːm prɪ'venʃən/ noun actions such as fitting burglar alarms and lights to stop opportunities for crime to be committed crime wave /'krɑːm wɛv/ noun an increase in the number of crimes • criminal /'krɪmɪnəl/ adj referring to illegal acts ○ the criminal justice system ○ He has a criminal record. ○ Stealing is a criminal offence. • noun a person who commits a crime ○ The police think two well-known criminals did it. Synonym offender criminalise /'krɪmɪnlɪsəz, -ɪlzɪ/ • criminalize verb 1. to make something illegal 2. to make someone into a criminal criminal law /'krɪmɪnl əʊl 'lɔːz/ noun laws which deal with crimes against the law of the land, which are punished by the state. Compare civil law criminally /'krɪmɪnəli/ adv so bad as to be against the law criminal negligence /'krɪmɪnl 'nɛglɪdʒəns/ noun acting with the result that harm is done to other people criminal record /'krɪmɪnl ə'rekəzd/ noun a police record that lists any crimes that a person has been arrested for criminologist /'krɪmɪnəlɪdʒɪst/ noun a person who makes a study of crime and criminals criminology /'krɪmɪnəlɪdʒɪ/ noun the academic study of crime and criminals crimson /'krɪmzn/ adj deep red ○ The shop had a large crimson heart in the window on Valentine’s Day. ○ She was so embarrassed, she turned bright crimson. ■ noun a deep red colour ○ According to the Sunday paper, crimson will be the colour to wear next winter. cringe /'krɪŋdʒ/ verb 1. to bend to avoid a blow ○ The little boy cringed when he heard his father shouting. 2. to be embarrassed ○ Seeing the boss trying to make jokes just makes me cringe. ○ She cringed when her son started to play the violin. crinkle /'krɪŋkləʊ/ verb to fold or crush something, making many small creases crinkly /'krɪŋklɪ/ adj with many creases or curls. Synonym wrinkled (NOTE: crinklie – crinkliest) cripple /'krip(ə)l/ noun a person who is disabled or has difficulty in walking (offensive) ○ Cripples sat outside the hotel, begging for money from tourists. • verb 1. to disable someone ○ He was crippled in a mining accident. 2. to prevent something from working ○ The explosion crippled the supertanker and she drifted towards the rocks. ○ The bus and rail strike has crippled the capital’s transport system. crippling /'krɪplɪŋ/ adj which prevents someone from doing something • crisis /'krɪsɪs/ noun a serious situation where decisions have to be taken very quickly ○ an international crisis ○ a banking crisis ○ to take crisis measures to take measures quickly to stop a crisis developing ○ The government had to take crisis measures to stop the collapse of the currency. crisp /'krɪsp/ adj 1. hard, which can be broken into pieces or crunched ○ These biscuits are not crisp any more, they have gone soft. ○ Pick an apple off the tree, they’re really crisp. 2. sharp and cold ○ It was a beautiful crisp morning, with frost glinting on the grass. ○ She could see her breath in the crisp mountain air. (NOTE: crispier – crispiest) crispy /'krɪspɪ/ adj very crisp. Synonym crunchy, Antonym soggy criss-cross /'krɪs k्रrɪs/ noun with lines crossing ○ What is the meaning of the criss-cross pattern of yellow lines at a road junction? • verb to go backwards and forwards in different directions ○ We dodged through the cars, bicycles, carts and pedestrians criss-crossing the street. criteria /'kraɪtəriə/ plural of criterion • criterion /'kraɪtəriən/ noun the standard by which things are judged (NOTE: The plural is criteria.) • critic /'kritɪk/ noun 1. a person who examines something and comments on it, especially a person who writes comments on new plays and films for a newspaper ○ She’s the TV critic of the ‘Times’. ○ The film was praised by all the critics. 2. a person who says that something is bad or wrong ○ The
**critical**

chairman tried to answer his critics at the meeting.
- critical /ˈkrɪtɪkəl/ adj 1. dangerous and difficult ○ With the enemy attacking on all sides, our position was becoming critical. 2. extremely important ○ He made a critical decision to break off the negotiations. 3. critical relief supplies have been held up at customs. 4. very serious ○ The pilot of the crashed plane was in a critical condition last night. 5. The hospital said that her condition was critical. 6. which criticises ○ The report was highly critical of the minister. 7. critically /ˈkrɪtɪkli/ adv in a critical way. Synonym seriously. Antonym mildly

**critical mass** /ˈkrɪtɪkəl mæs/ noun 1. the smallest amount of material required for a nuclear chain reaction. 2. a point or situation which must be reached before a change occurs. 3. the number of customers or size of market share that allows a business to begin to make money. 4. the point in software development at which a piece of software acquires so many features that it stops being useful

- criticise /ˈkrɪtɪsaɪz, ˈkrɪtɪsaɪ/ criticize verb to say that something or someone is bad or wrong ○ She criticised the sales assistant for not being polite. ○ The design of the new car has been criticised.
- criticism /ˈkrɪtɪsɪzm/ noun 1. a comment ○ If you have any constructive criticisms to make, I shall be glad to hear them. 2. an unfavourable comment ○ There was a lot of criticism of the government’s plan.
- critique /ˈkrɪtɪk/ noun a piece of careful literary criticism. Synonym analysis

**croak** /kroʊk/ noun a deep sound, like the call of a frog or crow. 1. verb to make a deep sound ○ The frogs started croaking in the pond.

**crochet** /ˈkrɒʃət/ noun a type of knitting. 1. verb to make something out of wool, using a hooked needle ○ Who crocheted the beautiful jumper you are wearing? (NOTE: crocheted /ˈkrɒʃɪd/ - crocheting /ˈkrɒʃɪŋ/)

**crockery** /ˈkrɒkəri/ noun cups, saucers and plates made from pottery. (NOTE: no plural)

**crocodile** /ˈkrɒkləd/ noun 1. a large reptile which lives in or near rivers and lakes and eats other animals ○ Crocodiles lay on the banks of the river waiting for the antelope to come to drink. 2. a long line of children walking in pairs ○ A crocodile of schoolchildren crossed the road to the swimming pool.

**crocus** /ˈkrɒkəs/ noun a little spring flower, in various colours, especially yellow and purple. (NOTE: The plural is crocuses.)

**croissant** /ˈkroʊsɔ̃/ noun a rolled pastry, made in a curved shape

**cross**

cross /kroʊs/ noun a bend. 1. a shape made where one line has an angle. 2. an old friend ○ That secondhand car dealer is a bit of a crook. 3. a bend ○ She held the baby in the crook of her arm. 4. a long stick with a bent top, used by shepherds. 5. adj (in Australia) ill

- crooked /ˈkrʊkt/ - crookedly /ˈkrʊktli/ adj crooked. 1. bent, not straight ○ That picture is crooked. 2. I don’t think the wallpaper is straight – it looks crooked to me. 3. dishonest ○ The police commissioner promised to remove any crooked officers in his force.

- crook /kruːk/ noun to sing in a soft voice
- crop /kroʊp/ noun plants, such as vegetables or cereals, grown for food ○ The bad weather has set the crops back by three weeks. 1. a wonderful crop of potatoes or a wonderful potato crop this year. 2. (of sheep) to eat grass so that it is very short ○ The field has been cropped short by sheep. 3. (of plants) to have fruit ○ The pear trees cropped heavily this year. (NOTE: cropping – cropped)

- cropped /ˈkroʊpt/ - cut short 1. adj cut short ○ The designer had to crop the photograph to fit the space on the page. 2. (of sheep) to crop up ○ The weather has set the crops back by three weeks. 3. (of plant) to crop up ○ The potato plants have been cropped short by sheep.

- croquet /ˈkrʊkət/ noun a game played on grass

**croquette** /kroʊˈket/ noun a small ball of potato, covered with breadcrumbs and fried

- cross /kroʊs/ adj 1. angry ○ The teacher will be cross with you for missing school. ○ Don’t be cross – the children were only trying to help. 2. opposed ○ They were at cross purposes they thought they understood each other but were in fact in total disagreement. 3. a shape made where one line has another going across it, especially one which forms the symbol of the Christian Church ○ Write your name where I have put a cross. ○ There is a cross on the top of the church tower. 4. a breed of plant or animal which comes from two different varieties ○ A cross between two types of cattle. (NOTE: The plural is crosses.) 1. verb 1. to go across something to the other side ○ She just crossed the road without looking to see if there was any traffic coming. ○ The road crosses the railway line about 10 km from
here. ○ Concorde only takes three hours to cross the Atlantic. 2. to put one thing across another ○ He crossed his arms and looked annoyed. ○ She sat down and crossed her legs. 3. to breed a new animal or plant, etc., from two varieties ○ He crossed two strains of rice to produce a variety which is resistant to disease.

crossbar /ˈkrɒsbɑː/ noun 1. a bar which goes across a space, especially a bar which goes between the posts forming a goal ○ He kicked the ball over the crossbar and converted the try. ○ He almost scored, but the ball hit the crossbar. 2. a bar which crosses the frame of a man’s bicycle, from the seat to the steering column ○ She sat on his crossbar. ○ Girls’ bicycles normally don’t have crossbars.

crossbow /ˈkrɒsbɔʊ/ noun a weapon which fires bolts.

crosscheck /ˈkrɒstʃek/ verb to check again to be sure

cross-country /ˈkrɒs ˈkæntri/ noun a race across fields and along paths, not on a running track ○ The cross-country champion is a favourite to win the marathon.

crossed cheque /ˈkrɒst tʃek/ noun a cheque which has two lines drawn across it and can only be paid into a bank

cross-examination /ˌkrɒs ɪgˈzemən-ˈteɪʃ(ə)n/ noun the questioning of witnesses called on the other side in a case ○ cross-examine /ˌkrɒs ɪgˈzemən/ verb to question witnesses called by the other side in a case, in the hope that you can destroy their evidence

cross-eyed /ˈkrɒs ˈaɪd/ adj with eyes that do not face forwards, but look inwards towards the nose (offensive)

crossfire /ˈkrɒsfaɪər/ noun gunfire from two directions, so that the fire crosses

3. crossing /ˈkrɒsɪŋ/ noun 1. the action of going across to the other side of an area of water ○ How long is the crossing from England to Germany? ○ they had a rough crossing the sea was rough when they travelled across it 2. a place where you go across safely ○ Cars have to take care at the railway crossing. ○ level crossing a place where a road crosses a railway line without a bridge or tunnel ○ The level crossing gates opened when the train had passed

cross-legged /ˈkrɒslɛd/ adj; adv with one ankle over the other ○ He was sitting cross-legged on the floor.

3. cross off /ˈkrɒs ˈɔf, ˈkrɒs outh ˈkrɒs/ verb to draw a line through something which has been written to show that it should not be there

crossover /ˈkrɔsvər/ noun 1. a bridge which takes a road or railway over another road, railway or river ○ How would a crossover help relieve traffic congestion? 2. a change from one type of artistic work to another ○ He made the crossover from pianist to conductor without any difficulty.

cross-question /ˈkrɒs ˈkwɛstʃən/ verb to cross-examine someone, to ask someone a lot of questions

cross-refer /ˈkrɒs ˈrɪfər/ verb to tell the reader to look up something in another part of a book

cross-reference /ˈkrɒs ˈrɛfərəns/ noun a note in a reference book telling the reader to look in another part of the book for further information ○ Please check all cross-references for accuracy. ○ Cross-references are not only useful to readers but also save time. ○ verb to refer to something in another part of a text

crossroads /ˈkrɒsrɔʊdz/ noun a place where one road crosses another

5. cross-section /ˈkrɒs ˈsɛktʃən/ noun 1. a diagram made to show the inside of something, as if it had been cut through ○ The picture shows a cross-section of the Channel Tunnel. ○ Diagram 4 is a cross-section of a diesel engine. 2. a typical group of people ○ The team consulted a cross-section of the public in the shopping centre.

cross-trainer /ˈkrɒs ˈtrɛner/ noun 1. an athlete who trains for more than one sport at a time 2. a shoe designed with more than one sporting activity 3. an exercise machine intended to develop many different groups of muscles

cross-training noun training in different sports such as running and weightlifting, usually in order to improve performance in one of the sports ○ adj designed to be used for more than one kind of sport

crosswalk /ˈkrɒswɔːk/ noun US a place where you can walk safely across a street (NOTE: The British term is pedestrian crossing or zebra crossing.)

crossword /ˈkrɒswoʊrd/ noun a puzzle where small squares have to be filled with letters to spell words

crotch /ˈkrɒtʃ/ noun a place between the tops of your legs (NOTE: The plural is crotches.)

crotchets /ˈkrɒʃtʃetz/ noun a note in music half as long as a minin and twice as long as a quaver

crotchety /ˈkrɒʃtʃetɪ/ adj irritable ○ crouch /ˈkrɔutʃ/ verb to bend down low. Synonym squat

crouton /ˈkrʌtən/ noun a crunchy cube of fried bread used as a garnish

crow /ˈkrɔː/ noun a large black bird ○ The crows make such a noise in the trees that it wakes us up. ○ as the crow flies in a straight
crownbar 192 crumble
cruely /ˈkrjuːli/ adv seriously, extremely
crucible /ˈkrjuːsɪb(ə)l/ noun a pot used for heating metals
crucifix /ˈkrjuːsfɪks/ noun a cross with a figure of Jesus Christ on it (NOTE: The plural is crucifixes.)
crucifixion /ˈkrjuːsfɪkjən/ noun the act of killing a person by nailing him to a cross
crude /ˈkrjuːd/ adj 1. untreated 2. raw petroleum, taken from the ground 3. the price of Arabian crude has fallen.
cruel /ˈkrjuːl/ adj 1. causing pain, making a person or animal suffer 2. cruel to your new puppy 3. It was cruel of him to mention her weight problem (NOTE: crueler – cruellest. The US spelling is crueler – cruellest.)
cruelty /ˈkrjuːlti/ noun the act of being cruel
cruet /ˈkrjuːt/ noun a set of containers for salt and pepper, which is put on the table
cruise /ˈkrjuːz/ noun a long journey in a ship calling at different places 1. When he retired they went on a cruise round the Mediterranean. Synonym: voyage 2. to go in a boat from place to place 3. They spent May cruising in the Aegean. The ship cruised from island to island 4. to travel at an even speed 5. The car cruises very comfortably at 160 kilometres an hour. 6. to win without much difficulty 7. He cruised to victory in the race.
cruise liner /ˈkrjuːz ˈlaɪnər/, cruise ship /ˈkrjuːz ʃɪp/ noun a large passenger ship which takes people on cruises
cruise missile /ˈkrjuːz ˈmirɪsl/ noun a long-range guided missile
cruiser /ˈkrjuːzə/ noun a large warship, smaller than a battleship 1. How many cruisers can the Navy send to the war zone? 2. cruiser /ˈkrjuːzə/ noun a small piece of dry food such as bread, cake or biscuits. Synonym: morsel
crumble /ˈkrʌmbl/ noun a hot cooked dessert made of fruit covered with a mixture of flour, fat and sugar 1. We are having apple crumble and custard for pudding. 2. to break something up into small pieces 3. He picked up a lump of dry earth and crumbled
crummy /ˈkraʌmi/ adj no good (informal) (NOTE: crummiest)
crumble /ˈkrambl/ verb 1. to collapse O As the waves battered the cliff it began to crumble away. 2. to become full of lines or folds O Her shirt was crumpled because she had been lying on the grass. O The box was full of crumpled bits of paper.
crumple /ˈkrampl/ verb 1. to crush or to screw something up into a ball O I heard him crumple up the paper and throw it into the wastepaper basket. 2. to become full of lines or folds O Her shirt was crumpled because she had been lying on the grass. O The box was full of crumpled bits of paper.
crunch /ˈkraŋ/ noun 1. the sound of something dry being crushed O The snow crunched under his boots. 2. to chew something hard which makes a noise when you are eating O She was crunching an apple when the phone rang.
crunchy /ˈkraŋti/ adj which makes a noise when you are eating. Synonym crispy.
crusade /ˈkrəʊseɪd/ noun a strong action to stop or change something O The government has launched a crusade against drugs. O He has been crusading for more government action to reduce unemployment. Synonym campaign
crusader /ˈkrəʊsədə/ noun a person who takes part in a crusade. Synonym campaigner
Crusades /ˈkrəʊsəʊz/ plural noun medieval wars against Muslims in the Middle East, led by Christian kings (historical)
crush /ˈkrəʊʃ/ verb 1. to press something flat O She was crushed against the wall by the car. O Crash a piece of garlic and add it to the soup. 2. to end something completely O Government troops crushed the student rebellion. O All her hopes of getting a better job were crushed by the report of the interview board. O noun 1. a mass of people O She was hurt in the crush of people trying to get to the exit. O He lost his briefcase in the crush on the train. O noun 2. to have a crush on someone to have a feeling of love for someone you do not know very well (informal) O She had a crush on her tennis coach. crushing /ˈkrəʊʃɪŋ/ adj which takes away all hope. Synonym devastating

crust /ˈkraʊst/ noun the hard outside layer of something such as bread or the earth. Synonym coating
crustacean /ˈkraʊstəsɪən/ noun an animal with a hard shell, usually living in the sea, such as a lobster or crab
crusty /ˈkraʊsti/ adj 1. with a hard outside layer O We had an excellent salad with a glass of wine and a piece of fresh crusty bread. 2. getting angry easily O The club is full of crusty old men nodding in leather armchairs. (NOTE: crustier – crustiest)
crutch /ˈkrʌtʃ/ noun a strong support for a patient with an injured leg, formed of a stick with a holding bar or a T-bar which fits under the shoulder (NOTE: The plural is crutches.)
crux /ˈkrʌks/ noun the central point of a problem
cry /kraɪ/ noun 1. a loud shout O No one heard her cries for help. 2. a sharp sound made by a bird or animal O The cry of the eagles overhead. O We could hear the cries of monkeys in the trees. (NOTE: The plural is cries.) O verb 1. to have tears coming out of your eyes O The baby cried when her mother took away her toys. O Cutting up onions makes me cry. O Many people were crying when they left the cinema. O to cry over spilt milk to be upset because of something which you couldn’t prevent (informal) O It’s no use crying over spilt milk – what’s happened has happened. 2. to call out O ‘Hello there’, she cried.
crypt /ˈkrɪp/t/ noun a cellar under a church
cryptic /ˈkrɪp(t)/ adj secret and mysterious. Synonym obvious

crystal /ˈkrɪstəl/ noun 1. a solid chemical substance with a regular shape O The salt formed crystals at the bottom of the jar. 2. a very clear bright glass O a crystal wineglass

crystal ball /ˈkrɪstəl ˈbɔːl/ noun 1. a fortune telling’s glass ball 2. a means of predicting what will happen in the future

crystal clear /ˈkrɪstəl ˈklɪə/ adj very clear, simple to understand

crystalline /ˈkrɪstəlɪn/ adj 1. made of crystals, shaped like a crystal O Crystalline materials do not always form single regular crystals. 2. clear and pure like a crystal O The crystalline water of the mountain stream.
crystallise /ˈkrɪstəlɪz/ verb 1. to form crystals O Water crystallises to form snow. 2. to preserve fruit in sugar O We had a box of crystallised fruit for Christmas. 3. to take shape O Following the meeting, our ideas began to crystallise.
cub /kʌb/ noun a young animal, especially a bear or fox O The cubs played in the sun while the vixen stood guard. O The bear led her cubs down to the river.
ber twice by itself

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laxed (informal

library is nothing more than a series of cubes.

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dormitory.

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sleeps in a little cubicle off the main

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ment where colours and shapes are very

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made in little cubes

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- something shaped like a cube ○ He put two cubes of sugar in his tea. ○ The ice cubes chinked in the glasses. 3. The result when a number is multiplied by itself twice (mathematics) ○ 27 is the cube of 3. ■ verb 1. to cut something into little cubes ○ Wash, peel and then cube the potatoes. 2. to multiply a number twice by itself ○ If you cube 6 the result is 216 (6 x 6 x 6).

cubed /ˈkjuːbd/ adj 1. made in little cubes ○ a pack of cubed sugar ○ Put the cubed vegetables into the soup. 2. which is multiplied by itself twice (mathematics) ○ 27 is 3 cubed.

cube root /ˈkjuːbrʊt/ noun a number which if multiplied by itself twice gives the number you have (NOTE: Do not confuse with route.)

| cubic /ˈkjuːbrɪk/ adj measured in volume by multiplying length, depth and width (NOTE: Cubic is written in figures as $^3$. 6m$^3$ = six cubic metres; 10ft$^3$ = ten cubic feet.) |
| cubic /ˈkjuːbrɪk/ noun 1. a changing room in a shop, at the swimming baths ○ Look for an empty cubicle and change there. 2. a small room which is part of a larger room, such as a dormitory ○ The scout leader sleeps in a little cubicle off the main dormitory.

cubism /ˈkjuːbrɪzəm/ noun an art movement where colours and shapes are very important

cuckoo /ˈkʌkʊ/ noun a bird which has a cry that sounds like its name and which lays its eggs in other birds’ nests ○ When you hear the first cuckoo you know that winter is over. ○ The cuckoo lays its eggs in the nests of other birds. ○ a cuckoo in the nest someone who comes into a family or organisation and gradually takes control ■ adj mad (informal) ○ They must be cuckoo! Synonym eccentric. Antonym ordinary

cuckoo clock /ˈkʌkʊ klok/ noun a clock where a model of a small bird comes out at each hour and makes a noise like a cuckoo

cucumber /ˈkjuːksəmbrə/ noun a long dark green vegetable used in salads or for pickling ○ as cool as a cucumber very calm and relaxed (informal) ○ He walked out of the prison as cool as a cucumber.

cud /kʌd/ noun food chewed by an animal a second time

cuddle /ˈkʌdl/ noun a hug ○ She picked up her daughter and gave her a cuddle. Synonym embrace ■ verb to hug someone ○ The little girl was cuddling her teddy bear. ○ There was a last chance to cuddle in the taxi that took them to the airport.

cuddle up /ˈkʌdl ˈʌp/ verb □ to cuddle up to someone to hug someone ○ The children cuddled up to each other in the big armchair.

cuddly /ˈkʌdlı/ adj soft and pleasant to hold or hug

cudgel /ˈkʌdʒəl/ noun a large stick for hitting people ○ Policemen carrying cudgels broke up the demonstration. □ to take up the cudgels on someone’s behalf to start to defend someone (informal) ○ Who’s going to take up the cudgels on behalf of these abandoned children? ■ verb □ to cudgel your brains to think, hard ○ He cudgelled his brains to remember the author of the book.

cue /kjuː/ noun 1. (in a play) words after which you have to speak or act ○ He missed his cue and had to be prompted. ○ The gun-shot is your cue to rush onto the stage screaming. □ to take your cue from someone to do as someone else does ○ Watch the managing director during the negotiations and take your cue from him. 2. a long stick for playing billiards or snooker ○ Before playing his shot, he put some chalk on the tip of his cue.

cuff /kjuː/ noun 1. the end of the sleeve round the wrist ○ The collar and cuffs of his shirt were dirty and frayed. □ speaking off the cuff, an off-the-cuff speech a speech made without notes ○ He was only asked to speak at the last minute, and, for an off-the-cuff speech, it was excellent. 2. US a folded part at the bottom of each leg of a pair of trousers ○ This year, slacks with cuffs are back in fashion. (NOTE: The British term is turnup.) 3. a hit with an open hand ○ She gave him a cuff on the back of the head to shut him up. ■ verb to hit someone ○ The parents said he had cuffed the child on the head. Synonym buffet
cuff-links /ˈkʌflɪŋks/ plural noun little objects, usually linked with a chain, which hold shirt cuffs together

cuisine /ˈkwɪzn/ noun a style of cooking (meaning kitchen) ○ Chinese cuisine is very different from European. ○ French cuisine is more and more popular in England. Synonym food

cul-de-sac /kəl də sæk/ noun a small street which is only open at one end (NOTE: The plural is cul-de-sacs.)
culinary /ˈkʌlnəri/ adj referring to cooking

cull /kʌl/ noun the practice of killing a certain number of animals in order to keep the population under control ○ The deer culled...
culminate 195 curative

takes place in early October. Synonym reject verb to kill a certain number of animals in order to keep the population under control. About 10% of the deer population is culled each autumn.

culminate /'kəlɪmeɪnt/ verb to culminate in to reach a climax. The race culminated in a win for the Canadian driver.

culmination /'kʌlmɪneɪʃən/ noun a final point, grand ending. Synonym conclusion. Antonym inception.

culpable /'kʌlpəbl/ adjective likely to attract blame. Synonym guilty.

culpable homicide /'kʌlpəbl 'haɪməsdi/ noun murder or manslaughter.

culprit /'kʌlprɪt/ noun a person or thing that is responsible for a crime, for something which has gone wrong. Synonym offender.

cult /'kʌlt/ noun a small religious group.

cultivate /'kʌltɪvɪt/ verb 1. to dig and water the land to grow plants. 2. to grow plants. This field is used to cultivate new strains of wheat. 3. to do everything to get someone’s friendship. We are cultivating the new director to try to make sure we get the contract.

cultivated /'kʌltɪvətɪd/ adjective 1. who has been well educated in subjects such as music, art and literature. A really cultivated person wouldn’t be seen dead in a karaoke bar. 2. (of a plant) which is specially grown and is not wild. Wild strawberries have a more intense flavour than cultivated ones. 3. (of land) prepared for growing crops. From the air, the cultivated fields were like a brown and green quilt.

cultivation /'kʌltɪvəʃən/ noun 1. the act of preparing the soil and growing plants. The cultivation of soft fruit is very dependent on the weather. 2. under cultivation (of land) which is being cultivated. He has sixty acres under cultivation. 2. a good education. His lack of cultivation was apparent as soon as he began to speak.

cultural /'kʌltʃərəl/ adjective referring to culture. The French cultural attaché opened the exhibition. His cultural interests are very wide-ranging – from Mexican art to 12th-century Greek paintings.

1. culture /'kələr/ noun 1. a country’s civilisation, including music, art and literature. He is taking a course in Russian culture. 2. Is a TV in every home really the peak of Western culture? 2. the cultivation of plants. The culture of orchids must be done in warm damp conditions. 3. bacteria grown in a laboratory. The first part of the experiment is to grow a culture in the lab.

cultured /'kələrd/ adjective 1. civilised, well educated. Our guide was a very cultured lady from Vienna. Such behaviour is not acceptable in cultured society.

2. which has been grown artificially. Only an expert can tell the difference between a cultured pearl and a real one.

culture shock /'kələrʃʊk/ noun the shock which you feel when moving from one type of society to another which is very different.

cumbersome /'kʌmbrəs(ə)n/ adjective large and heavy. Synonym unwieldy. Antonym manageable.

cumulative /'kJʊəmjuːdʒətɪv/ adjective 1. which is added gradually, especially each year. The interest on this account is cumulative. 2. The cumulative effect of a series of late nights finally caught up with him and he fell asleep during the dinner. Which grows by adding new parts. A cumulative index is made up of several different indexes put together.

cunning /'kʌnɪŋ/ adjective cleverness and trickery. He showed cunning in his attempts to get tickets for the concert. Clever and full of tricks. They had a cunning plan to get into the exhibition free.

cunningly /'kʌnɪŋli/ adverb in a cunning way.

1. cup /'kʌp/ noun 1. a small bowl with a handle, used for drinking from. She put out a cup and saucer for everyone. 2. the liquid in a cup. He drank two cups of coffee. 3. Can I have a cup of tea? to make a cup of tea to prepare tea, usually in a pot. I’ll make you all a cup of tea. 4. it’s not my cup of tea. It’s not something I like very much. 5. informal Modern art isn’t really my cup of tea.

2. a tall silver bowl given as a prize for winning a competition. He has won three cups for golf. Verb to put your hands into the shape of a cup. He cupped his hands under the trickle of water. (Note: cupping – cupped)

3. cupboard /'kʌbəd/ noun a piece of furniture with shelves and doors. Put the jam in the cupboard. The best plates are in the dining room cupboard. She painted the cupboard doors white.

cup final /'kʌp 'fain(ə)n/ noun the last game in a football or rugby competition, where the winning side is given the silver cup.

cupful /'kʌpfʊl/ noun the quantity which a cup can hold.

cuppa /'kʌpə/ noun a cup of tea (informal)

cup tie /'kʌp tʃi/ noun a sports match between two teams as a result of which one must lose the competition.

curable /'kJʊərəəbl/ adjective (of a disease) which can be cured.

curate /'kJʊərət/ noun a priest who helps a parish priest.

curative /'kJʊərətɪv/ adjective which can cure. Synonym healing. Antonym injurious.
curator /ˈkjuərɪtər/ noun a person in charge of a museum
curb /kɜːb/ noun 1. something which holds something back ◦ The company needs to put a curb on its spending. 2. US the stone edge to a pavement ◦ He sat on the curb and watched the cars go past. ◦ Try not to hit the curb when you park. (NOTE: The British spelling is kerb.)
curiosity /ˈkjʊərɪɒsəti/ noun 1. wanting to know about something ◦ I just asked out of sheer curiosity. 2. a strange object ◦ The vase is a real curiosity – I’ve never seen anything like it before. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is curiosities.)
curious /ˈkjʊəriəs/ adj 1. strange ◦ She has a curious high-pitched voice. 2. wanting to know ◦ I’m curious to know if anything happened at the party.
curiously /ˈkjʊəriəsli/ adv 1. strangely ◦ The meat has a curiously fishy smell. ◦ Curiously enough, nobody noticed that he had dyed his hair green. 2. wanting to know ◦ She peeped curiously into the box.
curl /kɜːrl/ noun 1. a lock of hair which twists ◦ The little girl looked so sweet with her golden curls. 2. a twist in the hair ◦ My hair has a natural curl. ◦ verb 1. to make hair twist round ◦ She curled her hair round her finger. ◦ She went to the hairdresser’s to have her hair curled. 2. to twist ◦ My hair curls naturally ◦ Some creepers curl round other plants. 3. ◦ to curl up to bend your body into a round shape ◦ She curled up on the sofa and went to sleep.
curfer /ˈkɜːfər/ noun 1. a roller for curling hair 2. a player of the sport of curling
cure /kjuər/ noun something which makes a disease better ◦ Doctors are still trying to find a cure for colds. ◦ verb 1. to make your blood curl ◦ to make your blood curdle to make something become solid and sour ◦ The idea that the world was round began to gain currency in the later Middle Ages. ◦ ◦ currency /ˈkjuərənsi/ noun 1. a flow of water or air ◦ Don’t go swimming in the river – the current is very strong. ◦ A warm westerly current of air is flowing across the country. ◦ Vultures circle in rising currents of warm air. 2. a flow of electricity ◦ Switch the current off at the mains. (NOTE: Do not confuse with current.)
current /ˈkjuərənt/ noun 1. a flow of water or air ◦ Don’t go swimming in the river – the current is very strong. ◦ A warm westerly current of air is flowing across the country. ◦ Vultures circle in rising currents of warm air. 2. a flow of electricity ◦ Switch the current off at the mains. (NOTE: Do not confuse with current.) ◦ currency /ˈkjuərənsi/ noun 1. the money used in a certain country ◦ I want to change my pounds into French currency. 2. the state of being known or accepted ◦ to gain currency to become better known or more accepted ◦ The idea that the world was round began to gain currency in the later Middle Ages.
current account /ˈkjuərənt/ noun 1. a bank account from which you can take money at any time (NOTE: The US term is checking account.)
current affairs /ˈkjuərənt/ noun the political situation as it is now ◦ We are studying current affairs as part of our politics course.
currently /ˈkjuərəntli/ adv at the present time ◦ He is currently the manager of our Paris office. ◦ We are currently in the process of buying a house.
curriculum /kəˈrɪkjʊləm/ noun the subjects studied in school ◦ I am very glad that music and drama have been added to the curriculum. ◦ The National Curriculum is followed by all British schools. (NOTE: The plural is curriculums or curricula.)
curriculum vitae /ˌkjuərɪkˈvaɪti/ noun a summary of someone’s qualifications and experience
curry /ˈkɜəri/ noun an Indian food prepared with spices ◦ I would like a mild curry, please. ◦ We ordered chicken curry and rice. (NOTE: The plural is curries.) ◦ verb ◦ to curry favour with someone to try to please
curry powder

someone ○ He’s just trying to curry favour with the boss by coming in at seven o’clock in the morning.

curry powder /ˈkərɪ ˈpaʊdər/, curry paste /ˈkərɪ pæst/ noun a hot spicy powder or paste, used in Indian cooking
○ curse /kɜːs/ noun 1, a swearword ○ He threw the letter down with a curse. 2, a magic word to make something unpleasant happen to someone ○ The witch put a curse on the whole family. 3, something which causes you problems ○ Being on call 24 hours a day is the curse of a doctor. ○ Pollution is the curse of industrialised societies. verb 1, to swear ○ He cursed under his breath and marched out of the room. 2, to wish that something bad should happen to someone.

cursed /kɜːst/ adj ○ cursed with having a problem which is embarrassing or difficult to deal with ○ He’s cursed with bad health. ○ They’re cursed with noisy neighbours.

cursor /ˈkɜːsər/ noun a little arrow or a bright spot on a computer screen which shows where the next character will appear.

cursory /ˈkɜːsərē/ adj quick and not very careful. Synonym superficial

curt /kɜːt/ adj abrupt in speaking

curtail /ˈkɜːtəl/ verb to shorten something; to reduce something. Synonym limit

curtailment /ˈkɜːtəlment/ noun the act of curtailing

○ curtain /ˈkɜːtɪn/ noun 1, a long piece of cloth hanging in front of a window ○ Can you close the curtains, please? 2, a long piece of cloth hanging in front of the stage at a theatre ○ the curtain will go up at 8.30 the play begins at 8.30 ○ it will be curtains for him he will be finished ○ to draw the curtains 1, to open the curtains ○ Draw the curtains — it’s getting cold. 2, to close the curtains

curtain call /ˈkɜːtɪn kɔl/ noun the time when actors or dancers come out in front of the curtain to take a bow after the end of a performance

curtily /ˈkɜːtɪlɪ/ adv abruptly

cursy /ˈkɜːsɪ/ noun a respectful movement made by women or girls, by bending the knees and putting one foot forward ○ She made a cursy to the queen. □ bow □ verb ○ to curtsy to someone to make a curtsy to someone

curvature /ˈkɜːvətʃər/ noun being bent into a curve

○ curve /kɜːv/ noun 1, a round shape like part of a circle ○ The road makes a sharp curve to the left. 2, a rounded shape on a graph ○ a steep learning curve the process of having to learn new skills fast ○ verb to make a rounded shape ○ The road curves round the side of the mountain. Synonym bend. Antonym straighten

curved /ˈkɜːvɪd/ adj with a rounded shape. Synonym rounded. Antonym angular

○ cushion /ˈkʌʃ(ə)n/ noun 1, a bag filled with something soft, e.g. feathers, for sitting or leaning on ○ Feel how soft this cushion is. ○ Put a cushion behind your back if you find your chair is too hard. 2, money which allows you to get through a difficult period ○ We have a little money in the bank which is a useful cushion when cash is tight. □ verb to make soft something which could be hard or painful ○ Luckily when he fell off the ladder there was a hedge underneath to cushion his fall. ○ She made no attempt to cushion the blow, but just told them straight out that they were all being sacked.

○ cushy /ˈkʌʃ(ə)/ (of a job) easy (informal) Antonym difficult (NOTE: cushier – cushiest)

custard /ˈkʌstərd/ noun 1. □ (egg) custard a sweet sauce, made with eggs and milk, flavoured with vanilla, baked until set and eaten warm or cold 2. (in the UK) a sweet yellow sauce made with milk and a powder containing cornflour ○ stewed rhubarb and custard ○ Would you like some custard with your crumble?

custodial sentence /ˈkʌstədiəl ˈsentəns/ noun the fact of being legally sentenced to prison

custodian /ˈkʌstədiən/ noun 1. a person who is legally entrusted to look after someone or something 2. a person who guards a museum or other public building ○ The museum custodian was sound asleep and didn’t hear any noise.

custody /ˈkʌstədi/ noun 1. keeping ○ The jewels were in the custody of the manager, and he had placed them in the hotel safe. □ to take someone into custody to arrest someone ○ The three fans were taken into police custody. 2. the right of keeping and looking after a child ○ When they were divorced, she was granted custody of the children. (NOTE: no plural)

○ custom /ˈkʌstəm/ noun 1. a habit, a thing which is usually done ○ It’s a local custom in this part of the world. 2. the use of a shop ○ If the assistants are rude to me again I will take my custom elsewhere. □ to lose someone’s custom to do something which makes a regular customer go to another place of business, e.g. a restaurant or shop ○ The little corner shops will lose a lot of custom when the new supermarket is built.

customary /ˈkʌstəməri/ adj usual

custom-built /ˈkʌstəm bɪlt/ , custom-made /ˈkʌstəm ˈmɛd/ adj made to order for a customer
customer /'kæstəmə/ noun 1. a person who buys something in a shop ○ The shops are lowering their prices to attract customers. ○ She was locking up the shop when a customer came in. ○ His shop is always full of customers. 2. a person who uses a service such as a train ○ We apologise to customers waiting on Platform 5 for the late arrival of their train.

customise /'kæstəmaɪz/, customize /'kæstəmaɪz/ verb to have something changed to fit your special needs

custom-made /'kæstəm 'mɛrd/ adj alternative for custom-built customiser /kæstəmaɪzər/ noun 1. H.M. Customs and Excise the British government department which organises the collection of taxes on goods coming into the country and also collects VAT ○ He was stopped by customs. ○ Her car was searched by customs. ○ The customs officer asked her to open her bag. 2. an office of this department at a port or airport □ to go through customs to pass through the area of a port or airport where customs officials examine goods ○ When you come into the country, you have to go through customs. □ to take something through customs to carry something through the customs area without always declaring it ○ She said that her boyfriend had asked her to take the case through customs for him. 3. cut /kʌt/ verb 1. to make an opening or to stop someone from being with someone ○ He had cut his hair. 2. to remove something using a sharp tool, e.g. a knife or scissors ○ The meat is very tough – I can’t cut it with my knife. ○ He needs to get his hair cut. ○ There were six children, so she cut the cake into six pieces. 3. to hurt yourself by making a wound in the skin ○ She cut her finger on the broken glass. ○ He cut himself while shaving. 4. to reduce the size of something ○ We are trying to cut the number of staff. ○ Accidents have been cut by 10%. ○ The article is too long, so I asked the author to cut 500 words. 5. □ to cut a corner to try to go round a corner quickly, by driving on the pavement ○ He was trying to cut corners. 6. □ to cut corners and the result was that the whole job had to be redone. 7. to look at someone and pretend not to recognise him or her ○ When I held out my hand she cut me dead. (NOTE: cutting – cut – has cut) ■ noun 1. a place which bleeds when your skin has been broken ○ She had a bad cut on her leg. ○ Put some sticking plaster on your cut. 2. a mark made in a surface by something sharp 3. the sudden lowering of something, e.g. a price or salary ○ price cuts ○ cuts in prices □ he took a cut in salary or a salary cut he accepted a lower salary 4. the act of stopping the supply of something, e.g. water or electricity ○ There were power cuts again during the night. 5. a piece of meat ○ You can use a cheaper cut of meat if you’re making stew. 6. a share of something such as profits ○ Each salesperson gets a cut of what he or she can sell for cash. 7. cut across /kæt əkˈkrɒs/, cut through /kæt əˈθruː/ verb to take a short cut to get somewhere cut and paste /kæt ən 'pɛst/ noun the act of taking a selection of text from one point and inserting it at another 8. cut back /kæt 'bæk/ verb to reduce spending ○ We are having to cut back on staff costs. cutback /'kæt'bæk/ noun a reduction in spending 9. cut down /kæt 'daʊn/ verb 1. to make a tree fall down with a tool such as a saw ○ He cut the tree down or cut down the tree. 2. to cut down (on) to reduce something ○ We are trying to get him to cut down the number of cigarettes he smokes each day. ○ I’m trying to cut down on chocolate. 10. cut /kʌt/ adj nice. Antonym ugly cuteness /'kjuːtnəs/ noun niceness, the fact of being cute. Antonym ugliness cuticle /'kjuːtɪk(ə)l/ noun the hard skin at the base of a fingernail or toenail cut in /kæt 'ɪn/ verb 1. to interrupt someone or something ○ He would keep on cutting in while I was telling the story. 2. to drive suddenly in front of another car ○ Did you see how the little white car cut in in front of the black one? cutlass /'kjuːtlæs/ noun a short curved sword, used in the navy and by cavalry (NOTE: The plural is cutlasses.) cutlery /'kʌtləri/ noun knives, forks and spoons (NOTE: no plural) cutlet /'kʌtlət/ noun 1. a slice of meat, usually with a bone attached ○ We were served veal cutlets with mushroom sauce. 2. a fried dish made with minced meat, fish or vegetables formed into the shape of a piece of meat ○ She makes delicious fish cutlets. cut off /kæt əf/ verb 1. to take away a small part of something using a sharp tool such as a knife ○ She cut off a little piece of string. ○ He cut off two slices of ham. 2. to stop someone from being with someone or reaching a place ○ She was cut off from her friends by a crowd of policemen. ○ The village was cut off by the snow. ○ The tide came in and cut off a party of schoolchildren. 3. to stop a phone call before it is finished ○ We were cut off in the middle of our conversation. 4. to stop electricity or water from reaching someone ○ He didn’t pay the bill, so the company cut off his electricity. ○ The
**cutoff** 199

lightning hit the generator and caused the power to be cut off.

**cutoff** /ˈkʌtʃ/ noun something which marks the end of something ◎ The cutoff point for students going to the next level is 80% marks in the exam. ◎ What is the cutoff date for applications?

◆ **cut out** /ˈkʌt/ 'aʊt/ verb 1. to remove a small piece of something such as paper by cutting it from a larger piece ◎ She cut an advertisement out of the newspaper. ◎ He used a pair of scissors to cut out the picture. 2. to stop doing or eating something ◎ She’s decided to cut out sweets so as to lose weight. ◎ cut it out! stop doing that! 3. to be cut out for something ◎ to be ideally suited ◎ be cut out for something ◎ be cut out for something ◎ to be ideally suited ◎ be cut out for something

**cycle** /ˈsɜːkl/ noun 1. a bicycle ◎ If your bike’s got a flat tyre, take it to the cycle shop. 2. a period during which something develops and then returns to its starting point ◎ Global warming is starting to affect the natural cycle of the seasons. ◎ The washing machine broke down in the middle of the spin cycle. ◎ a business or economic or trade cycle ◎ a period during which trade expands, then slows down, then expands again ◎ verb to go on a bicycle ◎ It’s hard cycling against the wind. ◎ She thinks nothing of cycling ten miles to work every day.

**cycle path** /ˈsɜːkl ˈpæθ/ noun a special path for cyclists

◆ **cyclist** /ˈsɜːklɪst/ noun a person who rides a bicycle

**cyclone** /ˈsɜːklən/ noun 1. an area of low pressure, usually associated with bad weather. Compare anticyclone 2. a tropical storm in the Indian and Pacific Oceans, where the air moves very fast in a circle round a central area ◎ According to the shipping forecasts, a cyclone is approaching Sri Lanka. (NOTE: In the Far East this is called a typhoon; in the Caribbean a hurricane.)

**cygnet** /ˈsɪgnət/ noun a baby swan

**cylinder** /ˈsɪlnəd/ noun 1. an object shaped like a round tube closed at both ends 2. a part of an engine, in which a piston moves ◎ The car has a six-cylinder engine. ◎ The engine seems to lack power – maybe it’s not firing on all six cylinders.

**cylindrical** /ˈsɪlnədrɪk(ə)/ adj shaped like a cylinder

**cymbals** /ˈsɪmbəlz/ plural noun a pair of round metal plates which are banged together to make a loud noise (NOTE: Do not confuse with symbols.)

**cynic** /ˈsɪnɪk/ noun a person who doubts that anyone has any good points
cynical /ˈsɪnɪk(ə)/ adj doubting that anyone has any good points
cynically /ˈsɪnɪklɪ/ adv in a cynical, mocking way
cynicism /ˈsɪnɪzəzm/ noun the fact of being cynical

cypher /ˈsaɪfər/ noun another spelling of cipher
cypress /ˈsæpsrəs/ noun a type of evergreen tree of the Mediterranean region (NOTE: The plural is cypresses.)

**Cypriot** /ˈsɪprɪət/ adj referring to Cyprus

cyst /ˈsɪst/ noun an unusual growth in the body containing liquid. Synonym swelling
cystic fibrosis /ˈsɪstɪk fɪˈbɒrəsɪs/ noun
a disease of the pancreas, a hereditary disease in which breathing and digestion are difficult

cystitis /ˈsɪstɪtɪs/ noun an infection of the bladder which gives a burning feeling when you pass water

czar /tzar/ noun 1. the title of the former emperor of Russia ◆ a photograph of the Czar and his family (NOTE: The British spelling is tsar.) 2. the person in overall charge of some official organisation ◆ He’s the new drugs czar, with complete responsibility for fighting drug traffickers and dealing with drug problems.
d /diː/ D noun the fourth letter of the alphabet, between C and E  
3 DA abbr district attorney  
dab /dæb/ verb to give something a light tap  
 □ She dabbed her eyes with her handkerchief.  
□ She dabbed the cut with cotton wool soaked in antiseptic. Synonym pat □ to dab something on to apply something by pressing lightly  
□ You can dab the paint on with a little brush.  
■ noun 1. a small quantity  
□ She put a dab of glue on each corner of the poster.  
■ a little tap  
□ The nurse gave the cut a dab with some cotton wool.  
3. a type of small flat fish  
dabble /ˈdæbl/ verb 1. □ to dabble with or in something to be slightly involved in something  
□ As a young man he dabbled in politics.  
2. £ to play around with your hands or feet in water  
□ The children dabbed their toes in the brook.  
dachshund /ˈdæksənd/ noun a breed of small long low dog, originally from Germany  
daddy /ˈdædi/ noun a father  
□ the daddy of them all  
□ the daddy of them  
daddy-long-legs /ˈdædɪ ˈlɒŋ lɛɡz/ noun an insect with very long legs  
daffodil /ˈdæfədɪl/ noun a bright yellow spring flower  
daft /daft/ adj silly (informal)  
Antonym sensible (NOTE: darter – daintiest)  
dagger /ˈdægər/ noun a short knife  
□ they are at daggers drawn they are very hostile to each other  
□ The MD is at daggers drawn with the rest of the directors.  
□ to look daggers at someone to look angrily at someone  
□ daily /ˈdædɪl/ adj happening every day □ daily newspapers such as ‘The Times’ and the ‘Daily Mail’  
□ The cooker has been in daily use for ten years.  
□ There’s a daily flight to Washington. Synonym everyday □ daily life the things that happen to you every day □ daily routine the things which you do every day □ Buying a newspaper on his way to work and a bar of chocolate on his way home is all part of his daily routine.  
■ noun a newspaper published every weekday □ The story was carried on the front page of most of the dailies. (NOTE: The plural is dailies.)  
□ adv every day □ twice daily two times a day  
dainty /ˈdænti/ adj delicate and small. Synonym pretty. Antonym clumsy (NOTE: dafter – daintiest)  
dairy /ˈdeəri/ noun a place where milk, cream and butter are processed or sold  
□ dairy farm /ˈdeəri ˈfɜːm/ noun a farm which produces milk, cheese, etc.  
dairy produce /ˈdeəri ˈprədjuːs/ noun milk, butter, cream, etc. (NOTE: The plural is dairies.)  
daïs /dazeɪ/ noun a raised area at the end of a large hall. Synonym platform  
daisy /ˈdeəzi/ noun a small white flower with a yellow centre □ as fresh as a daisy  
very fresh, not tired (informal)  
□ She was at a party all night, but still came into the office this morning as fresh as a daisy.  
dale /ˈdæl/ noun (in the North of England) a valley. Synonym hill  
daily /ˈdeɪli/ verb to spend a long time doing something. Synonym linger  
dalmatian /ˈdælmeɪʃən/ noun a large white dog with black spots  
dam /dæm/ noun a wall of earth or concrete which blocks a river to make a lake  
□ After the rainstorm people were afraid the dam would burst. Synonym barrier □ verb to block a river with a wall of earth or concrete  
□ When they built the power station, the river had to be dammed. (NOTE: damming – damned)  
□ damage /ˈdæmɪdʒ/ noun 1. the breaking or physical spoiling of something  
□ The storm did a lot of damage.  
□ It will take us months to repair the damage to the restaurant.  
□ The fire caused damage estimated at £100,000.  
□ to suffer damage to be harmed  
□ The car suffered serious damage in the collision.  
2. emotional harm done to a person  
□ I hope the experience won’t cause the children lasting damage.  
□ verb to harm something  
□ A large number of shops were damaged in the fire.  
□ Glasses need to be packed carefully as they are easily damaged. Synonym injure. Antonym repair  
damage limitation /ˈdæmɪdʒ ɪˈlɪmɪteɪʃən/ noun the act of limiting the amount of damage which will occur
damages 202
dangle

damages /dæmɪdʒɪz/ plural noun payment to someone who has been hurt or whose property has been damaged
damaging /dæmɪdʒɪŋ/ adj causing harm to someone or something
damask /dəmɑsk/ noun a kind of material with a pattern woven into it, often used for tablecloths
dame /dəm/ noun 1. (in a pantomime) an old woman played by a male actor (NOTE: Dame is the equivalent to ‘Sir’ for men. 2. US a woman (informal) (Who’s that dame I saw you with last night? 3. a title given to some woman (NOTE: Dame is the equivalent to ‘Sir’ for men.

dammit /dəmɪt/ noun □ as near as dammit very near (informal) □ He made £10,000, or as near as dammit.
damn /dəm/ noun □ I don’t give a damn used to say emphatically that you do not care at all (informal) □ verb 1. used to show annoyance □ Damn it, we’re going to be late. □ Damn him, he’s left the front door open! 2. to severely criticise someone or something □ The new film was damned by the Sunday papers. 3. to condemn someone or something in a religious situation □ Galileo was damned by the Church for saying that the Earth turned round the Sun. □ interj used as a mild swear word to show annoyance □ Damn! I’ve left my umbrella on the train.
dammed /dədʒ/ adj, adv used as a mild swear word to express annoyance (informal) □ I’ll be damned if I’ll allow her to do that I will certainly never let her do that □ I’ll try my damnedest to get to the meeting I will do everything I can to get to the meeting
damning /dæmɪŋ/ adj which clearly proves that someone has done something wrong

damp /dæmp/ adj rather wet □ She’d just had a shower and her hair was still damp. □ The cellar has cold damp walls. (NOTE: damper – dampest) □ noun moisture in the air or on a surface □ The damp makes my rhematism worse. □ verb to wet something slightly □ The dew has dampened the grass.
dampen /dæmpən/ verb 1. to make something slightly wet □ Dampen the cloth before you wipe the floor. □ She dampened the shirts before ironing them. 2. □ to dampen someone’s enthusiasm to do something to make someone less enthusiastic □ The bad weather dampened his enthusiasm for sailing.
damper /dæmpə/ noun 1. something which discourages you □ Having just been sacked put a damper on his birthday party. 2. a plate at the back of a fireplace which regulates the draught 3. (in Australia) a flat bread made from flour and water cooked on a fire
dampness /dæmpnəs/ noun the fact of being damp. Synonym humidity
damson /dæmsən/ noun 1. a small purple plum □ a pot of damson jam 2. a tree which bears this fruit □ We planted a damson in our garden.

dance /dɑns/ noun 1. a way of moving in time to music □ She teaches dance or it is a dance teacher. □ We learnt a new dance today. □ Scottish dances are very lively. 2. an evening entertainment for a group of people where you can dance □ The club is holding a New Year’s dance. □ They met at a youth club dance. □ verb 1. to move in time to music □ There he is – he’s dancing with that tall girl. □ She often goes to discos but never dances. 2. to move or jump around happily □ She danced into the room and announced she’d got the job. □ The football fans were dancing in the streets.
dance floor /dɑns flɔ/ noun a specially polished floor for dancing on

dancer /dɑnsə/ noun a person who dances

dancing /dænsɪŋ/ noun the action of moving to music (NOTE: no plural)
dandelion /dændəliən/ noun a wild plant, with yellow flowers which have a mass of little narrow petals
dandrift /dændrɪf/ noun small pieces of dry skin which come off your head
dandy /dændi/ noun a man who is very interested in clothes (dated) (NOTE: The plural is dandies.)

Dane /dæn/ noun a person from Denmark.

Great Dane

danger /dændʒər/ noun the possibility of something bad happening, e.g. damage, failure or getting hurt □ When it rains, there’s a danger of flooding. □ The broken window is a danger to office security. □ There’s a danger we won’t get there in time. □ We were warned of the dangers of traveling alone in the desert. □ Out of danger, off the danger list not likely to die □ She was very ill, but she’s off the danger list now.
danger money /dændʒər ˈmʌni/ noun a payment for a dangerous job

dangerous /dændʒərəs/ adj which can cause injury or damage □ Be careful – that old staircase is dangerous! □ Those electric wires are dangerous. □ Children are warned that it is dangerous to go out alone at night.
dangerously /dændʒərəli/ adv in a dangerous way □ to be dangerously ill to be very ill
dangle /dæŋɡəl/ verb 1. to hang freely □ The fish dangled at the end of his line. □ Dirty sheets were dangling over the balcony.
2. to make something hang freely ◆ She dangled her puppet in front of the baby.

Danish  /ˈdænsɪʃ/ noun the language spoken in Denmark

dark pastry /ˈdɑːrk pastrɪ/ noun a sweet pastry cake with jam or fruit folded in it (NOTE: also called simply a Danish: an apple Danish)
dark /ˈdɑːrk/ adj cold and damp. Synonym damp. Antonym humid
dappled /ˈdeɪpləd/ adj covered with patches of light and dark colour. Synonym speckled

dare /dər/ verb 1. to be brave enough to do something ◆ I bet you wouldn’t dare put your hand into the cage and stroke that tiger. ○ I dare say very probably ○ I dare say you’re right. ○ to dare not do something to not be brave enough to do something ◆ I daren’t go out or I don’t dare go out or I dare not go out into the street while that man is standing there. 2. to challenge someone to do something by suggesting it is cowardly not to do it ◆ I dared him to go the meeting in his pink tracksuit. 3. used for telling someone how angry you are ◆ Don’t you dare do that again! ○ How dare you look in my desk drawers!

daredevil /ˈdɑːrdev(ə)l/ adj not worrying about danger ◆ His daredevil act on the tightrope. Synonym reckless. Antonym staid ◆ a brave person who does not worry about danger ◆ He’s a daredevil – he flew his plane under Tower Bridge. Antonym stick-in-the-mud
daring /ˈdærɪŋ/ adj brave, but foolish at the same time ◆ That was a very daring thing to do. ○ It was very daring of you to ask the boss for the day off. ○ noun bravery ◆ The helicopter pilot showed great daring in trying to rescue the boy from the cliff. Synonym bravery. Antonym cowardice (NOTE: no plural)

dark /dɑːrk/ adj 1. with little or no light ◆ The sky turned dark and it started to rain. ○ Can you switch the light on – it’s getting too dark to see. ◆ In Scotland in the summer it gets dark very late. 2. not a light colour ◆ Her eyes are dark. ○ She was wearing a dark blue coat. 3. with black or brown hair ◆ He’s quite dark, but his sister has red hair. 4. ◆ to keep something dark to keep something a secret ◆ They kept their plans dark from the rest of the family. ○ Keep it dark! – I don’t want anyone to know about it.

dark chocolate /ˈdɑːrk ˈʃɒkəlt/ noun dark brown chocolate which is quite bitter. Synonym plain chocolate
darken /ˈdɑːrkən/ verb to become dark. Synonym blacken. Antonym brighten

darkened /ˈdɑːrkənd/ adj which has been made dark
dark glasses /ˈdɑːrk ˈgɑːzləz/ plural noun glasses with lenses made of dark glass, for wearing in sunshine. Also called shades
dark horse /ˈdɑːrk hɔːz/ noun a person you know nothing about and who may win something such as an election or a race
darkly /ˈdɑːrkli/ adv in a threatening or frightening way

darkness /ˈdɑːrknəs/ noun the fact of not having any light. Synonym dark ○ the building was in complete or total darkness there were no electric lights on in the building
daring /ˈdɑːrɪŋ/ adj lovable, which you can love ◆ What a darling little car! Synonym wonderful. Antonym horrible ◆ a name used to talk to someone you love ◆ Darling! I’m back from the shops. 2. a lovable person ◆ She’s an absolute darling! ◆ Be a darling and fetch me the newspaper.
darn /dɑːrn/ verb to mend holes in clothes ◆ She hates darning socks. Synonym sew ◆ noun a place where clothes have been mended ◆ You can easily see the darns because you used a different colour wool.
dart /dɑːrt/ noun a small heavy arrow with plastic feathers, used for playing the game of darts ◆ Each player takes a turn to throw his or her three darts. ○ verb to rush somewhere ◆ The little boy darted across the street. ○ We sat by the river and watched the dragonflies darting about in the rushes. Antonym saunter
darts /dɑːrts/ noun a game for two or more people, played by each player throwing three darts in turn at a round board (NOTE: not plural, and takes a singular verb)

Darwinism /ˈdɑrɛvɪnɪzəm/ noun a theory of evolution developed by the scientist Charles Darwin
dash /dæʃ/ noun 1. a small amount ○ tomato juice with a dash of sauce 2. a little line in writing or printing, showing a space or to separate items ◆ The reference number is one four six dash seven (146–7). 3. a sudden rush ◆ There was a mad dash to buy tickets. ○ While the policeman wasn’t looking she made a dash for the door. (NOTE: The plural is dashes.) ○ verb to rush somewhere ○ I
can’t stop now – I must dash to catch the last put. o I dashed home to watch the football on television. o She dashed into a shop so that he wouldn’t see her.

dashboard /ˈdæʃbɔ/ noun the instrument panel in a car.

dashing /ˈdæʃɪŋ/ adj very smart and forceful.

data /ˈdeɪtə/ noun statistical information.

- The data is stored in our main computer. ○ The data is easily available.

- We spent months gathering data on hospital waiting times. ○ The data shows that, on average, germination takes place after two weeks. (NOTE: Data is often used with a singular verb, except in scientific contexts: The data is easily available.)

- database /ˈdeɪtəbəs/ noun data stored in a computer, which can be used to provide information of various kinds. Synonym data bank.

- data processing /ˈdeɪtə ˈprəusənsɪpi/ noun the selecting and examining of data in a computer to produce information in a special form. Also called information processing.

- data protection /ˈdeɪtə ˈprətekʃən/ noun the practice of making sure that computerised information about people does not get into the wrong hands.

- data retrieval /ˈdeɪtə ˈrɪtrɪv(ə)l/ noun the act of getting back data which is stored in a computer.

- date /deɪt/ noun 1. the number of a day in a month or year, or a day when something will happen or happened in the past. ○ Put today’s date on the cheque. ○ What’s the date next Wednesday? ○ The dates of the exhibition have been changed. ○ The date of the next meeting has been fixed for Wednesday, June 15th. ○ Do you remember the date of your girlfriend’s birthday? ○ departure date, date of departure the day on which you leave somewhere. 2. a time agreed for a meeting, usually between romantic partners. ○ We made a date to meet at the Italian restaurant. ○ He asked her out on a date. ○ a blind date a meeting arranged between two people who have never met before. 3. a small sweet brown fruit of the date palm. ○ verb 1. to write the date on something. ○ The cheque was dated the 15th of June. ○ You forgot to date the cheque. 2. to date from or back to to exist since. ○ This house dates from or dates back to the 17th century. 3. to give the date of something, e.g. an old piece of wood, a monument or an antique. ○ The bowl has been dated to 1500 BC. 4. especially US to agree to meet someone regularly as a romantic partner. ○ He’s dating my sister. 5. to become old-fashioned. ○ Little black dresses don’t date.

daylight saving time /ˈdeɪtlɪt ˈseɪvɪŋ taim/ noun an imaginary line in the Pacific Ocean which marks the change in date from east to west.

dateline /ˈdeɪtləni/ noun (in a newspaper) a heading with the date and place showing where a report from a foreign correspondent has come from.

date of birth /ˈdeɪt av ˈbɜːθ/ noun the date on which someone was born. ○ The date rape noun the act of raping someone you know, especially on a date. ○ verb to rape someone you know, especially on a date.

date stamp /ˈdeɪt st/əmp/ noun for marking the date on documents or for marking the sell-by date on goods.

daub /dɔ/ noun a substance such as paint put on a surface in a careless way. Synonym daunt.

daub verb to put a substance such as paint on a surface in a careless way. Synonym daunt.

daubed /dɔd/ verb to discourage or frighten someone. Antonym encourage.

daubed not discouraged at all. ○ He saw the crocodile and, nothing daunted, continued to walk along the river bank.

dawning /ˈdaʊnɪŋ/ adj which seems very difficult. Synonym intimidating.

daylight saving time /ˈdeɪtlɪt ˈseɪvɪŋ taim/ noun the wife of a son (NOTE: The plural is daughers-in-law.)

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daylight saving time /ˈdeɪtlɪt ˈse
daybreak

every other day
every two days
(i.e., on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, etc.)

daydream
to think about other things; not to

Daytime
day time

dead
not alive any more
His parents are both dead.
Dead fish were floating in the water.
Dead leaves leaves into piles.
Six people were dead as a result of the accident.
Wouldn't be seen dead in would not ever want to be seen
in (informal) I wouldn't be seen dead in a hat like that.
A really cultivated person wouldn't be seen dead in a karaoke bar.
As dead as a dodo completely dead or no longer able to function (informal)
The plan is as dead as a dodo now that the banks have refused their support.
To drop dead
to die suddenly
He dropped dead in the middle of the High Street.
complete
There was dead silence in the exam room.
The train came to a dead stop.
not working
The line went dead the telephone line suddenly stopped working.
I was talking on the phone when suddenly the line went dead.
not lively, not exciting
Seaside towns can be quite dead in winter.
Adv 1, completely
He was dead tired after his long walk.
Exactly You're dead right.
The train arrived dead on time.

dreaming about holidays in Greece.

the bank in broad daylight.

we'll have enough money to go on holiday.

He was sitting in a daydream, with the guidebook on his lap.

It took the workmen four days to build the wall.

He phones his mother every other day.

Two days off every other day.

White day trip a journey lasting one day.

daytime a period of light between morning and night.

He slept during the daytime because he works at night.

school time

day trip

Dateline

Synonym

daze
confused, not mentally alert

He stumbled out of the room in a daze.

The dazzle of the headlights on the wet road caused the driver to swerve.

glare
verb to blind someone for a moment

She was dazzled by the lights of the cars coming towards her.

surprise
very bright

Dazzling

Dazzle

Confused

daycare

Centre

Centre

Day centre
da centre

Day centre

Deacon

Deactivate

Deaf

dead

Dead

dead as a dodo
not active any more

Parents are both dead.

Dead fish were floating in the water.

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noun a memorial to the dead of the two World Wars.
dead beat 206
dead beat /dɛd bɪt/ adj tired out (informal) o I was dead beat after moving all those books. Synonym spent n noun a lazy unsuccessful person, who has no money (slang insult)
deaden /dɛdən/ verb to make something less intense, e.g. to make a sound quieter or a pain less painful. Synonym soften
dead end /dɛd end/ noun 1. a street or way which leads nowhere o We drove into a little street and found it was a dead end. 2. a point at which you can go no further o All their research has come to a dead end.
dead-end job /dɛd end ˈdʒɒb/ noun a job where there is no hope of promotion
dead heat /dɛd ˈhɪt/ noun a race where two people arrive first together
deadline /dɛdlizn/ noun a date by which something has to be done. Synonym time limit □ to meet a deadline to finish something in time o They worked as fast as they could but missed the deadline by two days.
deadlock /dɛdlɒk/ noun a point at which two sides in a dispute cannot agree o The negotiations have reached a deadlock. Synonym impasse □ to break a deadlock to find a way to start discussions again after being at a point at which no agreement was possible. □ verb to be unable to agree to continue negotiations o Talks have been deadlocked for ten days.
deadly /dɛdlɪ/ adj, adv 1. which will kill o Don’t eat those mushrooms – they’re deadly poisonous. o The female spider is deadlier than the male. 2. very serious or bitter o They are deadly rivals. o He was deadly serious. (NOTE: deadlier – deadliest)
deadpan adj, adv not showing your feelings in your face
dead wood /dɛd ˈwʊd/ noun people or things that are considered to be of no worth
deaf /dɛf/ adj not able to hear, or having difficulty in hearing o My grandma is going deaf. o He’s deadlier than he used to be. (NOTE: Some people avoid this term as it can cause offence and prefer hearing-impaired.) □ to be stone deaf to be completely deaf □ to turn a deaf ear to something not to agree to what someone is asking for n noun o the deaf people who cannot hear o Their son goes to a school for the deaf.
dead-and-dumb /dɛd ən ˈdʌm/ adj not able to hear or speak (dated) (NOTE: Some people avoid this term as it can cause offence.)
defeat /dɛfət/ verb to make someone deaf for a time
defeating /dɛfətɪŋ/ adj so loud as to make you unable to hear. Antonym noiseless
defail /mjuːt/ noun a person who cannot hear or speak (dated offensive)
**dearest**

Fresh fruit is always dearer in the winter. O That restaurant is too dear for me. (NOTE: dearer – dearest) interj meaning how annoying O Oh dear! It’s started to rain. O Dear me! Is that how late it is! noun a way of referring to someone you like O Be a dear, and pass me my glasses. O Did you have a good day at the office, dear?

**dearest** /ˈdeərəst/ adj most loved (dated) dearly /ˈdeərli/ adv 1. very much O I’d dearly like to go to Cuba on holiday. O She loved her old cat dearly, and was very sad when he died. 2. at a high cost, especially in terms of pain or suffering O She became a highly paid executive, but paid dearly for the privilege.


O death /deθ/ noun 1. the act of dying or the state of being dead O She never got over her mother’s death. O Road accidents caused over 1,000 deaths last year. O to put someone to death to execute someone. O to death completely (informal) O He was bored to death sitting watching football on television. O I am sick to death of always having to do the housework.

deathbed /ˈdeθbɛd/ noun a bed on which someone is dying.

death certificate /ˈdeθ səˈtɛrifət/ noun a paper signed by a doctor which shows that someone has died and what was the cause of death.

death duty /deθ djuˈtɪ/ noun US a tax paid on the value of the things left by a dead person (NOTE: The British term is inheritance tax.)

deathly /ˈdeθli/ adv as if dead O As she read the letter she turned deathly pale. Synonym extremely. Antonym slightly. O like death O He gave a cheery ‘Hello there!’ as he walked in, only to be greeted by a deathly silence. Synonym deadly.

death penalty /ˈdeθ pɛnsəlɪtɪ/ noun a legal sentence of a criminal to be executed.

death rate /deθ rɛt/ noun the percentage of deaths per thousand of population.

death sentence /ˈdeθ sɛntəns/ noun a punishment of a court by which a person is sentenced to be executed.

death squad /ˈdeθ skwɔd/ noun a group of soldiers or other armed people, who are sent to kill enemies of the people in power.

death throes /ˈdeθ ˈθrouz/ plural noun great suffering just before death.

death toll /ˈdeθ tɔl/ noun the number of people who have been killed, e.g. in an accident or an earthquake.

deathtrap /ˈdeθtræp/ noun a dangerous place (informal).
debtor /dɪˈtɔːr/ noun a person who owes money. Synonym borrower

debt relief /ˈdɛt rɪˈliːf/ noun the practice of a rich country allowing a poor country not to pay back its debt.

debug /diˈbʌɡ/ verb 1. to remove hidden microphone from a place 2. to remove errors from a computer program (NOTE: debugged)

debug /ˈdɛbʌɡ/ verb to show that something is not true

debut /ˈdɛbjʊt/ noun the first public appearance of someone such as an actor or of falling into ruin

decent /dɪˈsɛnt/ adj which is declining in moral values. Synonym debauched

decadent /dɪˈkædənt/ adj 1. dishoneste

decadence /ˈdɪs(ə)nsi/ noun honour, good morals (NOTE: no plural)

decadence /ˈdɪs(ə)nsi/ noun honesty (NOTE: no plural)

decathlon /ˈdɛkəlθən/ noun an athletic contest for men, covering ten events, held over two days

decay /diˈkeɪ/ noun the process of rotting or of falling into ruin. The government has plans to deal with inner city decay. Tooth decay is especially bad in children who eat sweets. You must treat the wood to prevent decay. (NOTE: no plural) verb to rot, to fall into ruin Sugar makes your teeth decay.

decapitate /diˈkæpətɪt/ verb to cut off someone's head. Synonym behead

decapitation /ˈdɪ.kæpəˈteɪʃ(ə)n/ noun the act of cutting off someone's head

decathlet /dɪˈkæθlɛt/ noun an athlete who competes in the decathlon

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deceased /dɪˈsiːst/ noun a person who has died (formal)

deceit /ˈdiːsuɪt/ noun the practice of trying to trick someone into paying money or trying to make someone believe something which is not true. Synonym dishonesty (NOTE: no plural)

decisive /ˈdiːsɪv/ adj often tricking people. Synonym dishonest
Making up your mind to do something is decisive. But didn’t come to any decision.

Man forests have been decimated by acid rain. Our sales have been decimated by the rise in the value of the pound.

The British term is a pack of cards. The word for playing cassettes in the US is a deckhand.

I’ll stay on deck because I’m feeling seasick.

1. To list the goods you are carrying.
2. To paint a room or a building or put new wallpaper in a room.
3. To put icing on a cake.
4. To analyse the way language works in literary texts.

A medicine which makes something such as a blocked nose less congested.

The only decoration allowed was a pattern of geometric shapes.

The Senator declared his independence to a state by the country that once colonized it.

Our sales declined sharply.

The customs officials asked him if he had anything to declare.

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decorative /ˈdekərətɪv/ adj pleasant to look at; serving as a decoration. Antonym 
ugly
decorator /ˈdekərētər/ noun a person who paints the inside and outside of buildings
decorum /dɪˈkɔrəm/ noun the practice of being well behaved. Antonym dignity

dedication of his collection of poems to his wife.

A Synonym

entice

Something or someone to join have decreased by 20%.

Road accidents is decreasing.

A Synonym

decay

To offer a book to someone as a mark of respect or affection.

dedicated her life to the service of the poor.

A Synonym

Synonym
depression

Dedication and hard work are admirable.

decorative 210 deep end

 Palace to receive his decoration from the Queen. ○ Old soldiers were wearing their decorations for the November 11th parade.

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Dedication and hard work are admirable.
defend /drɪfend/ noun the loss of a fight, vote or game. The government suffered a defeat in Parliament last night. It was the team’s first defeat for two years. verb to beat someone in a fight, game or vote. The proposal was defeated by 10 votes to 3. The ruling party was heavily defeated in the presidential election. Our team has not been defeated so far this season.

defeat /drɪfət/ noun the action of defeating.

defective /drɪfɪktɪv/ adj faulty.

defender /drɪfendər/ noun a person who defends the to defend the enemy. Synonym traitor.

defense /drɪfens/ noun 1. protection against something. e.g. attack or infection. Several people ran to her defence when she was attacked by muggers. These tablets offer a limited defence against the disease. Some countries spend more on defence than on education. The Ministry of Defence is the government department dealing with the army, navy and air force.

defence /drɪfens/ plural noun walls, trenches, etc., which are made to protect something. The US spelling is defences.

defensive /drɪfensɪv/ adj not able to protect yourself (NOTE: The US spelling is defensiveness.)

defensive /drɪfensɪs/ noun when your defences are down when you are not prepared for an attack. Pickpockets often strike when you’re relaxing and your defences are down.

defend /drɪfend/ verb 1. to protect someone who is being attacked. He jumped forward to defend his wife against the robbers. She couldn’t defend herself against the assault. (in a law court) to speak on behalf of an accused person. He hired the best lawyers to defend him. The barrister who is defending my uncle is to defend a lawsuit.
defendant /dɪˈfɛndənt/ noun [in a law court] a person who is accused of doing something illegal or someone who is sued in a civil case

COMMENT: In a civil case, the defendant faces a complaint from the claimant. In a criminal case, the defendant (also called the accused) is being prosecuted for a crime by the prosecution.

defender /dɪˈfendər/ noun 1. a person who defends a place, e.g. a castle or town ○ The defenders surrendered after 90 days, when they ran out of food. 2. a player who defends the goal ○ The defenders continued passing the ball back to the goalkeeper.

defensive /dɪˈfɛnsiv/ adj which protects someone or something ○ They built a defensive wall around the camp. ■ noun ○ to be on the defensive about something to feel you need to give reasons for having done something ○ She’s always on the defensive about her decision to resign.

defer /dɪˈfər/ verb 1. to put something back to a later date, to postpone something ○ to defer payment ○ The decision has been deferred until the next meeting. 2. to defer to someone or someone’s opinion to accept someone’s advice ○ She defers to her husband in everything.

defence /dɪˈfɛns/ noun respect ○ in deference to or out of deference to someone or something to show respect for someone ○ In deference to his wife, who is Muslim, he refused to allow alcohol in his house. ○ She put a shawl over her head out of deference to the monastery rules.

defiance /dɪˈfɛnsəns/ noun a very proud action against an opponent. Synonym insubordination. Antonym compliance ○ as an act of defiance to show that you are defying someone ○ He kept his hat on in church as an act of defiance. ○ in defiance of someone or something acting proudly against someone or something ○ Their protest march took place in defiance of a police order.

defiant /dɪˈfɛnt/ adj very bold in refusing to obey someone or something. Synonym disobedient. Antonym compliant

deficiency /dɪˈfɛrənsi/ noun 1. a lack of something ○ Their diet has a deficiency in calcium or has a calcium deficiency. 2. money lacking ○ There is a £10 deficiency in the petty cash. ○ the deficiencies of a system faults which make a system work badly.

deficient /dɪˈfɛrənt/ adj to be deficient in something to lack something ○ The soil is deficient in important nutrients. ○ Their diet is deficient in calcium or they have a calcium-deficient diet.

deficit /dɪˈfɛsɪt/ noun an amount by which expenditure is more than receipts in a company’s or a country’s accounts. Synonym shortfall. Antonym surplus ○ to make good a deficit to put money into an account to balance it ○ a country’s balance of payments or trade deficit a situation when a country imports more than it exports ○ The UK’s balance of payments deficit has fallen by £2 billion.

defile noun /dɪˈfaɪl/ a narrow path between mountains ○ They were ambushed in a mountain defile and killed. ■ verb /dɪˈfaɪl/ to make something corrupt or no longer pure ○ Soldiers defiled the holy temple.

definite /dɪˈfɪnət/ adj very clear or sure ○ I need a definite answer. ○ He was quite definite that he had seen the girl at the bus stop.

definite article /dɪˈfɪnət əˈtɪŋk(ə)/ noun the word ‘the’ in English, or a word with a similar use in another language ○ definitely /dɪˈfɪnətli/ adv certainly or surely ○ I’ll definitely be there by 7 o’clock. ○ Are you coming? – definitely not!

definition /dɪˈfɪnɪʃən/ noun 1. the clear explanation of a word ○ A bilingual dictionary doesn’t give definitions, only translations. ○ Look up the definition of ‘democracy’ in the dictionary. ○ (of a photograph) the quality of being clear and having sharp lines ○ The close-ups are clear, but your landscape photos lack definition. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning)

definitive /dɪˈfɪnɪtɪv/ adj final, which cannot be improved on deflate /dɪˈfleɪt/ verb 1. to let the air out of something, e.g. of a tyre or balloon ○ Their hot air balloon began to deflate. 2. to deflate the economy to reduce activity in the economy by cutting the supply of money ○ The government may be forced to deflate the economy because of rising imports.

deflated /dɪˈfleɪtɪd/ adj feeling unhappy and lacking confidence in yourself
deflation /dɪˈfleɪʃ(ə)n/ noun a reduction of economic activity. Antonym inflation

deflect /dɪˈflekt/ verb to turn aside something, e.g. an arrow or a bullet, so that it goes in another direction
deforestation /dɪˌfɔrˈɪst(ə)n/ noun the act of cutting down trees from an area of land
deform /dɪˈfɔrm/ verb to change the shape of something in a way that is not attractive
deformed /dɪˈfɔrmd/ adj having a twisted or unattractive shape
deformity /dɪˈfɔrmiəti/ noun the fact of being deformed
defragment /dɪˈfrefrəmənt/ verb to arrange the storage space in a computer

defraud /dɪˈfrɔːd/ verb to defraud someone of his money to cheat someone to get his money. He defrauded the old lady of £10,000.
defray /dɪˈfrɛ/ verb to provide money to pay someone’s costs
defrost /dɪˈfrɔst/ verb 1. to remove ice which has formed in a refrigerator or freezer ○ I must defrost the freezer. 2. (of frozen food) to thaw out ○ A large turkey will take 24 hours to defrost.
deft /dɛft/ adj very agile or clever with your hands. Antonym clumsy (NOTE: defter – deftest)
defunct /dɪˈfʌŋkt/ adj which is no longer used or in existence
defuse /dɪˈfjuːz/ verb 1. to take the fuse out of a bomb so that it cannot explode ○ An army unit was brought in to defuse the bomb. 2. to make a situation less tense ○ The chairman made some jokes to try to defuse the situation. ○ The UN Secretary General has moved to try to defuse the crisis.
defy /dɪˈfaɪ/ verb 1. to refuse to obey the law ○ He should never have tried to defy the university authorities. 2. to defy someone to do something to challenge someone to do something (formal) ○ I defy you to jump higher than that.
degenerate adj /dɪˈdʒərət/ which has become morally weak or bad ○ He was shocked by the student art exhibition which he termed ‘degenerate scribbling’. • verb /dɪˈdʒɛrət/ to get worse ○ Her condition degenerated quickly once she went into hospital. ○ The celebrations rapidly degenerated into rioting. Synonym deteriorate • noun /dɪˈdʒɛrət(ə)n/ a person who is morally weak or bad ○ The people who did this are moral degenerates.
degradation /dɪˈɡreɪdʒ(ə)n/ noun 1. to make someone do something that is humiliating ○ She had no money but refused to degrade herself by making false social security claims. 2. to change a chemical compound into a simpler form, to decompose ○ Some plastics will degrade if left in the sun.
degraded /dɪˈɡreɪd/ adj which makes a person like an animal. Antonym humiliating ○ degree /dɪˈgri/ noun 1. the division of a scale ○ an angle of 80° ○ The temperature of the water is above 20°C. (NOTE: With figures, degree is usually written as the symbol °; 25°C) 2. a level ○ To what degree do you think the driver was to blame for the accident? ○ a certain degree partly ○ It’s his own fault to a certain degree. 3. a diploma from a university ○ She has a degree in mathematics from Oxford. ○ to have a master’s degree to have gained a second, more advanced, degree from a university

dehydrate /dɪˈhaɪdrət/ verb 1. to remove water from something 2. to lose water from the body
dehydration /dɪˌhaɪdrəˈʃ(ə)n/ noun the process of becoming dehydrated
de-ice /dɪˈaɪs/ verb to remove the ice from something. Antonym ice up
deification /dɪˈfɪʃ(ə)n/ noun the process of making someone into a god. Synonym elevation
dejûg /dəˈɛʒ(ə)n/ noun/verb to be gracious enough to do something. Synonym condescend
deity /dəˈɪti/ noun a god. Synonym divinity (NOTE: The plural is deities)
déjà vu /dəˈʒə və/ adv a feeling that you have already seen something before ○ When he came into the room, he immediately had a feeling of déjà vu.
dejected /dɪˈdʒɛktɪd/ adj very unhappy or discouraged
dejure /dɛˈʒʊəri/ adj by law or as a matter of law, where the legal title is clear. Compare de facto
delay /dɛˈleɪ/ noun the length of time that something is late ○ There will be a delay of ten minutes before the meeting starts. ○ We are sorry for the delay in replying to your letter. • verb 1. to make someone or something late ○ The train has been delayed by fog. ○ He was delayed because his taxi had an accident. 2. to put something off until later ○ We will delay making a decision until we see the result of the election. ○ The company has delayed payment of all invoices.
delegate noun /dɛˈleɡeɪt/ a person who represents others at a meeting ○ The minister met delegates from the union. • verb /dɛˈleɡeɪt/ to pass authority or responsibility on to someone else ○ She finds it difficult to
delegate. He delegated the job of locking up the shop to the junior manager.

delegation /ˈdelɪɡəʃən/ noun 1. a group of representatives. The minister met a union delegation. 2. the act of passing authority or responsibility to someone else. The secret of good management is delegation. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning)

delete /ˈdɛlɪt/ verb to cut out part of something, e.g. a document or a computer file. Synonym: erase. Antonym: insert
deletion /ˈdɛlɪʃən/ noun 1. the action of deleting something. The court asked for the deletion of several sentences from the magazine article. She made several deletions to the original text. 2. a word or phrase which has been deleted. In spite of all the deletions, the article is still too long.

deli /ˈdeli/ noun same as delicatessen (in formal)

* deliberate adj /ˈdɛrɪlt/ 1. slow and thoughtful in speaking or doing something. She has a very deliberate way of signing her name. 2. done on purpose. It was a deliberate attempt to spoil her birthday party. verb /ˈdɛrɪlt/ 1. to debate or discuss something. The council were deliberating all morning. The jury left the courtroom to deliberate. 2. to think carefully about something. I’ll need some time to deliberate on the possible ways of solving the problem.

* deliberately /ˈdɛrɪltli/ adv 1. on purpose. It was an accident – I didn’t hit her deliberately. He deliberately left the cage door open. 2. slowly and thoughtfully. She walked deliberately up the steps onto the platform.

delegation /ˈdɛlɪɡəʃən/ noun 1. great care. He moved his king with great deliberation and leant back with a smile. 2. a discussion. After lengthy deliberations the meeting voted on the proposal. Did their deliberations produce any results?

delicacy /ˈdelɪkəsɪ/ noun 1. sensitivity. It is a question which has to be handled with great delicacy. 2. the state of being delicate. The delicacy of the glasses means that they have to be handled very carefully. (NOTE: no plural in meanings 1 and 2) 3. an unusual and tasty thing to eat. They bought all sorts of delicacies for the Christmas party. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is delicacies.)

* delicate /ˈdelɪkət/ adj 1. easily damaged. A delicate china vase. 2. liable to get illnesses. Little babies are very delicate. 3. very soft and fine. A delicate silk blouse. 4. possibly difficult. He is in a delicate situation. 5. very sensitive and precise. Only the most delicate instruments can register the sound.

* delicately /ˈdelɪkətli/ adv with great care

delicatessen /ˌdelɪkəˈtes(ə)n/ noun a shop selling cold meats and imported food products

delicious /ˈdɛlɪʃəs/ adj which tastes very good. Can I have another piece of that delicious cake?

delight /ˈdɛlɪt/ noun pleasure. Their singing was a pure delight. The news was greeted with delight by the waiting crowd. Synonym: joy. Antonym: displeasure. To take great delight in something: to take great pleasure in something. To give great pleasure to someone. His speech delighted the audience.

* delighted /ˈdɛlɪtɪd/ adj very pleased. Antonym: unhappy

* delightful /ˈdɛlɪtɪfl/ adj very pleasant
delegate /ˈdɛlɪɡət/ verb, to draw something or someone. 2. to describe something or someone in detail

* delegation /ˈdɛlɪɡəʃən/ noun the act of committing a minor crime, or the number of such acts that are committed
delictious /ˈdɛlɪʃəs/ adj, suffering from delirium. She collapsed and became delirious. A delinquent is a young criminal who commits crimes, especially against property

delirious /ˈdɛlɪrɪəs/ adj, suffering from delirium. She collapsed and became delirious. 2. very excited and happy. They were delirious when they won the lottery.
delirium /ˈdɛlɪrɪəm/ noun a mental state in which a person is confused, restless and very excited and has hallucinations

* deliver /ˈdɛlɪvər/ verb 1. to bring something to someone. Has today’s newspaper been delivered? He delivered the letter himself so as to save buying a stamp. To deliver the goods to do what you promised to do. You can always rely on him to deliver the goods. 2. to deliver a baby. To help a mother when a baby is being born.

delivery /ˈdɛlɪvəri/ noun 1. the act of bringing something to someone. There is no charge for delivery within the London area. 2. the act of taking something. Use the rear entrance for deliveries.

delphinium /ˌdɛlfɪnɪəm/ noun a popular garden plant with tall blue flowers

delta /ˈdɛltə/ noun 1. a triangular piece of land at the mouth of a large river, formed of silt carried by the river. The Mississippi Delta. 2. Delius is created by alluvial
general rule that the amount of a product not much demand for this item which a person holds which cannot be demand for our services.

2. to investigate something to ask about something needed or to meet a demand for pay-

ment. ○ Her latest demands are quite unreasonable. 2. the need for goods or services at a certain price ○ We cannot keep up with the demand for our services. ○ We can't sell the book, because there is no demand for it. 2. to meet or fill a demand to supply what is needed. ○ The factory had to increase production to meet the extra demand. ○ There is not much demand for this item not many people want to buy this item. 2. this item is in great demand many people want to buy this item ○ the law of supply and demand the general rule that the amount of a product which is available is linked to the amount which is wanted by customers. 2. to ask firmly for something ○ She demanded a refund. 2. to demand an explanation.

3. demanding (d'mændɪŋ) /adj which takes up much time and energy demandate (d'mædət) /verb to fix the boundaries of something (formal)

demarcation (dɪmɑrˈkeɪʃ(ə)n) /noun the act of showing boundaries
demean (d'miːn/) /verb ○ to demean yourself to make yourself appear undignified ○ Don’t demean yourself by dressing up as a fairy.
demeaning (d'miːnɪŋ) /adj which makes you appear undignified
demeanour (d'miːnər/) /noun a person's behaviour or manner (NOTE: The US spelling is demeanor.)
demented (d'mentɪd) /adj mad (informal) Synonym irrational. Antonym rational

delude /dəˈluːd/ /verb to make someone believe something which is wrong. Synonym deceive
deluge /dɛlɪdʒ/ /noun 1. a flood of something, e.g. questions or orders ○ We had a deluge of phone calls after our TV commercial. 2. a heavy rainfall ○ It had been dry for weeks and then last Saturday we had a deluge. 2. to flood a place 2. to overwhelm someone with a flood of something ○ We were deluged with phone calls.
delusion /dɪˈluːʒ(ə)n/ /noun a false belief which a person holds which cannot be changed by reason ○ to be under a delusion to have a wrong idea ○ The boss is under the delusion that everyone really likes him.
de luxe /dəˈlʊks/ /adj very expensive or of very high quality
delve /dɛlv/ /verb to dig ○ to delve into something to investigate something ○ He has been delving into the past history of the family.

① demand (d'mænd) /noun 1. the act of asking for something ○ a demand for payment ○ Her latest demands are quite unreasonable. 2. the need for goods or services at a certain price ○ We cannot keep up with the demand for our services. ○ We can't sell the book, because there is no demand for it. 2. to meet or fill a demand to supply what is needed. ○ The factory had to increase production to meet the extra demand. ○ There is not much demand for this item not many people want to buy this item. ○ This item is in great demand many people want to buy this item ○ the law of supply and demand the general rule that the amount of a product which is available is linked to the amount which is wanted by customers. ○ to ask firmly for something ○ She demanded a refund. ○ to demand an explanation.

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demonstrate /dɪˈmɔnstrət/ /verb /noun to show something ○ He’s a demon for hard work. ○ She’s a real demon on the hockey pitch
demonstrable (dɪˈmɔnstrəb(ə)l) /adj which can be proved or demonstrated
demonstrably /dɪˈmɔnstrəbli/ /adv as can be demonstrated

demolish (dɪˈmɑlɪʃ) /verb 1. to knock something down ○ We demolished the old church and built a new one. 2. to eat something completely ○ He demolished the whole chocolate cake. 3. to show that something is completely wrong ○ He wrote an article demolishing the professor’s theories.
demolition (dɪˈmɔltʃ(ə)n) /noun the action of knocking down something such as a building. Synonym destruction
demon /dɪˈmɑn/ /noun 1. a devil ○ The picture shows red demons throwing people into a fire. 2. to be a demon for something to be very enthusiastic about something ○ He’s a demon for hard work. ○ She’s a real demon on the hockey pitch
demonic (dɪˈmɑnɪk) /adj like a demon
demonstrable (dɪˈmɔnstrəb(ə)l) /adj which can be proved or demonstrated
demonstrably (dɪˈmɔnstrəbli) /adv as can be demonstrated
demonstrate /ˈdɪmənstrət/ verb 1. to show something. This demonstrates how little he has changed. 2. to demonstrate against something to protest against something in public. A group were demonstrating against the new motorway.

demonstration /ˌdɪmənˈstreɪʃən/ noun 1. the act of showing how something works. Can you give me a demonstration of how it works? 2. a crowd of people who are protesting against something. We went shopping and got mixed up in a demonstration in Trafalgar Square. They staged demonstrations against the government in several towns.

demonstrative /ˈdɪmənstrətɪv/ adj (of a person) who openly shows his or her feelings. She’s not very demonstrative, but I think she appreciated her gift all the same.

denote /dɪnəʊt/ verb to mean or be a sign of something.

denouement /dəˈnɔːmənt/ noun the ending of something, e.g. a book, play or film, where everything is finally sorted out.

denounce /dɪˈnaʊns/ verb 1. to blame or to accuse someone or something openly. Someone denounced him to the police. 2. to condemn something openly. She denounced the council’s policy as short-sighted.

dense /dɛns/ adj 1. very thick. Dense fog closed the airport. 2. crowded together. They tried to find their way through dense forest. I find it difficult to read through 100 pages of dense text.

demoralise /dɪˈmɔːrəlaɪz/, demoralize verb to lower the morale or confidence of someone. Synonym dishearten

demoralised /dɪˈmərələzɪd/, demoralized adj unhappy and discouraged.

demoralizing adj which demoralises you or lowers your confidence. Synonym encouraging

demote /dɪˈmɔːt/ verb to give someone a less important job or reduce an employee to a lower rank or grade. Synonym downgrade

demotion /dɪˈməʊʃn/ noun the act of giving someone a less important job

demure /dɪˈmʊər/ adj quiet and serious.

den /dɛn/ noun 1. a place where an animal hides away. A lion’s den. 2. a small room where you can hide away to work. Father’s in his den, so don’t disturb him. 3. a meeting place for criminals. The bar is just a den of thieves.

denial /dɛnəl/ noun a statement that something is not true.

denigrate /dɛnɪɡreɪt/ verb to say that someone or something is not very good.

denim /dɛnɪm/ noun a thick cotton cloth, usually blue.
dentures /dentəˈfæz/ plural noun artificial teeth which fit inside the mouth and are used in place of teeth which have been taken out
denunciation /dəˈnænʃən/ noun a public accusation or blame. Synonym condemnation

deck /dek/ verb 1, to state that something is not true. 2. to deny oneself not to eat or not to do something which you would like to do. 3. to depart from the truth to tell a lie.
depart /dəˈpɑːrt/ verb 1. to go away, to leave. 2. to depart from the normal procedure to act in a different way from the normal practice. 3. to depart from the truth to tell a lie.
departure /dəˈpɑːrt/ noun 1. the act of leaving a place. 2. the part of an airport terminal which deals with passengers who are leaving. 3. a list of trains, planes, etc., which are leaving. 4. the company which is in charge of the marketing department.
deployment /dɪˈpləmənt/ noun full form of DNA deplore /dɪˈploʊr/ verb to deplore deplorably /dɪˈploʊriˈbli/ adv in a very bad way.
deprene /dɪˈpren/ verb to spread out soldiers, etc., ready for action.
deposit /dɪˈpɒsɪt/ noun a large shop with many departments. Synonym department store.
depository /ˌdɪpəˈzɪtərɪ/ noun a bank which look after your money.
depose /dɪˈpɔz/ verb 1. to depose someone from power. 2. to depose someone as a witness.
depresion /dɪˈpreʃən/ noun a way of showing something. Synonym representation
depreciate /dɪˈprɪkɪt/ verb to deprecate deprecatorily /dɪˈprɪkətərɪli/ adv in a very bad way.
depreciation /dɪˈprɪkəʃən/ noun the amount that someone paid for something less than it was worth.
depreciation /dɪˈprɪkəʃən/ noun a way of showing something. Synonym representation
depreciation /dɪˈprɪkəʃən/ noun the amount that someone paid for something less than it was worth.
precipitation of 5% against the dollar.
2. to push down a button ○ To activate the alarm, depress both buttons simultaneously.

depress /dɪˈpres/ verb 1. to make someone sad or miserable ○ Listening to that particular piece of music always depresses me. 2. to push down a button ○ To activate the alarm, depress both buttons simultaneously.

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.shop doorways.

The Salvation Army looks after the derelicts living in shop doorways. 


debate

debate verb  /ˈdɪˈbeɪt/ to give part of your responsibility to someone else. syn.: delegate

delegate n noun  /ˈdɛgriːdʒ/ (in Scotland) a deputy, a person who takes the place of someone else, the Depute Lord Provost

deputise /ˈdɛpjuːtɪz/; deputize verb  to deputise for someone to take the place of someone who has a cold.


derelict /dəˈrɪlkst/ adj ruined and abandoned

derelict /dərˈlɪkət/ adj ruined and abandoned

department /dɪˈpɑːrtmənt/ noun a place of someone else

departure /dɪˈpɑːrtjər/ noun the act of leaving the rails

derailment /dɪˈreɪltmənt/ noun the action of a train leaving the rails

derangement /dɪˈrɛŋmənt/ noun the act of leaving the rails

derated /dɪˈriːt/ verb to make a train leave the rails

derailment /dɪˈreɪltmənt/ noun the action of a train leaving the rails

deranged /dɪˈrɛŋd/ adj behaving in an uncontrolled way because of mental illness

derby /ˈdɜːbɪ/ noun

1. the Derby an important horse race run each year in June at Epsom in Surrey. He won the Derby three times.

2. She’s the owner of the Derby winner.

3. a bowler hat

4. a sporting contest between local teams. There are always crowds at the local derby. (NOTE: The plural is ‘derbies.’)

deregulate /dɪˈrɛɡjʊleɪt/ verb to remove government restrictions from an industry

deregulation /dɪˈrɛɡjʊleɪʃən/ noun reducing government control over an industry

derelict /dəˈrɪlkst/ adj ruined and abandoned

dereliction of duty /dɛrɪˈlɪʃən əv djuːti/ noun a failure to do what you ought to do by law

deride /dɪˈrɪd/ verb to laugh at someone or something. Synonym ridicule.

admire verb  /əˈmɪraɪ/ to admire someone or something. Synonym admire
administer verb /əˈdɪmɪnɪstər/ to administer something to someone

administer verb /əˈdɪmɪnɪstər/ to administer something to someone

derivation /dɪˈrɛvəʃən/ noun the act of deriving a word

derivative /dɪˈrivətɪv/ adj which is based on and copies something else. His prize-winning designs are really very derivative.

desecrate /dɪˈsɛktrət/ verb to treat a place such as a church or a grave in a disrespectful way. Synonym defile.

Antonym consecrate
desecration /desˈɛkərəʃən/ noun the act of desecrating. Synonym violation

desegregate /diˌzərɪɡˈreɪt/ verb to end the segregation of a group of people or an institution. Synonym integrate. Antonym segregate

desegregation /diˌzərɪɡˈreiʃən/ noun the action of desegregating. Synonym integration. Antonym segregation

desert noun /ˈdezərt/ a very dry area of the world, usually covered with rocks or sand (NOTE: Do not confuse with desert.) □ verb /ˈdezərt/ 1. to leave the armed forces without permission ○ The general ordered that all soldiers who had deserted should be captured and shot. 2. to leave someone all alone ○ He deserted his wife when she was expecting their second child.
deserted /ˈdezərtɪd/ adj with no one in, with no people
deserter /ˈdezətər/ noun a person who leaves the armed forces without permission
desertification /diˌzɛrtɪfɪˈkeɪʃən/ noun the process by which an area of land becomes desert, through a change of climate or intensive farming

desertion /ˈdezəʃən/ noun 1. the act of leaving the armed forces without permission ○ During the war, soldiers were shot for desertion. 2. the act of leaving someone, especially your wife or husband ○ He is divorcing his wife because of her desertion. (NOTE: No plural)
desert island /ˈdezərt ˈaɪlənd/ noun a tropical island with no inhabitants
deserts /ˈdezɜːts/ plural noun what you deserve □ to get your just deserts to get a fair reward for what you have done ○ The muggers got their just desserts when they were caught and brought to justice.

deserve /ˈdezərv/ verb to earn something because of what you have done ○ He didn’t deserve to win because he cheated. ○ I’ve been on my feet all day – I think I deserve a sit-down. ○ He deserves a holiday. ○ I’m sure she deserved to be punished. Synonym merit

deservedly /ˈdezɜːrdəli/ adv in a way which is deserved. Synonym justly
deserving /ˈdezərɪŋ/ adj which should be supported or helped. Synonym worthy. Antonym unworthy

desiccate /ˌdesɪˈkeit/ verb to make something completely dry ○ design /ˈdezən/ noun 1. a plan or drawing of something, before it is made or built ○ Here are the designs for the book cover. ○ The architect has produced the designs for the new opera house. 2. a pattern or motif ○ curtains with a floral design 3. □ to have designs on something to plan to try to get something ○ I think he has designs on my job.

designtation /ˌdezɪgˈneɪʃən/ noun 1. the act of designating ○ his designation as ambassador ○ his designation as ambassador-designate

designer /ˈdezənər/ noun an artist who plans the shape or appearance of things such as goods, clothes or rooms. Synonym creator

designer clothes /ˈdezənər kliːz/ plural noun clothes designed by a famous designer

designer label /ˈdezənər ˈleɪb(ə)l/ noun a label attached to clothes made by a famous designer

desirable /ˌdezərəbl/ adj which a lot of people want ○ desire /ˈdezər/ noun something that you want very much ○ It’s difficult to satisfy the public’s desire for information. ○ She had a sudden desire to lie down and go to sleep. Synonym wish 1. to want ○ He will get you anything you desire. 2. □ to leave a lot to be desired not to be of the right standard, not to be acceptable ○ The bathrooms in the hotel leave a lot to be desired.

desired /ˈdezərd/ adj wanted or required
desist /ˌdesɪst/ verb to stop doing something (formal) ○ Would you kindly desist from smoking while we are eating? ○ The man next door persisted in practising the bagpipes until we asked him politely to desist. Synonym cease. Antonym continue

desk /desk/ noun 1. a table, often with drawers, used for writing ○ He put the papers away in his desk drawer. ○ She was sitting at her desk when the telephone rang. 2. a section of a newspaper ○ He works on the City desk. 3. a government department ○ She works on the Central Europe desk in the Foreign Office.
desktop /ˈdesktəp/ noun 1. the top surface of a desk 2. a display on a computer screen that shows images representing available programs and files  □ adj that can be placed
despair 

to feel very sad and unhappy 
Synonym of the dictionary is a desperate need for medical supplies. 

2. in a very anxious way 

She was desperate for news. 

desperately 

adv. urgently, very much

There was a scene of total destruction after the stove attack there was a scene of total destruction. 

desperation 

n. a very anxious feeling, need or wish for something very much 

desperately to feel desperation to the point of attempting suicide 

destabilise 

verb to make a country or government less stable. Synonym undermine 

destination 

n. the place to which a person or vehicle is going 

On the front of the bus. 

destined 

adj. destined for being sent to. All mail destined for Canada is delayed because of the postal workers’ strike. 

2. certain to have, do or experience something. She’s destined for a great career on TV. 

They were destined to fail in their search for gold. 

destiny 

n. what will happen to you in the future. The war affected the destinies of many people. 

2. a power that controls what happens to you in the future. You never know what destiny has in store for you. 

destitute 

adj. having nothing at all 

verb to make someone very sad. Make someon very sad. 

Dominica 

desolate 

adj. bleak and deserted 

o. When he lost his job and his girlfriend left him, he was filled with despair. Synonym misery. 

Antonym joy 

the depths of despair a complete lack of hope 

verb to despair of something to give up all hope of something. 

After two months in the jungle, he despaired of ever being rescued. 

despairing adj. feeling despair 

Synonym hopeless. Antonym hopeful 

1. desperate adj. hopeless 

○ Food ran out and the situation on the ship was becoming desperate. 

2. urgent ○ There is a desperate need for medical supplies. 

3. wild with despair ○ When he didn’t phone she became desperate with worry. 

4. in need of something, wanting something very much ○ They are desperate for news. 

desperately adv. urgently, very much 

The hospital desperately needs medical supplies. 

A lot of private property was destroyed in the war. 

destroyer 

n. a medium-sized naval ship 

destroys 

verb to ruin something completely 

The bomb destroyed several buildings. 

A lot of private property was destroyed in the war. 

destroyer 

verb to ruin something completely 

The bomb destroyed several buildings. 

A lot of private property was destroyed in the war. 

detachment 

n. the act of removing something from something else 

Verb to separate detached houses. 

A detached house is a house which stands alone, not attached to another. 

Compare semi-detached house 

2, not under someone’s influence. 

He is a detached observer of the political scene. 

He tries to take a detached view of each patient who comes to see him. 

detail 

n. an item of information 

Send in your CV including full de-
detailed
tails of your past experience. Can you give me further details of when the accident took place? I can’t make out the details in the photo because the light is bad. The policeman noted down the details of the incident.

detained /'detənst/ noun a police officer who investigates crimes. Detectives have investigated four suspects.

detention /'detənʃən/ noun 1. imprisonment. after he was released from detention he committed the same offence again. The internes were kept in detention camps.

2. keeping children at school as a punishment. The children were kept in detention after school. (Note: no plural)

detention centre /'detənʃən sentə/ noun a place where young criminals are kept.

deter /'detə/ verb to deter someone from doing something to discourage someone from doing something. The heavy rain didn’t deter us from visiting the town. We have installed cameras to deter shoplifters.

detector /'detektr/ noun an instrument which checks whether something is present.

detection /'detekʃən/ noun 1. the act of solving a crime. the action of detecting something.

detectable /'detektəbl/ adj which can be detected.

detective /'detektiv/ noun a police officer who investigates crimes. Detectives have investigated four suspects. Synonym investigator.

detect /'detekt/ verb 1. to discover something scientifically. if breast cancer is detected early enough, it can be cured.

2. to notice something. I detected some unwillingness to agree to the change.

detox /'detoks/ noun, and shows what is being referred to, or article which comes before an adjective or noun, and shows what is being referred to, such as ‘this’ in ‘this old car’ (grammar)

detox 222

detox /'detoks/ noun a small explosive charge which will set off a large explosion.

determination /'detəmənʃən/ noun the process of getting worse.

determined /'dətəmənd/ adj 1. decided. he had a very determined expression on his face as he entered the ring.

2. strong minded. She’s a very determined young woman, and will go far. Antonym irresolute.

deterrent /'detərənt/ noun a thing which discourages people from doing something. Synonym restraint. Antonym incitement.

deter /'detər/ verb to deter someone from doing something. to discourage someone from doing something. The heavy rain didn’t deter us from visiting the town. We have installed cameras to deter shoplifters.

deteriorate /'dətəriərət/ verb to go bad; to get worse.

deterioration /'dətəriərəʃən/ noun the process of getting worse.

deter /'detə/ verb 1. to fix something such as a date. the meeting will be at a date still to be determined.

2. to determine to do something to make up your mind to do something. (formal) i determined not to make the same mistake again.

3. to find out the details of something. the police have determined what really happened.

4. to affect in a particular way. his exam results will determine his future.

determined /'dətəmənd/ adj 1. decided.

2. strong minded. she’s a very determined young woman, and will go far. Antonym irresolute.

detonating device /'detəneitəng devəs/ noun a pronoun or article which comes before an adjective or noun, and shows what is being referred to, such as ‘this’ in ‘this old car’ (grammar)

detonate /'detəneit/ verb 1. to set off an explosive. the police detonated the package found under the car.

2. to explode. a shell landed in their garden but failed to detonate.

detonation /'detəneiʃən/ noun an explosion.

detox 222
detraction /dɪˈtrækʃən/ noun 1. to detract from something to make something less useful, attractive or interesting. 2. Her rudeness to the judges somehow detracted from the prize-giving ceremony.
detractor /dɪˈtræktrə/ noun a person who criticises something. Synonym critic.
detriment /dɪˈtrɪmənt/ noun damage. Synonym disadvantage. Antonym advantage. 1. to the detriment of which will damage 2. His long working hours have been to the detriment of their marriage.
detrimental /dɪˈtrɪmənt(ə)l/ adj which can harm. Synonym harmful. Antonym beneficial.
deviation /dɪˈveɪjən/ noun a score of 40–40 in tennis.
deviation /dɪˈveɪjən/ verb to reduce the value of a currency in relation to that of other countries. Synonym overvalue.
devastation /dɪˈvæstəʃ(ə)n/ noun widespread damage. Synonym destruction. Antonym preservation.
1. develop /dɪˈveləp/ verb 1. to grow and change 2. Eventually, a caterpillar will develop into a butterfly. 2. to make something larger 3. She cycles to develop her calf muscles. 3. to get an illness 4. She developed a cold at the weekend. 4. to produce and fix a photograph from film 5. We can develop your film in an hour. 5. to plan and produce something 6. to develop a new product 6. to plan and build 7. They are planning to develop the site as an industrial estate. 7. The company is developing a chain of motorway service stations.
developer /dɪˈveləpər/ noun 1. a person or company that plans and builds roads, airports, houses, factories or office buildings 2. The land has been acquired by developers for a housing estate. 2. a liquid for developing photographs 3. She put the film into a bath of developer.
development /dɪˈveləpmənt/ noun 1. growing 2. his rapidly developing network of contacts in government 3. her developing knowledge of the English language 2. developing countries countries which are becoming industrialised.
devaluator /dɪˈveləˈveɪtər noun 1. man or woman who evaluates something (as in an art museum or a school). Synonym critic.
devalue /dɪˈvæljuː/ verb to devalue a currency.
devalue /dɪˈvæljuː/ verb to deviate from one thing to another thing.
development /dɪˈveləpmənt/ adj 1. at a developmental stage being developed 2. The product is at an advanced developmental stage.
developments /dɪˈveləpməntz/ plural noun things which happen.
deviant /dɪˈveɪənt/ adj different from normal 2. deviant behaviour behaviour which is considered to be very wrong 3. a person who behaves in a way which most people consider to be wicked and immoral 4. The newspapers referred to them as ‘deviants’. 2. to deviate from to be different from what is normal or usual 2. The celebrations deviated from their normal pattern by being held on a Sunday. 2. He did not deviate from the written version of his speech.
deviation /dɪˈveɪʃ(ə)n/ noun changing from what is usual 2. a device /dɪˈvɪs/ noun 1. a small useful machine 2. He invented a device for screwing tops on bottles. 2. Where the engineers brought in a device for taking samples of soil. 2. He was left to his own devices he was left to do whatever he wanted.
devil /dɪˈvɛl/ noun 1. an evil spirit 2. He believes in ghosts and devils and all that sort of thing. 2. what the devil? what…? (informal: showing surprise) 2. What the devil has been going on here while we’ve been away? 3. a person 3. He’s won the lottery, lucky devil! 4. Poor devil! I must go and see him in hospital. 5. little devil a naughty child 5. That little devil has been pulling the cat’s tail.
devil’s advocate /dəˈvɑːkt/ noun a person who argues the opposite point of view, in order to stimulate discussion about a widely held opinion
devious /ˈdɛvɪəs/ adj 1. not honest or straightforward: ○ It’s just a very devious plan to avoid paying the staff more money. 2. not going straight ○ The taxi took us on a very devious route to Piccadilly Circus.
devise /dɛvɪz/ verb to think up, to invent ○ We’ve devised a new timetable for the summer term. ○ He devised a plan for making more money out of the farm. Synonym think up

devoid /dɪˈvɔɪd/ adj ○ devoid of empty of, without ○ The book is devoid of literary merit the book has no literary merit at all
devolution /dɪˈvɔljuʃən/ noun the passing of power from a central government to a local or regional authority
devolve /dɪˈvɔlv/ verb to pass to another authority. Antonym centralise
devote /dɪˈvɔt/ verb ○ to devote time to something to spend time on something ○ Don’t you think you’ve devoted enough time to your model planes? ○ to devote yourself to to spend all your time on ○ She devoted herself to looking after refugee children.
devoted /dɪˈvɔtəd/ adj 1. loving ○ He died suddenly, leaving his devoted wife and six children. ○ devoted to someone loving someone ○ He is devoted to his children. 2. ○ devoted to something spending all your time on something ○ She’s devoted to her flower garden.
devotee /dɪˈvɔtɪ/ noun someone who likes something very much, an enthusiastic follower
devotion /dɪˈvɔʃən/ noun 1. love ○ her devotion to her father ○ his devotion to his stamp collection ○ Her devotion to duty is remarkable. 2. constant work on behalf of someone or something ○ She received an award for twenty years’ devotion to the needs of the handicapped.
devour /dɪˈvɔr/ verb ○ to eat something greedily
devout /dɪˈvɔut/ adj deeply religious
dew /dju/ noun water which forms at night on objects in the open air (NOTE: Do not confuse with due.)
dewdrop /ˈdjuːdrɒp/ noun 1. a drop of dew 2. a drop of mucus at the end of someone’s nose
dewy-eyed /ˈdjuːi ˈeɪd/ adj with eyes that are full of emotion
dexterity /ˈdɛkstərɪti/ noun skill in using the hands or the mind
dexterous /dɛkˈstərəs/, dextrous adj skilled, especially using the hands 2. quick-thinking
dextrose /dɪkˈstrɔʊz/ noun a simple sugar found naturally in fruit and honey
diabetes /dəˈbiːtɪz/ noun a condition where the body cannot control sugar absorption because the pancreas does not produce enough insulin (NOTE: no plural)
diabetic /dəˈbɪtɪk/ adj referring to diabetics ○ The hospital provides a special diet for diabetic patients. ○ He’s on a strict diabetic diet. ○ diabetic food special food with a low sugar content which can be eaten by people with diabetes ○ She is a diabetic and has to have regular injections of insulin.
diabolical /ˌdɪəˈbɒlɪk(al)/ adj 1. evil and wicked ○ They devised a diabolical plot to assassinate the Prime Minister. 2. very bad ○ The food in the staff canteen is diabolical.
diagnose /ˌdaɪəˈnəʊs/ verb to identify a patient’s illness by examining him or her and noting symptoms
diagnosis /ˌdaɪəˈnəʊsɪs/ noun the identification of an illness (NOTE: The plural is diagnoses.)
diagnostic /ˌdaɪəˈnɒstɪk/ adj referring to diagnosis
diagonal /ˌdaɪəˈɡənəl/ adj going from one corner to another ○ He drew a diagonal line on the floor. ○ Areas of the map shaded with diagonal lines indicate cultivated land. Synonym slanting ○ a diagonal line ○ Draw a diagonal from one corner of the square to the other. diagonally /ˌdaɪəˈɡənəl(ə)l/ adv in a diagonal direction
diagram /ˌdaɪəˈɡræm/ noun a sketch, plan or accurate drawing ○ She drew a diagram to show how to get to her house. ○ The book gives a diagram of the circulation of blood.
dial /dʌl/ noun a round face of a telephone or a measuring instrument ○ Modern telephones don’t have dials – just buttons. ○ verb to call a telephone number ○ To call the police you must dial 999. ○ Dial 9 to get an outside line. ○ to dial direct to contact a phone number yourself without asking the operator to do it for you ○ You can dial New York direct from London. ○ dialect /ˈdaɪəlkt/ noun a variety of a language spoken in a particular area. Synonym vernacular
dialling code /ˈdaɪəlɪŋ kəd/ noun a special phone number for a town or country
dialling tone /ˈdaɪəlɪŋ tɔn/ noun the noise made by a telephone to show that it is ready for you to dial a number
dialog box /ˌdaɪələʊg bɔks/ noun a small area on a computer screen that presents the user with a choice
dialogue /ˌdaɪəˈlɔʊg/ noun 1. a conversation between two people ○ The next exercise on
the tape is a dialogue between a shopkeeper and a customer. 2. the spoken words in a film or TV drama. ☞ Turn the volume up so that we can hear the dialogue more clearly. 3. political talks or negotiations. ☞ The government is trying to encourage greater dialogue in the Middle East. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is dialog.)
dial-up /dAIlʌp/ adj of a connection between computers that is made by means of a modern and a telephone line
dialysis /dAIlAIzIz/ n noun the process of cleaning waste matter from blood by passing it through a filter
diameter /dAItrəmənt/ n noun the distance across the centre of a circle
diagonally /dAIgonəli/ adv □ diagonally opposite to or opposed totally the opposite of. ☞ What they did was diametrically opposite to what we had agreed. ☞ Their views are diametrically opposed.
diamond /dAImond/ n noun 1. a very hard colourless precious stone ☞ He gave her a diamond ring. ☞ Diamonds sparkled on her crown. 2. one of the red suits in a pack of cards, shaped like a diamond. ☞ He held the ten of diamonds. (NOTE: The other red suit is hearts; clubs and spades are the black suits.)
diamond wedding /dAImond/ 'wed/ noun the 60th anniversary of a wedding day
diaper /dAIprəp/ n noun US a cloth or thick pad which is wrapped round a baby's bottom (NOTE: The British term is nappy.)
diaphragm /dAIprəfrəm/ n noun 1. a thin sheet which vibrates with noise ☞ the diaphragm in a hearing aid. 2. a thin layer of tissue which separates the chest from the abdomen, and pulls air into the lungs when you breathe ☞ the stomach lies in the left upper part of the abdomen, just under the diaphragm. 3. a contraceptive device for women

diarist /dAIərιst/ n noun a person who writes a diary

diarrhoea /dAIərəʊə/ n noun a condition where a patient frequently passes liquid faeces (NOTE: The US spelling is diarrhoea.)
diary /dAIəri/ n noun 1. a description of what has happened in your life day by day. ☞ He kept a diary for years. ☞ She kept a diary of the places she visited on holiday. 2. a small book in which you write notes or make appointments for each day of the week. ☞ I've noted the appointment in my desk diary. ☞ I can’t fix the date immediately because I haven’t got my diary with me. (NOTE: The plural is diaries.)
dice /dAIς/ n noun a small cube with one to six dots on each face, used for playing games ☞ Shake the dice in the cup and then throw them onto the board. ☞ He lost hundreds of pounds playing dice. (NOTE: The plural is dice.)

1. to cut food into small cubes ☞ diced potato 2. to dice with death to do something very risky (informal) ☞ Running across the main road is dicing with death.
dicey /dAIςi/ adj dangerous (informal) Synonyms risky
dichotomy /dAIkətəməni/ n noun a difference between contradictory things
dick /dIk/ n noun penis (informal) Synonyms: dickens
dickens /dIkɪnəz/ n noun (informal) the dickens of a lot of. ☞ It took the dickens of a lot of time. ☞ what the dickens? what ...? ☞ What the dickens is the matter with the heating pump?
dictate /dIk'tet/ verb 1. to say something to someone who writes down your words. ☞ She dictated a letter to her secretary. ☞ He dictated his address to me over the phone. 2. to tell someone what to do. ☞ The army commander dictated the terms of the surrender. ☞ She’s always trying to dictate to us how to run the business.
dictates /dIk'tetəz/ plural noun ideas or feelings that strongly influence people
dictation /dIk'teiʃən/ n noun the act of dictating something to be written down. Synonyms transcription □ to take dictation
dictator /dIk'teɪtə/ n noun a person who rules a country alone. Synonyms tyrant. Antonyms democratic
dictatorial /dIk'teɪtoriəl/ adj behaving like a dictator. Synonyms tyrannical. Antonyms democratic
dictatorship /dIk'teɪtʃərp/ n noun the rule of a country by one person
diction /dIk'shən/ n noun a clear and understandable way of speaking
dictionary /dIk'sθənri/ n noun a book which lists words in alphabetical order, giving their meanings or translations into other languages. ☞ a French dictionary a book which gives English words with their French translations, and French words with their English translations. ☞ If you want to find the French translation of this word, look it up in a French dictionary. ☞ a pocket dictionary a small dictionary which you can put in your pocket
dictum /dIk'təm/ n noun a well-known saying made by a famous person (formal) Synonyms pronunciation (NOTE: The plural is dicta /dIk'təz/.)
did /dId/ v do didactic /dId'dæktɪk/ adj giving moral advice. Synonyms educational
didn’t /dI'dnt/ v do □ die /dI/ n noun a metal stamp for making coins. ■ verb 1. to stop living. ☞ His mother died last year. ☞ She died in a car crash. ☞ If
die away

you don’t water the plants they’ll die. ○ I’m dying to read his book. ○ He died

deafness

you can’t hear a word. ○ She’s going deaf. ○ He’s going deaf.

die down ○ The wind began to die down. ○ The

difficulty ○ It was difficult to make the decision. ○ They

died ○ I died of fright. ○ He died of heart attack.

diehard ○ The company is waiting for the street protests
to die down. ○ The：<br>

diesel ○ engine fuel which is thicker than petrol. ○ My

2. "diesel engine" ○ a car with a diesel engine. ○ His latest car is a diesel.

die out ○ not to become less strong. ○ The wind began to die down. ○ The

2. "diesel engine" ○ a car with a diesel engine. ○ His latest car is a diesel.

diffidence ○ You can use any colour you like – it doesn’t make any difference. ○ to split the difference to agree on a figure

which is halfway between two figures suggested ○ Twenty’s too many, ten’s not enough, let’s split the difference and say fifteen.

differences ○ not the same ○ Living in London is very different from living in the country. ○ I went to three different clothes shops but I couldn’t find anything in my size. ○ He looks different now that he has a beard. ○ that’s quite a different matter or kettle of fish it’s not at all the same thing

differentiate ○ to recognise the difference between two things ○ I find it hard to differentiate between the two brands of butter. ○ They couldn’t differentiate between cheap champagne and really top-quality stuff. 2. to treat two things differently ○ In this school, we don’t differentiate between boys and girls.

differentiation ○ the act of recognising or making a difference between things

differently ○ not in the same way. Antonym similarly

difficult ○ not easy; hard to do ○ The German examination was very difficult – half the class got low marks. ○ Finding a parking space is difficult on Saturday mornings. ○ The company is finding it difficult to sell their cars in the European market.

difficulty ○ to make things or life difficult for someone ○ to have difficulty with or in doing something to find it hard to do something ○ She has difficulty in paying the rent. ○ with difficulty not easily ○ She walks with difficulty. 2. a problem ○ The difficulty is that nobody in the group can drive. ○ He is in financial difficulties. ○ She went swimming in the rough sea and got into difficulties. ○ to create or make difficulties for someone ○ to create problems for someone ○ She doesn’t realise that going on holiday now is going to make difficulties for everyone.

difference ○ not the same ○ I’m going to buy two different cars. ○ I beg to differ ○ I do not agree ○ It’s not a difference for me. ○ It doesn’t make any difference.

different ○ not the same ○ not the same ○ It’s not important ○ You can use any colour you like – it doesn’t make any difference. ○ to split the difference to agree on a figure which is halfway between two figures suggested ○ Twenty’s too many, ten’s not enough, let’s split the difference and say fifteen.

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His writing tends to be very diffuse. 

His work is digested. Synonym 

She's been digging in the garden all morning. 

They dug a big hole in the ground. 

The prisoners dug a tunnel to try to escape. 

Give me time to digest the news. 

He published a digest of the conference proceedings. 

A new digital channel. 

I find this meat difficult to digest. Synonym 

stand it fully. Antonym 

Give me time to digest the news. 

They dug it out of the snow after the avalanche. 

Dilute the disinfectant with water. 

A new furnished room or rooms let to people such as students (dated informal) Syonym lodgings
They have a diminutive dog.

**dine** /dain/ verb 1. to have dinner (formal) □ to dine out to have dinner away from home. Synonym eat, dinner, feast, sup. Antonym snack.

dining car /'dainiŋ kær/ noun a railway carriage where meals are served

dimmer – dimmest noun a device for adjusting the level of light from a source. Synonym regulator.

dimly /'dɪmlɪ/ adverb not very clearly, not very distinctly, not very clearly:

dimmed /'dɪmd/ past participle of dim.

**dime** /daim/ noun US a ten-cent coin

**dining room** /'daɪnɪŋ rʊm/ noun a room in a house or hotel where you usually eat

**dinner** /'dɪnər/ noun 1. The main meal of the day (usually eaten in the evening) □ We were having dinner when the telephone rang. □ Would you like to come to dinner on Saturday? □ What are we having for dinner? □ What's for dinner? 2. a formal evening meal □ The club is organizing a dinner and dance on Saturday. 3. the meal eaten in the middle of the day, especially at school □ A small number of the children are entitled to free school dinners. (NOTE: If you call the meal in the middle of the day dinner, then you call the evening meal tea or supper. If you call the evening meal dinner, then you call the meal in the middle of the day lunch.)

dinner jacket /'dɪnər ˌdʒækt/ noun a man's formal jacket

dinner party /'dɪnər ˈpærtri/ noun a private dinner to which guests are invited

dinner table /'dɪnər ˌtɛb(ə)l/ noun a table where people are eating

**dinner time** /'dɪnər ˈtaɪm/ noun the time when you usually have dinner. Synonym mealtime, evening meal.

**dinosaur** /'dɪnərɔːzər/ noun 1. a large prehistoric reptile □ At the time when dinosaurs roamed the land, England was covered with tropical forests. 2. someone who seems to belong to a past age □ He's one of the dinosaurs of British politics.

dioctse /'daɪəsəs/ noun an area under the charge of a bishop

dioxide /'daɪəksɔɪd/ noun a chemical compound with two atoms of oxygen to one atom of another substance

dip /dɪp/ noun 1. a sudden drop in a road, of land □ Watch out--there's a dip in the road which makes it difficult to see oncoming cars. 2. a savoury paste into which biscuits or raw vegetables can be dipped as snacks □ a dip of avocado dip □ a short bathe or swim □ We have time for a quick dip before lunch. □ Are you coming for a dip in the pool? 3. a sudden small fall □ Last year there was a dip in our sales. □ verb □ to dip something into something to put something quickly into a liquid □ She dipped the biscuit into her coffee. □ She dipped her hand into the stream. 2. to fall suddenly □ Shares dipped sharply on the stock exchange. □ The bird flew overhead then dipped behind the trees.

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**dinosaur** /'dɪnərɔːzər/ noun 1. a large prehistoric reptile □ At the time when dinosaurs roamed the land, England was covered with tropical forests. 2. someone who seems to belong to a past age □ He's one of the dinosaurs of British politics.

dioctse /'daɪəsəs/ noun an area under the charge of a bishop

dioxide /'daɪəksɔɪd/ noun a chemical compound with two atoms of oxygen to one atom of another substance

**dip** /dɪp/ noun 1. a sudden drop in a road, of land □ Watch out--there's a dip in the road which makes it difficult to see oncoming cars. 2. a savoury paste into which biscuits or raw vegetables can be dipped as snacks □ a dip of avocado dip □ a short bathe or swim □ We have time for a quick dip before lunch. □ Are you coming for a dip in the pool? 3. a sudden small fall □ Last year there was a dip in our sales. □ verb □ to dip something into something to put something quickly into a liquid □ She dipped the biscuit into her coffee. □ She dipped her hand into the stream. 2. to fall suddenly □ Shares dipped sharply on the stock exchange. □ The bird flew overhead then dipped behind the trees.

**dining room** /'daɪnɪŋ rʊm/ noun a room in a house or hotel where you usually eat
Anchorage.

The plane flies direct to Anchorage.

I will write the letter directly I get.direct mail /ˈdaɪrek t/ mail/ noun selling something by sending publicity material to possible buyers through the post.

direct current /ˈdaɪrek t/ kərənt/ noun an electric current which flows in one direction. Abbrev DC. Compare alternating current.

direct debit /ˈdaɪrek t/ ˈdɛbit/ noun a system where a customer allows a company to charge costs to his bank account automatically and where the amount charged can be increased or decreased with the agreement of the customer.

2. directions /ˈdaɪrek tʃənz/ plural noun instructions on how to do something.

3. directorate /ˈdaɪrek tət/ noun a government examinations or businesses with their addresses and telephone numbers. Synonym listing.

directory enquiries /ˈdaɪrek tər/ ˈenkwəri/ noun a telephone service which gives lists of professional people, organisations or businesses with their addresses and telephone numbers.
finds phone numbers which you do not know or cannot find.

direct speech /ditərk/t 'spiʃ/ noun what someone actually says

direct tax /ditərk,tæks/ noun a tax based on income

direct taxation /ditərk,tæk'seʃ(ə)n/ noun a tax, such as income tax, which is paid straight to the government

dirty /'dəri/ noun mud, earth 1. Children were playing in the dirt. 2. His clothes were covered with dirt from handling potatoes.

dirt cheap /'dərtʃɛp/ adj, adv very cheap

dirty /'dərti/ adj 1. not clean 2. After the party, someone has to wash all the dirty plates. 3. Don’t come into the kitchen with your dirty boots on. 2. not honest, not done according to the rules 3. He never uses violence himself, he just gets other people to do his dirty work for him. 4. There was some dirty play from the other team. 5. He’s one of the dirtiest players in Football League. 3. pornographic, about sex 4. He keeps the dirty magazines on the top shelf. 5. He makes his money selling dirty postcards to tourists. 2. dirty look an annoyed or disapproving look 3. He got some dirty looks from the traffic wardens. 4. dirty to make something dirty, or to cover something in dirt 5. Look – you’ve dirtied the clean kitchen floor! Synonym soil. Antonym clean (NOTE: dirtier – dirtiest)

dirty old man /'dərti ɔld 'mæn/ noun an old man who shows a lot of interest in sex (informal inauth)

dirty trick /'dərti 'trik/ noun 1. a nasty action that upsets someone 2. That was a dirty trick to play on an old lady. 2. a dishonest method of spoiling someone’s plans or of ruining his or her reputation by spreading rumours 3. They mounted a dirty tricks campaign against the rival company.

disability /dɪs'æbləti/ noun a condition in which a person is unable to use a part of their body because of some permanent injury or illness

disable /dɪs'ərb(ə)l/ verb to make someone or something unable to function normally.

incapacitate /ɪnkæpə'seɪteɪt/ verb to make someone or something unable to function normally.

disabled /dɪs'ərb(ə)ld/ adj 1. not able to use part of your body, e.g. because of illness 2. a hospital for disabled ex-servicemen 3. The car crash left him permanently disabled.

2. not able to work properly 4. A tug went to the help of the disabled cruise ship.

enablement /dɪs'ərb(ə)lmənt/ noun a condition where a person has a physical or mental disability

disabling /dɪs'əblɪŋ/ adj which disables

advantage /dɪs'ædvantɪdʒ/ noun a drawback or a factor which makes someone or something less likely to succeed 1. Her main disadvantage is her lack of experience. 2. It was a disadvantage not to be able to get to the airport quickly. 3. There are certain disadvantages to leaving at 5.30 in the morning. Synonym difficulty. Antonym advantage 1. at a disadvantage handicapped by something, suffering from a disadvantage 2. We are at a disadvantage compared with our competitors because we have no sales force.

disadvantaged /dɪs'ædventɪdʒɪd/ adj 1. suffering a disadvantage 2. She was disadvantaged by her lack of experience. 2. living in a poor environment, without any facilities 3. state help for schools in disadvantaged areas

advantageous /dɪs'ædventɪ'juːəs/ adj which does not give an advantage; unfavorable.

disaffected /dɪs'æfektɪd/ adj discontented or rebellious. Synonym disillusioned. Antonym enthusiastic

disagree /dɪs'ɡri/ verb 1. not to agree, to say that you do not think the same way as someone 2. We all disagreed with the chairperson.

disagreeably /dɪs'ɡriəbli/ adv in an unpleasant way

disagreement /dɪs'ɡriːmənt/ noun an argument 1. They had a disagreement about who should sit in the front row.

disadvantage /dɪs'ædvantɪdʒ/ noun an argument 2. Nothing could be decided because of the disagreement between the chair and the treasurer.

disallow /dɪs'laʊ/ verb to reject something, not to accept something 1. the goal was disallowed the goal was not counted in the score

disappear /dɪs'æpə(r)/ verb 1. to vanish, not to be seen any more 2. He hit the ball hard and it disappeared into the bushes.

disappearance /dɪs'æpərəns/ noun vanishing

disappoint /dɪs'æpənt/ verb to make someone sad, because things did not turn out as expected

disappointed /dɪs'æpəntɪd/ adj sad, because things did not turn out as expected 1. She is disappointed with her exam results.

advantageous /dɪs'ædventɪ'juːəs/ adj which does not give an advantage; unfavorable.
disappointed expression on his face. Synonym let down. Antonym satisfied.

- disappointing /dɪsˈpɔɪntɪŋ/ adj which makes you sad because it does not turn out as expected. Synonym unsatisfactory. Antonym satisfactory.

- disappointment /dɪsˈpɔɪntmənt/ noun 1. sadness because what was expected did not take place. To his great disappointment, he didn't win anything on the lottery. 2. something that disappoints someone. It was a disappointment to his parents when he failed his exam. 3. After many disappointments she finally won a prize.


- disapprove /dɪsˈprɔvər/ verb 1. to disapprove of something to show that you do not approve of something, that you do not think something is good. The junta openly disapproved of the judicial system. 2. The head teacher disapproves of members of staff wearing jeans to school. 3. disapprove of someone or something on one side because they are no longer useful, to throw something away. Synonym throw away.

- disarrange /dɪsˈærɪn/ verb to remove weapons from someone. disarrangement /dɪsˈærɪmənt/ noun reducing the number of arms held by a country. disarming /dɪsˈærɪmɪŋ/ adj charming, in such a way that you cannot be annoyed. Antonym unattractive.

- disaster /ˈdɪzəstər/ noun 1. a catastrophe, a very bad accident. We’re insured against natural disasters such as hurricanes and earthquakes. 2. The disaster was caused by fog or was due to fog. 3. Ten people died in the air disaster. 4. something that is completely unsuccessful. The advertising campaign was a disaster – our sales went down. 5. If it rains the village fête will be a complete disaster. 6. financial collapse. 7. the company is heading for or is on a disaster course. 8. the company is going to collapse. disaster area /ˈdɪzəstər ˈeərə/ noun 1. a place that has recently undergone a natural disaster. 2. a very untidy or disorganised place, person or situation.

- disastrous /ˈdɪzəstrəs/ adj very bad, catastrophic.

- disastrously /ˈdɪzəstrəslɪ/ adv very badly.

- disband /dɪsˈbænd/ verb 1. to split up an organised group and end their activities. After the successful coup, the former army was disbanded. 2. We are disbanding our door-to-door sales team and relying on mail order selling in future.

- disciplinary /dɪsˈplɪnəri/ adj which keeps someone under control or which punished someone. Synonym punitive.

- disbelieve /dɪsˈblɪv/ verb 1. to not believe someone or something. 2. to have no religious belief.

- disc /dɪsk/ noun 1. a round flat object; a music record. 2. The setting sun was a huge orange disc on the horizon.

- disbelief /dɪsˈblɪf/ noun 1. extreme surprise, not being able to believe something. Synonym incredulity.

- keep/keɪp/ verb 1. to see something, to make something out with difficulty. We could barely discern the traffic coming in the opposite direction. 2. to understand something, to find out about something. It’s hard to discern what her motives might be.

- discernible /dɪsˈsɜːnbəl/ adj which can be seen. Synonym visible.

- discerning /dɪsˈsɜːnɪŋ/ adj with good judgement.

- discharge /dɪsˈtʃɑːrdʒ/ verb 1. to get rid of waste. The factory is discharging waste water into the river. 2. to send someone away. The judge discharged the jury.

- discharge /dɪsˈtʃɑːrdʒ/ noun 1. a liquid which comes out of something such as a pipe. The discharge from the factory flows into the river. 2. pus which comes out of a wound. The wound healed well with no further discharge. 3. the payment of a debt. Discharge of the debt must take place within thirty days. 4. the release of a prisoner. He was arrested again within a month of his discharge from prison. 5. verb to remove a load from a vehicle. Several trucks were waiting to discharge their loads. 6. to dismiss someone. He was discharged for being late.

- disciple /ˈdɪsplaɪs/ noun a follower, especially of a religious leader.

- disciplinarian /ˌdɪsplɪnərɪən/ noun a person who believes in strict discipline. Synonym tyrant.
discredit 233 disengage

discovery of a new planet. 2. a new thing which has been found 3. The first discovery they made was that the lake contained salt water. 4. Look at his latest discovery – an antique oak table which he found in a barn.
discredit /di'skrit/ noun loss of respect 1. She brought discredit on the whole family. (NOTE: no plural) • verb to make people doubt or lose respect for someone or something 2. When stories about his private life appeared in the press he was totally discredited as a minister. 3. They set out to discredit his research.

discr et /di'skrit/ adj 1. not giving away or trying to find out private information about other people 2. She never gossips – she is very discreet. 3. not intending to attract attention 4. I had a discreet word with the vicar before the service.
discreetly /di'skritli/ adv quietly, without anyone noticing

discrepancy /di'skreipans/ noun a lack of agreement between figures or stories. Synonym inconsistency (NOTE: The plural is discrepancies.)
discretion /di'skritʃən/ noun 1. the power to decide or choose what to do 2. I leave it to your discretion 3. I leave it to your discretion I will let you decide what to do 4. Gratuities are left to the discretion of the customer. 2. wisdom, tact, or good sense 3. He showed great discretion in his handling of the family crisis. 4. the ability to keep a secret, not to give information about someone 5. You can rely on her – she’s known for her discretion. (NOTE: no plural)
disciplinary /di'skritəri/ adj which can be done if someone wants it. Synonym optional. Antonym mandatory 1. the tribunal has wide discretionary powers the tribunal can act in various ways when it decides it is necessary 2. to discriminate /di'skrɪmɪnət/ verb 1. to distinguish 2. to discriminate between two things to treat two things in different ways 3. The selectors must not discriminate between men and women applicants. 4. We discriminate between part-time and full-time staff. 2. to discriminate against to be biased against 3. She accused the management of discriminating against her.
discriminating /di'skrɪmɪnɪŋ/ adj able to tell the difference between two things, able to tell the value of something. Synonym discerning
discrimination /di'skrɪmɪneɪʃən/ noun 1. treating people in different ways because of class, religion, race, language, colour or sex 2. We try to avoid discrimination against older applicants. 3. sexual or sex discrimination, discrimination on grounds of sex treating men and women in different ways 2. good taste 3. The shop sells gifts which appeal to people with discrimination. (NOTE: no plural)
discriminatory /di'skrɪmɪnət(ə)ri/ adj which shows discrimination. Synonym biased
discursive /di'skɜːsɪv/ adj which does not keep to the point, which changes from one subject to another. Antonym concise
discuss /di'skɔs/ noun a flat round disc which is thrown as a sport (NOTE: Do not confuse with discuss. The plural is discusses.) 1. to discuss /di'skɔs/ verb to talk about a serious matter or problem 2. The point of the meeting is to discuss how to save money. 3. They spent hours discussing the details of the wedding. Synonym talk over 1. discussion /di'skɔʃən/ noun talking about a serious matter or problem 2. Most problems can be solved by discussion. 3. The next programme will feature a discussion between environmental experts. 4. She had a heated discussion with the bus driver. Synonym conversation 1. the question under discussion the question we are talking about 2. to disdain /di'sdemən/ noun a feeling that someone or something is inferior 3. She showed her disdain by refusing to shake his hand. Synonym scorn. Antonym respect (NOTE: no plural) • verb 1. to look down on something 2. She disdains all modern appliances like computers and mobile phones. 3. to disdain to do something to refuse to do something because it is beneath you 4. He disdained to carry his own luggage, but got a porter to do it for him.
disdainful /di'sdemənfl/ adj superior, showing disdain. Antonym respectful
disease /di'ziːz/ noun a serious illness 1. Hundreds of people caught the disease. 2. It is a disease that can be treated with antibiotics.
diseased /di'ziːzd/ adj 1. affected by an illness 2. not whole or normal
disembark /dɪsəm'bɑːk/ verb to get off a ship or a plane, etc. Antonym embark
disembarkation /dɪsəm'bɑːkərəʃən/ noun the act of getting off a ship or a plane etc.
disembodied /dɪsəm'bɑːdɪd/ adj without physical presence
disenchanted /dɪsən'tʃæntid/ adj to be disenchanted with something not to be as pleased as you used to be with something, to start to dislike something 2. She’s very disenchanted with her new job and is thinking of quitting.
disengage /dɪsən'ɡeɪd/ verb 1. to disengage the clutch (in a car, etc.) to press down on the clutch pedal, so that the engine
disengage noun  the act of stopping fighting
disengagement /dɪsˈɛŋɡɪmənt/ verb 1. to straighten out things that are tied or knotted together 2. to clarify something 3. to free someone from a complicated situation

disguise /dɪsˈɡaɪz/ noun a lack of approval (NOTE: The US spelling is disfavor.)
□ to fall into disguise to stop being approved of
○ The minister fell into disfavour and was exiled. ○ The duke incurred the king’s disfavour.

disfigure /dɪsˈɡaɪfər/ verb to change someone’s appearance so as to make it less pleasant
disfiguration /dɪsˈɡaɪfərərɪnt/ noun a mark that makes someone or something look less attractive. Synonym scar. Antonym enhancement
disgrace /dɪsˈɡres/ noun 1. the loss of someone’s respect because of errors, scandal or corruption ○ The minister’s disgrace followed the discovery of the papers in his office. ○ the minister fell into disgrace the minister became out of favour 2. a thing which brings shame ○ He’s a disgrace to the teaching profession. ○ It was a disgrace to see her lying on the pavement like that.
□ to disgrace yourself to do something which brings shame on someone ○ He disgraced all his family by arresting drunk at the tea party. ○ to disguise yourself to serve food ○ We are trying a new Mexican dish. 4. a round aerial, shaped like a plate, used to get signals from satellites ○ Almost every house in the street has a satellite dish on the roof. (NOTE: The plural is dishes.)
dishcloth /dɪʃklɒθ/ noun a cloth for washing dishes
dishcloth /dɪʃclɒθ/ plural noun things you use for eating from, such as plates and cups
dishcleaner /dɪʃklɪnər/ noun a machine for washing dishes
dishwasher /dɪʃˈwɒʃər/ noun a machine for washing dishes ○ dishwasher-proof (of dishes) not harmed by being washed in a dishwasher
dishwater /ˈdɪʃwɔːtər/ noun water which has been used for washing dishes
disillusion /ˌdɪsɪˈluːʒən/ verb to make someone feel let down, or sad that something has not turned out as expected. Antonym inspire
disillusioned /ˌdɪsɪˈluːʒənd/ adj feeling that something has not turned out as expected
disillusionment /ˌdɪsɪˈluːʒənmənt/ noun a feeling of being let down because something has not turned out as expected
disinclined /ˌdɪsɪnˈklænd/ adj ☐ to be disinclined to do something to feel you do not want to do something (formal) ☐ I’m disinclined to lend them any more money.
disinfect /ˌdɪsɪnˈfɛkt/ verb to remove germs or bacteria from something. Synonym sterilise. Antonym contaminate
disinfectant /ˌdɪsɪnˈfɛktənt/ noun a substance used to kill germs and bacteria. Synonym antiseptic.
disinformation /ˌdɪsɪnˈfɪzɪʊn/ noun false information that is intended to confuse an enemy or an opponent. Synonym deception. Antonym truth
disgenuous /ˌdɪsɪˈgənjuːs/ adj pretending to be sincere while trying to hide something. Synonym dishonest
disintegrate /ˌdɪsɪntɪˈɡreɪt/ verb to fall to pieces. Synonym crumble. Antonym reconstitute
disinterested /ˌdɪsɪnˈtɜːrəstɪd/ adj 1. quite impartial, not in favour of one side or the other ☐ a totally disinterested observer 2. not interested ☐ She seemed quite disinterested in what was going on. (NOTE: This use is common, but regarded as wrong. The correct word to use in this meaning is uninterested.)
disjointed /ˌdɪsɪˈdʒɔɪntɪd/ adj without any links; unconnected. Antonym coherent
disk drive /ˈdɪsk drɛv/ noun a device which holds a disk in a computer and controls the access of information ☐ dislike /ˈdɪsk læk/ noun 1. not liking something or someone ☐ She had never felt such a dislike for someone before. ☐ to take a dislike to to hate ☐ Their dog took a hearty dislike to the postman. 2. a thing which you do not like ☐ We try to take account of the likes and dislikes of individual customers. ☐ verb not to like something or someone ☐ I dislike him intensely. ☐ I dislike it when the people behind me at the cinema start whispering. ☐ My father dislikes having to get up early on Monday mornings. Synonym hate ☐ I don’t dislike Mozart I quite like Mozart dislocate /ˌdɪskləˈkeɪt/ verb 1. to displace a bone from its normal position at a joint ☐ He fell and dislocated his elbow. ☐ The shoulder joint dislocates easily. 2. to disorganise something ☐ Train services have been dislocated by the strike.
dislocation /ˌdɪsəˈleɪʃən/ noun 1. a condition where a bone is dislocated from its normal position at a joint ☐ The dislocation of his elbow means that he can’t drive. 2. disorganisation ☐ The fog will lead to some dislocation of services.
dislodge /ˌdɪsˈlʌdʒ/ verb to move something which is stuck. Synonym remove
disloyal /ˈdɪsəˈloyəl/ adj not loyal. Synonym unfaithful. Antonym loyal
disloyalty /ˈdɪsəˈloyəti/ noun a lack of loyalty, not being loyal. Antonym loyalty
dismal /ˈdɪzməl/ adj miserable
dismally /ˈdɪzməli/ adv miserably ☐ to fail dismally to fail very badly ☐ He failed his test dismally.
dismantle /ˈdɪsmənt(ə)l/ verb to take something to pieces
dismay /ˌdɪzmɪ/ noun great disappointment ☐ To her great dismay she couldn’t find her passport. ☐ To the dismay of the supporters, the team played extremely badly. ☐ verb to strike someone with horror ☐ His reaction to her letter dismayed her. ☐ She was dismayed to find that her passport had been stolen.
dismayed /ˌdɪzməd(ə)l/ adj shocked and upset
dismember /ˌdɪsˈmembər/ verb to cut something up into pieces ☐ dismiss /ˌdɪsˈmɪs/ verb 1. to remove an employee from a job ☐ He was dismissed for being late. ☐ When they found him taking money from the petty cash he was dismissed instantly. 2. to send someone away ☐ At the end of the interview he dismissed her with a brief ‘good afternoon’. 3. to refuse to consider an idea ☐ Her plan was dismissed as being quite impractical. 4. All his suggestions were dismissed by the MD. 5. to refuse a request ☐ They dismissed my application for a loan.
dismissal /ˌdɪsˈmɪskəl/ noun removal from a job ☐ unfair dismissal the removing of a person from his job for reasons which do not appear to be reasonable ☐ He appealed to the tribunal on the grounds of unfair dismissal.
dissimulative /ˌdɪsɪˈmɪsɪvl/ adj showing that you do not consider something or someone important
dismount /ˌdɪsmɔːnt/ verb to get off something such as a horse or bicycle. Synonym get down
disobedience /ˌdɪsəbɪˈdɪns/ noun an act of refusing to obey someone. Synonym defiance. Antonym obedience
disobedient /ˌdɪsəˈbɪdɪənt/ adj not obeying. Synonym defiant. Antonym obedient
disobey /dɪsəˈbeɪ/ verb not to obey. Synonym defy. Antonym obey.

disorder /dɪsˈɔːdər/ noun 1. a lack of order. 2. the whole office is in a state of disorder. 3. a riot, disturbance in the streets. 4. Violent public disorders broke out in the streets. 5. an illness. 6. She suffers from a stomach disorder. 7. a doctor who specialises in disorders of the kidneys or in kidney disorders.

disordered /dɪsˈɔːdəd/ adj. untidy or confused. 2. not working normally.

disorderly /dɪsˈɔːdəli/ adj. wild and out of order.

disorganised /dɪsˈɔːɡənəzd/, disorganised adj. not well organised.

disorientate /dɪsəˈɔrɪntət/ verb to make someone feel confused, especially so that they do not know where they are. (Note: The US term is disorient.)

disown /dɪsˈəʊn/ verb to refuse to accept that something is yours.

disparage /dɪsˈpərɪdʒ/ verb to say that something is not very good. Synonym belittle. Antonym praise.

disparagement /dɪsˈpərɪdʒmənt/ noun the act of disparaging. Antonym praise.

dispensing /dɪsˈpɛnsɪŋ/ verb 1. to provide something. 2. Local magistrates dispense justice in the villages. 3. He sits in his office dispensing good advice to anyone who asks him for it.

dispenser /dɪsˈpɛnsər/ noun a machine which automatically provides something when money is put in or a button is pushed.

dispensing chemist /dɪsˈpɛnsɪŋˌkɛmɪst/ noun a chemist who prepares and sells medicine.

dispersal /dɪsˈpɜːsəl/ noun the way in which people or things are spread over an area.

dispense /dɪsˈpɛns/ verb 1. to send regular dispatches from the war zone. 2. to dispense with something not to use something any more. 3. We’ve dispensed with the services of an accountant.

dispense with something /dɪsˈpɛnsɪŋ ˌwɪð smʌething/ verb to finish doing something quickly. (Note: The plural is dispenses with something.)

dispatch /dɪsˈpeɪtʃ/ noun 1. sending dispatch of the goods will be delayed until Monday. 2. a message sent. 3. The reporters send regular dispatches from the war zone. 4. We received a dispatch from our Calcutta office. 5. The reporters send regular dispatches from the war zone. 6. with dispatch immediately and with as much speed as possible. (Formal) 7. verb 1. to send something. 2. They dispatched the message to all commanding officers. 3. The goods were dispatched to you first thing this morning. 4. to finish doing something quickly. 5. She set to work on the files and dispatched most of them by lunchtime.

dispatch box /dɪsˈpeɪtʃ bɒks/ noun a box with government papers.

dispel /dɪsˈpɛl/ verb to clear something away. (Note: dispelling – dispelled)

dispensary /dɪsˈpɛnsərɪ/ noun a place where a chemist prepares medicines according to a doctor’s prescription.

dispensation /dɪsˈpɛnʃən/ noun permission not to follow something such as a rule.
disposable income 237
disposable income /ˌdɪspəˈzuːɛ(ə)l/ˈɪnkəm/ noun an amount of income left after the tax has been taken away
disposable /ˌdɪspəˈzuːəl/ noun 1. the act of getting rid of something 2. the act of disposing of something to get rid of something 3. The disposal of refuse is a problem for large cities. 2. my car is at your disposal you can use my car if you want to I am at your disposal I am ready to do anything you want
dispose /ˈdɪspəʊz/ verb 1. to dispose of something 2. to dispose of something you do not want to keep
dispossession /ˌdɪspəˈzɪʃən/ noun 1. the act of passing land or goods to another person, especially in a will 2. passing land or goods to another person, especially in a will especially in a will

disproportionate /ˌdɪsproʊˈzɪətərə/ adj not of a suitable size or amount for a particular purpose
disprove /ˈdɪsprəv/ verb to prove something is wrong. Antonym prove 1. dispute /dɪˈspʌjt/ 2. dispute /ˈdɪspʌj/ noun an argument 3. He tried to mediate in the dispute 4. There was a little dispute over who would pay the bill 5. in dispute not agreed 6. The ownership of the land is in dispute 7. in dispute to argue that something is not correct 8. to dispute her version of what happened 9. There is no disputing the fact that Sarah is the best qualified of the candidates
disqualification /ˌdɪsˌkwəlɪfɪˈkeɪʃən/ noun an action by which someone is disqualified. Antonym entitlement
disqualify /ˌdɪskwəlɪˈfai/ verb to make someone not able to do something. Syonym ban
disquiet /dɪsˈkwɔːt/ noun worry. Antonym unrest
disquieting /ˌdɪskwɔːtˈɪŋ/ adj worrying
disregard /dɪˈsrɛɡərd/ noun 1. disregard for something not paying any attention to something 2. He showed a complete disregard for public safety 3. to take no notice of He disregarded the warning signs and went on along the road. Syonym ignore. Antonym heed
disrepair /ˌdɪsˈreɪpər/ noun 1. a state of disrepair needing to be repaired
disreputable /ˌdɪsˈrepjʊtəb(ə)l/ adj with a bad reputation, especially for criminal activity. Antonym reputable
disrepute /ˌdɪsˈrɪpʃət/ noun a bad reputation 1. to bring something into disrepute to give something a bad reputation 2. He was accused of bringing the club into disrepute by his extraordinary behaviour. Synonym discredit

disrespectful /ˌdɪsˈrɛspəktf(ə)l/ adj lacking respect rude. Antonym respectful
disrupt /ˈdɪsrəpt/ verb 1. to stop a service running normally 2. The snowstorm has disrupted bus services throughout the country 3. to break up or to interrupt a meeting 4. We are not used to having our meetings disrupted by protestors. 5. disruption /ˌdɪsˈrʌptʃən/ noun 1. stopping the normal working of something 2. The fog has caused disruption to rail timetables. 2. breaking up or interruption of a meeting 3. We locked the door so that there would be no more disruptions. 4. disruptive /ˈdɪsrəptɪv/ adj which disrupts. Synonym troublesome
dissatisfaction /ˌdɪsəˈsætɪfɪk/ noun a lack of satisfaction. Synonym displeasure
dissatisfied /ˌdɪsəˈsætɪfəd/ adj not satisfied. Synonym displeased. Antonym satisfied
dissertation /ˌdɪsaˈteɪʃən/ noun a long essay written as part of a university course
disservice /ˌdɪsəˈvɜːrˈsɪv/ noun an action which damages or harms 1. to do somebody a disservice to do something which harms someone you do yourself a disservice you are harming your reputation
dissent /ˈdɪsənt/ noun 1. in disagreement with the state 2. a dissenter writer. Syonym rebel
dissimilar 238
distinction

dissimilar 238
distinction

dissimilar 238

distinction

ment with the state. Several dissidents tried to set up an underground newspaper. It was a time when dissidents were being arrested and thrown in jail. Synonym dissenter • Antonym (all senses) conformist dissimilar /dɪˈsɪməl/ adj not the same. Synonym unlike. Antonym similar □ they are not dissimilar they are alike
dissipate /dɪˈspɪteɪ/ verb 1. to clear something away. The hot sun soon dissipated the morning mist. □ His statement did a lot to dissipate the feeling of annoyance among the members. 2. to waste something such as money, time or skill. □ After winning the lottery he dissipated the lot on drink and expensive cars.
dissipated /dɪˈspɪtɪd/ adj living in a way which many people do not approve of, e.g. by spending a lot of money on physical pleasure.
dissociate /dɪˈsəʊjət/ verb □ to dissociate yourself from to say that you want nothing to do with. □ I wish to dissociate myself from the opinions expressed by my colleague.
dissolution /dɪsəˈluːʃ(ə)n/ noun the ending of a formal relationship, such as a marriage or dissolution of Parliament the ending of a Parliament, so forcing a general election.

□ The government lost the vote of confidence, so the Prime Minister asked for a dissolution of Parliament.
dissolve /dɪˈsəʊlv/ verb 1. to make a solid substance become part of a liquid. □ Dissolve the sugar in half a litre of boiling water. □ The powder should be completely dissolved in warm water. 2. to become part of a liquid. □ The sugar dissolved quite quickly. □ Stir the mixture until the sugar dissolves. 3. to bring something to an end □ to dissolve a partnership or a company or a marriage □ to dissolve Parliament to close the Parliament, and call new elections.

dissuade /dɪˈswɛd/ verb □ to dissuade someone from something to persuade someone not to do something. □ We tried to dissuade her from entering the beauty competition.
dissuasion /dɪˈswɛʃ(ə)n/ noun persuading someone not to do something. Synonym discouragement. Antonym encouragement.

distance /ˈdɪstəns/ noun 1. a space from one point to another. □ What is the distance from London to Geneva? □ The furthest distance I have travelled by train is 800 km. □ The railway line goes underground for a short distance. □ The hotel is only a short distance away. □ within walking distance near enough to walk to. □ The hotel is within walking distance of the town centre. 2. □ from a distance seen from some way away.

□ From a distance, the mountain looks like a sleeping animal. □ in the distance a long way away □ I caught sight of the mountain in the distance. □ We could hear guns firing in the distance. □ verb □ to distance yourself from to show that you are some distance away from. □ The police chief took pains to distance himself from the remarks made by the President.
distance learning /ˈdɪstəns ˈlɛərnɪŋ/ noun studying in your own time away from the place where the course is organised, using radio or TV.

distant /ˈdɪstənt/ adj 1. far away. □ We could hear the sound of distant gunfire. □ distant relative a relative who is not a member of the immediate family. □ She’s a very distant relative – her grandfather’s cousin. □ in the not too distant future fairly soon. □ We expect to move house in the not too distant future. □ in the dim and distant past a long time ago. □ It all happened in the dim and distant past when I was at university. 2. not very friendly. □ The manager was quite helpful but distant.
distaste /dɪˈstɛst/ noun a dislike
distasteful /dɪˈstɛstf(ə)l/ adj unpleasant. Antonym pleasant.
distended /dɪˈstɛndɪd/ adj swollen
distill /dɪˈstɪl/ verb to make pure water or alcohol by heating the liquid, and collecting the steam (NOTE: distilling – distilled. The US spelling is distill.)
distillation /dɪsˈtɪlleɪʃ(ə)n/ noun the process of distilling.
distilled water /dɪˈstɪld ˈwɔːtə/ noun extremely pure water that has been distilled, used, e.g., to top up car batteries.
distillery /dɪˈstɪləri/ noun a factory for distilling alcohol (NOTE: The plural is distilleries).

distinct /dɪˈstɪŋkt/ adj 1. separate. □ There are two distinct varieties of this plant. □ They keep their printing works quite distinct from their publishing company. 2. clear □ I got the distinct impression that he was carrying a gun. □ Did you notice the distinct tone of anger in his voice?

□ distinction /dɪˈstɪŋkʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. a difference. □ There is a distinction between being interested in politics and joining a political party. □ to make a distinction between two things to notice that two things are different. □ You must try to make a distinction between the police and the secret service. 2. the highest mark. □ She got a distinction in her exam. 3. a special excellence. □ He served in the war with distinction. □ She had the distinction of being the first woman pilot.
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houses on the other side of the lake.
the binoculars we could easily distinguish the
other.
distinguish at least two birds calling to each
other.
disrupt

3. distinctive /di'stræktiv/ adj very noticeable, which makes someone or something different from others. Synonym characteristic
distinctively /di'stræktivli/ adv in a distinctive way
distinguish /di'stræktli/ adv clearly. Synonym definitely
distinguish /di'sštrogwʃ/ verb 1, to see or hear clearly; to make out details ○ With the binoculars we could easily distinguish the houses on the other side of the lake. ○ I could distinguish at least two birds calling to each other. 2. □ to distinguish between two things to recognise the difference between two things ○ Children must be taught to distinguish between right and wrong. ○ It’s difficult to distinguish by sight between salt and caster sugar. □ to distinguish one thing from another to notice that two things are not the same ○ I find it difficult to distinguish the blue from the green in the design.
distinguishable /di'sštrogwʃˈabl(ə)/ adj which can be distinguished
distinguished /di'sštrogwʃt/ adj important and well known. Synonym illustrious
distinguishing /di'sštrogwʃn/ adj which makes someone or something different. Synonym unique. Antonym typical
distort /di'strɔːt/ verb 1, to twist something ○ His face was distorted with pain. □ distorting mirrors mirrors made of bent glass, which change your appearance 2, to give a false impression of something ○ He distorted the meaning of my speech.
distortion /di'strɔːʃən/ noun 1, bending and twisting out of shape ○ The accident was caused by the distortion of the rails in the hot weather. 2, something that gives a false impression ○ It is a complete distortion of the truth.
distract /di'strækkt/ verb to attract someone’s attention to make someone look at something different ○ If you distract her attention, I’ll try to snatch her handbag.
distracted /di'stræktəd/ adj feeling extremely worried and unable to think clearly

distraction /diˈstrækʃən/ noun 1, an entertainment ○ We went to London to look for some distraction. 2, a thing which stops you from concentrating ○ How can I do my work properly with all the distractions of the family? 3. □ he loved her to distraction he was greatly in love with her
distraught /diˈstrækt/ adj feeling extremely worried and unable to think clearly
distress /diˈstreʃ/ noun 1, a great sad or painful feeling ○ I don’t want to cause the family any distress. ○ The whole family was in distress at grandmother’s death. 2, difficult ○ We knew the ship was in distress when we saw the flares. ○ distress signal a signal sent when you are in difficulties □ verb to make someone very sad and worried ○ The news of her grandmother’s death distressed her very much. Antonym soothe
distressed /diˈstreʃt/ adj very sad and worried
distressing /diˈstreʃŋ/ adv very sad and worrying
distribute /diˈstriːbjʊə/ verb 1, to share something out, to give something to several people ○ She distributed part of her money to the poor. ○ The stewariness came round, distributing immigration forms to non-EU passengers. ○ I’ll distribute the list to all the committee members. 2, to send out goods from a warehouse to shops ○ we distribute Japanese cars we are the agents for Japanese cars
distribution /ˌdi strɪˈʃən/ noun 1, giving to several people ○ The newspaper has a wide distribution. ○ The stuff will be distributed to all the children in the school. 2, the act or process of sending out goods from a warehouse to shops ○ Our distribution centre is in Oxfordshire.
distributor /diˈstriːbjʊtə/ noun 1, a company which sells goods for another company which makes them ○ Who is the local distributor for this make of lawnmower? 2, (in a car engine) a part of the engine which passes the electric spark to each sparking plug in turn ○ The distributor head needs cleaning.
district /ˈdɪstrɪkt/ noun 1, an area or region ○ It’s a district of the town well known for its Italian restaurants. □ the commercial or business district the part of a town where offices and shops are ○ The shop is well placed right in the main business district of the town. 2, an official administrative area of a town or country
district attorney /ˈdɪstrɪkt əˈtɔːrni/ noun US a lawyer representing the government in a certain area. Abbrev DA
district council /ˈdɪstrɪkt ˈkɔnʃəl/ noun a local council
district nurse /ˌdɪstrɪkt ˈnɜːs/ noun same as community nurse
distrust /ˈdɪstrʌst/ noun a lack of trust ○ The dog showed his distrust of postmen. □ verb not to trust someone ○ I distrust anyone who wears green shoes. ○ The police distrusted her motives in making the phone call.
distrustful /ˌdɪstrʌstrf(ə)l/ adj not trusting. Synonym suspicious
disturb /ˈdɪstrʌb/ verb 1, to worry someone ○ It disturbed me to see that the wheel was wobbling. 2, to interrupt someone ○ Sorry to disturb you but there’s an urgent
disturbance /ˈdɪstərbeɪns/ noun 1. the action of disturbing someone ○ I need to work somewhere where there won’t be any disturbance. 2. a noisy riot ○ The fans caused a disturbance in the hotel bar. ○ There are always disturbances after the local derby. ○ There were several instances of looting during the disturbances. 3. mental disturbance being mentally ill.

disused /dɪˈzuːd/ adjective used. Antonym occupied

ditch /dɪtʃ/ noun 1. a long narrow hole cut into the ground for taking away water ○ After the storm, the ditches were full of rainwater. ○ He fell into the ditch beside the road. Synonym channel (NOTE: The plural is ditches). 2. verb 1. to leave something behind ○ When we ran out of petrol, we ditched the car and walked to the next town. 2. to leave someone who has been working for you or who you have been having a relationship with ○ The company decided to ditch its sales director. ○ She ditched her third husband and lived alone. 3. to land a plane on water ○ The pilot ran out of fuel and decided to ditch the plane.

dither /ˈdɪðər/ noun 1. all of a dither agitated and worried ○ She was all of a dither after getting the letter from the solicitor. 2. verb not to be able to make up your mind ○ Stop dithering and tell me what you want to do. Synonym hesitate
ditto /ˈdɪtoʊ/ noun 1. also, the same thing ○ I can’t stand oysters – me ditto! 2. a printer’s sign (*) meaning that the same thing is to be repeated

diverse /ˈdɪvɜrs/ adjective various (literary) Antonym similar
diversification /ˌdɪvərˈsɪfɪkeɪʃən/ noun the act of diversifying. Antonym specialisation
diversity /ˌdɪvərˈsɪtɪ/ noun 1. a temporary road system that sends traffic another way ○ All traffic has to take a diversion and rejoin the motorway 10 km further on. 2. an entertainment or an activity that people do for enjoyment ○ Fishing is one of the most popular diversions for people at weekends. ○ It’s a quiet country town with very few diversions for teenagers. 3. to create a diversion to take someone’s attention away from what is happening, e.g. so that someone else can commit a crime ○ She created a diversion by screaming.
3. by the sign ÷:

10 ÷ 2 = 5

division /dɪˈvɪʒ(ə)n/ noun, a legal separation of a husband and wife where each is free to marry again. Her parents are getting a divorce. Since their divorce, they have both remarried. 

divorce /ˈdɪvɜrs/ noun, a legal separation of a husband and wife where each is free to marry again. They divorced last year. To separate from your husband or wife. She divorced her husband and married the man next door. He got divorced after only three years of marriage. To separate two different things. It is difficult to divorce their financial problems from the problems they are having with the house.

divorced /dɪˈvɜrsts/ adj, no longer married. They’re both divorced, with children from their previous marriages.

diversified /dɪˈvɜrsɪfɜd/ verb, to make questions more difficult. Synonym diversified

diversity /dɪˈvɜrəsɪti/ noun, great variety. Antonym uniformity

divide /dɪˈvɑːrd/ verb, 1. to cut something into parts. The cake was divided among the children. How can you divide the cake into thirteen pieces? Two companies agreed to divide the market between them. Our open-plan office is divided up with low partitions. To calculate how many of one number there are in another. Ten divided by two gives five. (NOTE: Dividing is usually shown by the sign ÷: 10 ÷ 2 = 5, say ‘ten divided by two equals five.’) 3. (in the House of Commons) to vote. MPs divided at 10 p.m.

dividend /ˈdɪvɪndəd/ noun, a part of a company’s profits shared out among people who own shares in it. To raise or increase the dividend to pay out a higher dividend than in the previous year.

dividers /dɪˈvɑːrdzəs/ plural noun, a pair of compasses for measuring.

dividing line /dɪˈvɑːrdɪŋ ˈlaɪn/ noun, something acting as a boundary.

divine /dɪˈvɑːn/ adjective referring to God. He prayed for divine help.

divine joinery /dɪˈvɪn dʒɔɪnɨrɪ/ noun, woodwork that is used in churches, synagogues, and other places of worship.

divorced /dɪˈvɜrsts/ adjective, separated. Synonym divorced

divorce /ˈdɪvɜrs/ noun, a legal separation of a husband and wife where each is free to marry again. Her parents are getting a divorce. Since their divorce, they have both remarried. 

divorced /dɪˈvɜrsts/ verb, to break off a marriage legally. They divorced last year. To separate from your husband or wife. She divorced her husband and married the man next door. He got divorced after only three years of marriage. To separate two different things. It is difficult to divorce their financial problems from the problems they are having with the house.

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divorced /dɪˈvɜrsts/ adjective, no longer married. They’re both divorced, with children from their previous marriages.

divorcee /dɪˈvɜrsi/ noun, a divorced person, especially a woman who is divorced.

divulge /dɪˈvʌldʒ/ verb, to give away a secret. Synonym reveal

divulge /dɪˈvʌldʒ/ verb, to tell someone something that they don’t know. Synonym reveal

divulge /dɪˈvʌldʒ/ verb, to tell someone something that they don’t know. Synonym reveal

DJ abbr, disc jockey

DNA /ˈdɛnə/ noun, the basic genetic material in a cell. Full form deoxyribonucleic acid.

DNA /ˈdɛnə/ noun, the basic genetic material in a cell. Full form deoxyribonucleic acid.

do /du/ verb, 1. used with other verbs to make questions. Does this train go to London? Did the doctor give you any medicine for your cough? Where do they live? What did you find there? 2. used with other verbs and ‘not’ to make the negative. They didn’t laugh at the film. It doesn’t matter any more. His parents don’t live in London. 3. used to make a verb stronger. Can I sit down? — please do! Why don’t you work
do away with 242
do away with

harder? – I do work hard! ○ Why didn’t you tell me? – I did tell you! ○ used in place of another verb in short answers to questions using the word ‘do’ ○ Do you live in London? – Yes I do. ○ But your parents don’t live there, do they? – No they don’t. ○ Does the green colour show? – Yes it does. ○ Did you go to the concert after all? – Yes I did. ○ used in place of another verb at the end of a question or statement ○ The Russians live here, don’t they? ○ It looks very nice, doesn’t it? ○ It doesn’t rain a lot in Spain, does it? ○ Can you run as fast as he does? ○ He speaks German better than I do. ○ She asked me to close the door but I’d already done so. ○ They got to the pub before we did. ○ telling someone not to do something ○ Don’t throw away that letter! ○ Don’t put your coffee cups on the computer! ○ with nouns ending in -ing ○ She’s doing the shopping. ○ He always does the washing up. ○ She was doing the ironing. ○ to work at something or to arrange something ○ or to clean something (followed by a noun) ○ She’s doing her hair. ○ Have you done the dishes yet? ○ I can’t do today’s crossword. ○ What have you been doing all day? ○ They’re a difficult company to do business with. ○ what do you do for a living? ○ what is your job? ○ to succeed, to continue ○ She’s doing very well in her new job. ○ He did badly in the interview. ○ How’s your business doing? ○ well done! said to someone when they have achieved success in something ○ I passed my driving test – Well done! ○ to finish being cooked ○ The carrots aren’t done yet. ○ the chicken is done to a turn the chicken is cooked and ready to eat. ○ to be satisfactory ○ Will this size do? ○ that will do that’s enough ○ that won’t do ○ at all that’s not at all satisfactory ○ to make do with to accept something which is not as good as you wanted ○ The ordinary plates are all dirty, so we will have to make do with paper ones. ○ to travel at a certain speed ○ The car was doing 100 miles an hour when it hit the tree. (NOTE: I do; you; he/she/it does; l/dz; they do; doing – did /dɪd/ - has done /dɪzn/; negative: does not usually don’t (don’t); does not usually doesn’t (don’t); did not usually didn’t (/dɪdn’t/) ○ noun 1. a party ○ We’ve been invited to a do at the Smiths. 2. □ the dos and don’ts things you should do and things you should not do ○ She told him all the dos and don’ts about working in the office. □ do away with /dəu/ z’weɪ tʊr/ verb to get rid of something
Doc /dɒk/ abbr doctor
docile /ˈdɒsɪlz/ /ˈdɒsəʊlz/ adj quiet and well behaved
dock /dɒk/ noun 1. ○ my car is in dock my car is being repaired (informal) 2. a box in a law court, where the prisoner sits ○ She was in the dock, facing charges of theft. ○ verb 1. (of ship) to arrive in a port ○ The ship docked at 17.00. ○ The cruise liner will dock in Bermuda. 2. to connect two spacecraft together ○ The spacecraft docked with the space station. 3. to remove money from someone’s pay ○ I will have to dock your pay if you are late for work again. ○ They’ve docked £20 from my pay! ○ the ship is in dock 1. the ship is in the harbour 2. the ship is being repaired
docker /ˈdɒkə/ noun a man who works in a port, loading and unloading ships. Also called stevedore (NOTE: The US term is longshoreman.)
docking station /ˈdɒkɪŋ/ stɛʃ(ə)n noun a piece of hardware for recharging a portable computer
dockland /ˈdɒklænd/ plural noun a part of a town around docks
docks /ˈdɒks/ plural noun a harbour where ships are loaded and unloaded
dockyard /ˈdɒkjoʊd/ noun a place where ships are built or repaired. Synonym shipyard
Doc Martens /dɒkˈmɑrtn/ trademark a style of strong leather boots available in many colours
doctor /ˈdɒktər/ noun 1. a person who looks after people who are ill ○ I have a ten o’clock appointment to see the doctor. ○ If you have pains in your chest, you ought to see a doctor. ○ He went to the doctor’s last Friday. ○ a doctor’s certificate a document written by a doctor to say that an employee is ill and cannot work ○ She has been off sick for ten days and has sent in a doctor’s certificate ○ You can’t continue to work at something or to arrange something ○ We go on strike to force people to do something ○ She’s having her teeth done ○ I’ve got a toothache – I think I need to see a doctor.
doctorate /ˈdɒktrət/ noun the highest degree from a university
Doctor of Philosophy /dɒktər ˌɒf fɪˈlɒsəfɪ/ noun an advanced degree from a university in an arts subject. Abbr PhD
Doctrinaire /dəkstrɪn/ adj very dogmatic. Synonym rigid
 doctrine /ˈdɒktrɪn/ noun a statement of what a group of people believe. Synonym policy
doctored document noun /dɒktərd/ noun a piece of paper with written text ○ File all the documents away carefully as we may need them again. ○ Please read this document carefully and sign at the bottom of page two. 2. a separate text in a computer ○ The letter was saved as a Word document. ○ verb
a dog’s life is difficult, with too much work and no play. I would advise you to let some things lie. All his life he has been dodged by ill health. I thought it was a bit dodgy to me. I wouldn’t investigate any further if I were you – I imagine the meeting took place.

I don’t believe the council has searched anywhere. They are searching in the archive for any documentary evidence that the matter is documented in Africa.

She sent in a fully documented claim for insurance. They are searching in the archives for any documentary evidence that the matter is documented in Africa.

He is a dogged man who never gives up. He is always trying to do good and help others, but in a way that sometimes annoys people (informal). (NOTE: The plural is dog-gers.)

The back wheel on your bike looks a bit dodgy. The whole place has gone to the dogs. It sounds very dodgy.

The guide doled out customs forms. He’s a bit dodgy customer. He’s done in and dumped in the river.

Police have been watching the back wheel on your bike looks a bit dodgy to me. I wouldn’t go hitch-hiking in Russia – it sounds very dodgy.

He paid with a doggy bag. He’s a doggy bag.

He’s a bit of a dodgy customer. He’s done in and dumped in the river.

The back wheel on your bike looks a bit dodgy. The whole place has gone to the dogs. It sounds very dodgy.

He’s a bit of a dodgy customer. He’s done in and dumped in the river.
doleful 244
doleful /'dɔlfl(ə)l/ adj feeling extremely sad

doll /dɔl/ noun a child’s toy which looks like a baby

dollar /'dɔlər/ noun 1. the money used in
    the United States 2. a 5-dollar bill 3. The
    country spends millions of dollars on de-
    fence. 4. There are two dollars to the pound.
    2. a similar currency used in many other
    countries 5. What is the price in Australian
dollars? (NOTE: usually written $ before fig-
    ures: $250. The currencies used in different
    countries can be shown by the initial letters
    of the country: Can$ (Canadian dollar) Aus$ (Australian dollar).)

dollop /'dɔləp/ noun a large lump of some-
thing soft (informal) Synonym blob

doll’s house /'dɔləs hauz/ noun a very small
house made as a toy

dolly /'dɔlɪ/ noun 1. a doll (children’s
speech, informal) 2. Let’s put your dolly in
her pram. 3. (of films) a stand on which a
camera is fixed and which can move so that it
can follow the action 4. The dolly followed
the actors across the set. (NOTE: The plural is
dollies.)

dolphin /'dɔlfɪn/ noun a sea mammal like a very
small whale (NOTE: A group of them is
school of dolphins.)

dolt /dɔlt/ noun a silly person (dated infor-
mal insult)


domain /'deɪmən/ noun 1. an area of
responsibility 2. I don’t do the cooking –
that’s my husband’s domain. 2. an area,
    a group of nodes in a network

domain name /'deɪmən nm/ noun the
name of a service provider on the Internet

dome /'dəm/ noun a round roof shaped like
half of a ball

domed /'dɔməd/ adj with a dome; shaped
like a dome


domestic /də'nestik/ adj 1. referring to
the home 2. She hated having to do all the
    domestic work while her husband was out at his
job. 3. domestic animals farm animals and
pets 4. domestic help help in doing house-
work 2. inside a country 5. Sales in the
    domestic market have risen. 2. domestic flights
flights between airports inside the same
    country 6. a servant in a house (dated)
    7. When the fire broke out all the domestics
run into the house to rescue the furniture.


domesticate /də'mestɪkət/ verb 1. to
become domesticated 2. to be used to doing
    housework 3. He’s become totally domes-
    ticated since he got married. 2. to breed wild
animals so that they become tame and can be
kept for food or as pets, or to grow wild
    plants as food or decoration 3. Early man
    rapidly domesticated the wild horse and buf-
    falo. 4. Domesticated forms of wheat were
developed by early farmers.

domesticated /də'mestɪkətɪd/ adj 1. (of
    animals) kept or used for human require-
ments 2. (of a person) skilled in doing the
work needed to keep a home clean

domesticity /dəməs'tɪstɪti/ noun life at
home

domestic science /də'mestɪsk ˈsɛnsɪs/
    noun cooking and housework as a subject
    studied at school (dated)

domestic service /də'mestɪsk ˈsɜrvɪs/
    noun working as a servant in a house

domestic science /də'mestɪsk ˈsɛnsɪs/
    noun a place where
    someone lives or where a company is regis-
    tered (formal) Synonym home

domiciled /'dɒmɪsələd/ adj living or resi-
dent or registered in a place (formal)

dominance /də'mɪnəns/ noun being
dominant. Synonym supremacy. Antonym
weakness

dominant /də'mɪnənt/ adj 1. most im-
portant 2. The dominant colour in the room is
dark red. 3. Safety will be the dominant theme
of the discussion. 2. very powerful, strong
    3. He has a very dominant personality and his
wife and children have to do what he says. 4.
The President’s party is the dominant force
in the country’s political system.

dominant gene /də'mɪnənt dʒiˈni/ noun
the more important of a pair of genes, where
the characteristic is passed on to the child

dominate /dəˈmɪneɪt/ verb 1. to rule
something or someone 2. He is dominated by
    his wife. 3. The Union party dominates the
country’s political system. 2. to be very im-
portant 3. The conversation was dominated
by the subject of the president’s wife. 3. to
very clearly seen 4. The volcano dominates
the town.

domination /dəˈmɪnəˈneɪʃən/ noun con-
trol, power, or authority over others or
another

domineering /dəˈmɪnərɪŋ/ adj forcing
your ideas on someone. Synonym bossy.
Antonym meek

domination /dəˈmɪnəʃən/ noun the
power of control 1. to exercise domination
over a country

Dominion /dəˈmɪnjən/ noun an independ-
ent state, part of the British Commonwealth

dominio /dəˈmɪnoʊ/ noun one of a set
of small flat blocks used to play a game, each
    block being divided into two sections, with
up to six dots in each section

dominio effect /dəˈmɪnɪo ɪˈfɛkt/ noun
the collapse of something, which triggers the
collapse of something else

don /dɔn/ noun a university teacher, espe-
cially at Oxford or Cambridge 2. His
father was an Oxford don. 1. verb to put on a piece
of clothing. Instructions for donning the life jacket are in the pocket in front of your seat.

Visitor to the factory have to don protective clothing. (NOTE: donning – donned)

Donate /dəʊn/ verb to give something

Synonym: giver

cannot be avoided

Contribution especially of money. Synonym: entrance

to show where a building is in a street.
door

entrance door stands at the door of a building such as a residence.
doorkey

doorkeeper

doorkey

doorman noun a man who stands at the door of a building such as a restaurant or hotel (NOTE: The plural is doormen.)

doormat

noun a small rough carpet placed in front of or behind a door, on which you wipe your shoes if they are dirty or wet.

doorstep
	noun a block of a hard substance such as stone or wood at the bottom of a door on the outside of a house. Synonym: entrance

very close to where you live. There’s a big supermarket right on our doorstep.

to door-to-door
giving from one house to the next, asking people to buy something

doorway

noun a space where there is a door. Synonym: entrance

dope /dəʊp/ noun 1. a drug ○ a dope peddler ○ to take a dope test to take a test to see if you have been taking drugs ○ information ○ Come on, let’s have the dope on the divorce case! ○ A stupid fool ○ He’s a dope, he should have asked for twice as much!

dopey /dəʊpi/ adj 1. stupid, silly ○ A stupid fool ○ He’s feeling dopey after his injection.

dork /dərk/ noun someone who other people think is not intelligent or does not dress in fashionable clothes

dormant /dɔrmeɪnt/ adj not active ○ The volcano has been dormant for many years, but has suddenly started to send out clouds of smoke. ○ to lie dormant to remain hidden and not active ○ Some viruses lie dormant for years. ○ dormant volcano a volcano which is not sending out hot gas or smoke at the moment, but which may do in the future. Compare: extinct

dormitory /dɔrmətɔri/ noun a long room full of beds (NOTE: The plural is dormitories.)

dormouse /dərməʊs/ noun a small animal which looks like a mouse, with a furry tail (NOTE: The plural is dormice.)

dosage /dəʊsij/ noun the amount of a drug calculated by a doctor to be necessary for a patient

dose /dəʊs/ noun 1. a quantity of medicine ○ Normal daily dose: three tablets. ○ Do not exceed the prescribed dose. 2. an attack of a disease ○ I’ve had a dose of bronchitis. ○ verb ○ to dose someone with something to give someone medicine ○ He dosed himself with hot lemon juice and aspirin.

dosh /dɒʃ/ noun money (informal)
dose

dose /dəs/ verb to sleep on something such as a chair or on the floor, because there is no bed available, noun a job or activity that is extremely easy to do
dose down /dəs/ ‘doux/ verb to sleep somewhere where there is no bed available, e.g. on the floor
doshouse /dɔʃ豪z/ noun a house offering a cheap place to stay to people who do not have a home ( slang) Synonym hostel
doosier /dɔsiər/ adjective the file of documents
\*\* dot /dɔt/ noun 1. a small round spot  \* A blue tie with white dots. 2. a printing sign ( . ) used in decimals and email addresses  \* My email address is peter@petercollin.com ( say ‘peter at petercollin dot com’ ). 3. \* on the dot of exactly at a particular time  \* The train left on the dot of four.  \* verb to mark with small spots. Synonym speckle  \* NOTE: dotted dot.com /dɔt ‘kom/ noun a company that does business on the Internet or that provides Internet services on relating to the Internet or Internet business
dote on /dəut ən/ verb to be very fond of someone
doting /dɔtɪŋ/ adjective very fond of someone
dotted /dɔtɪd/ adjective with things here and there. Synonym scattered
dotted line /dɔtɪd lən/ noun a line made of a series of dots
dotty /dɔtɪ/ adjective slightly crazy (informal) Synonym dotty
\*\* double /dəbəl/ adjective 1. twice the size  \* She asked for a double portion of ice cream. 2. repeated twice  \* The word ‘immeasurable’ is spelt with a double ‘m’.  \* The invoice number is six double five double one ( 65511 ). 3. in double figures with two figures, the numbers from 10 to 99  \* With two parts, for two people  \*\* adv twice the amount  \* It takes double the time.  \* Her salary is double mine.  \* to see double to see two things when there is only one there  \*\* noun 1. \*\* at the double ( in the army ) running  \* The soldiers crossed the square at the double. 2. a person who looks exactly like someone else  \* It was either him or his double we saw at the cinema. 3. men’s or women’s doubles two men against two other men or two women against two other women  \*\* verb 1. to multiply something by two  \* Think of a number and then double it. 2. \*\* to double back to turn round and go back along the same way  \* The escaped prisoner doubled back towards the village.

double-barrelled /dəbəl(ə)lərd/ adjective 1. used to describe a gun which has two barrels 2. formed from two names, usually with a hyphen between them

doublebass /dəbəl(ə)biːs/ noun a musical instrument like a very large violin. Also called bass
double bed /dəbəl(ə)d/ ‘bed/ noun a bed for two people

double-breasted /dəbəl(ə)trɛd/ ‘brestdəd/ adjective describes a coat or jacket which has two rows of buttons down the front

double-check /dəbəl(ə)kɛt/ verb to check something carefully, twice

double chin /dəbəl(ə)ʃən/ ‘tʃɪn/ noun a chin with a second fold underneath

double-click /dəbəl(ə)kIk/ ‘klɪk/ verb to press a mouse button twice quickly, e.g. to give an instruction to a computer

double cream /dəbəl(ə)kriəm/ ‘kriəm/ noun thick cream with a high fat content

double-cross /dəbəl(ə)krɛs/ verb to trick someone so that that person thinks that you are working on the same side when in fact you are working against them. Synonym betray

double-decker /dəbəl(ə)dɛkər/ ‘dektər/ noun 1. a bus with two levels of seats  \* Double-decker buses are common in London. 2. a sandwich made of three slices of bread, with a filling, e.g. meat, salad, or fish, between each of them.  \* This double-decker is so thick I can’t bite into it

double-glazed /dəbəl(ə)glezd/ adjective with windows made of double panes of glass

double-glazing /dəbəl(ə)glaɪzɪŋ/ adjective windows made of two pieces of glass, used to keep out noise or to keep heat inside

double life /dəbəl(ə)lai/ ‘lai/ noun a situation in which someone has a separate way of life for some of the time, which they keep secret from other people

double-park /dəbəlpɔrk/ verb to park beside a car which is already parked at the side of the street

double room /dəbəlrʊm/ ‘rum/ noun a room for two people with a double bed

doubles /dəbəl(ə)ləz/ noun a tennis game for two people on either side

double-sided /dəbəl(ə)said/ ‘saidəd/ adjective having two sides, both of which can be used

double spacing /dəbəl(ə)spɛɡɪŋ/ noun typing where a white line is left between lines of text

double take /dəbəltiːk/ ‘tek/ noun a reaction of surprise, after a slight pause

double up /dəbəl(ə)ʌp/ ‘ʌp/ verb 1. to bend because of pain  \* She doubled up in pain when he hit her in the stomach. 2. to perform two jobs  \* The waiter is doubling up as chef because the chef is on holiday.

doubly /dəbli/ adverb
\*\* doubt /douət/ noun 1. not being sure  \* Even the staunchest believer sometimes has doubts.  \*\* to have doubts about to say that
doubtful /dəufəl/ adj not sure
dough /dɔ ŋ/ noun 1. a mixture of water and flour for making a food such as bread, before it is cooked 2. The chef was kneading the dough for the pizza
doughnut /dɔ kən/t noun a small round or ring-shaped cake cooked by frying in oil

do up /dʊ ŋ/ verb 1. to attach something 2. He’s still a baby and he can’t do his buttons up properly. 3. Can you do up the zip at the back of my dress? 4. to repair something and make like new 5. They bought an old cottage and did it up. 6. He’s looking for an old sports car to do up.
dour /dʊər adj dark or silent
douse /dʌs/ verb to throw water on something
dove1 /dʌv/ noun 1. a white domesticated pigeon 2. To celebrate the peace treaty they released hundreds of doves. 3. a person who prefers diplomacy and tries to achieve peace 4. Curiously, it’s the military commanders who are the doves while the president and his advisors are the hawks. Antonym hawk
dove2 /dʌv/ verb US 1. to dive
dove tail /dʌv tɔ ˈi tl/ noun a joint made where a V-shaped piece of wood fits into a V-shaped hole in another piece

do without /də wə ˈaut/ verb 1. to have something, to manage without something

Dow Jones Index /dɔ w ˈdʌzn ˌɪndiks/ noun the index of share prices on the New York Stock Exchange
down /dən/ prep 1. towards the bottom of something 2. The ball ran down the hill. 3. away from where the person speaking is standing 4. He went down the road to the shop. 5. The police station is just down the street.

down and out /dən ən ˈaut/ noun a person with no money who lives on the streets (informal)
downbeat /dən bət/ adj feeling unhappy 1. He was very downbeat when he heard the results. 2. the beat of a conductor’s baton to show that the music should begin. Antonym upbeat
downcast /dən kəst/ adj gloomy, depressed. Antonym cheerful
downer /dən ˌər/ noun 1. someone or something that makes you feel depressed 2. a drug which makes you feel calm
downfall /dən fɔl/ noun a situation in which someone or something fails or is destroyed
downgrade /dən grɑ d/ verb to reduce the importance of a person or of a job. Antonym demote
downhearted /dən hərt əd/ adj feeling unhappy
downhill /dən həl/ adv 1. towards the bottom of a hill 2. The road goes downhill for a while and then crosses the river.

downhill to get worse 1. The economy is going downhill. 2. The business started to go downhill when the old manager left.
petition which involves going down a hill as last as you can, more or less in a straight line Downing Street /ˈdɔːnɪŋ strɪkt/ noun 1. a street in London with the houses of the British Prime Minister (No. 10) and the Chancellor of the Exchequer (No. 11) ○ They took the petition to Downing Street. 2. the office of the Prime Minister ○ Downing Street denied the report.

download /ˈdaʊnələʊd/ to load data or a program into a computer ○ noun a computer file that can be downloaded
down-market /ˈdaʊn mɑːrkt/ adj cheaper, appealing to a less wealthy section of the population
down payment /ˈdaʊn ˈpɛmənt/ noun a part of a total payment made in advance
downplay /ˈdaʊnpleɪ/ verb to make something seem less important. Synonym tone down (NOTE: can also be to play down)
downpour /ˈdaʊnpɔːr/ noun a heavy fall of rain
downright /ˈdaʊnrɛlt/ adj complete or clear ○ That's a downright lie. ○ The newspaper story was a downright fabrication. ○ adv completely or extremely ○ The waitress wasn't just unpleasant, she was downright rude. Synonym positively
downs /ˈdaʊnz/ plural noun grass-covered hills with low bushes and very few trees (NOTE: usually used in names of areas: the North Downs, the South Downs)
downside /ˈdaʊnsaɪd/ noun the disadvantages of a situation. Antonym advantage
downsiz e /ˈdaʊnsəsaɪz/ verb to make a business smaller by reducing the number of people who work there
downsizing /ˈdaʊnsəsaɪznɡ/ noun making a company smaller by reducing the number of people who work there
Down's syndrome /ˈdaʊnz ˈsɪndrəm/ noun a condition caused by the existence of an extra chromosome that affects the physical and mental development
downstage /ˈdaʊnstrɛdʒ/ adv to or at the front of the stage. Antonym upstage

downstairs /ˈdaʊnstɛəz/ adv on or to the lower part of a building ○ He heard a noise in the kitchen and went downstairs to see what it was. ○ I left my cap of coffee downstairs. Synonym below ○ adj on the ground floor of a building ○ The house has a downstairs bedroom. ○ You can use the downstairs too. ○ noun the ground floor of a building ○ The downstairs has three rooms. ○ The downstairs of the house is larger than the upstairs. Compare upstairs
downstream adj /ˈdaʊnstrɪm/ towards the mouth of a river ○ Downstream communities have not yet been affected. ○ adv /ˈdaʊnstrɪm/ towards the mouth of a river ○ The silt is carried downstream and deposited in the delta.
down-to-earth /ˈdaʊn tɔ ˈɜːθ/ adj sensible or matter-of-fact. Antonym fanciful ○ downtown /ˈdaʊntɔn /noun the town centre ○ You can take the bus to go downtown. ○ ad of the town centre ○ the downtown department stores ○ Her office is in downtown New York. ○ noun the central district of a town ○ Downtown will be very crowded at this time of day.
downtrodden /ˈdaʊntrɒdən/ adv oppressed, badly treated
downturn /ˈdaʊntɜːrn/ noun a movement towards lower prices, sales or profits. Antonym upturn
down under /ˈdaʊn ˈʌndə/ noun in Australia and New Zealand (informal) ○ downward /ˈdaʊnwɔːd/ adj towards the bottom ○ a downward trend in the unemployment figures. Synonym descending. Antonym upward ○ adv US same as downwards ○ downwards /ˈdaʊnwɔːdz/ adv towards the bottom (NOTE: The US term is downward.)
downwind adv, adj in the direction in which the wind is blowing
downy /ˈdaʊni/ adj 1. soft and fluffy 2. covered with soft hairs ○ dowry /ˈdaʊri/ noun money or goods which a bride brings to her husband ○ doz abbr dozen
doze /ˈdoʊz/ noun a short sleep ○ She had a little doze after feeding the baby. ○ verb to sleep a little, to sleep lightly (slang) ○ She dozed off for a while after lunch. Synonym nap ○ dozen /ˈdoʊzn/ noun 1. twelve ○ We ordered two dozen chairs. ○ they're cheaper by the dozen they are cheaper if you buy twelve at a time ○ half a dozen six ○ half a dozen apples 2. ○ nineteen to the dozen ○ very fast ○ They chattered away nineteen to the dozen.
doz y /ˈdoʊzi/ adj 1. sleepy ○ The children were dozy after their walk, so we put them to bed early. 2. stupid ○ Dr – doctor
drab /ˈdræb/ adj lacking bright colours; brown, grey (NOTE: drabber – drabbest
draconian /ˈdrækənɪən/ adj (of a law) extremely severe. Synonym harsh ○ draft /ˈdraʊt/ noun 1. a rough plan of a document ○ He quickly wrote out a draft of the agreement. ○ It's not the final version, it's just a draft. 2. US formerly, military service which most young men had to do ○ He left the USA to avoid the draft. 3. an order for money to be paid by a bank ○ She sent me a
draft for one thousand pounds. **4. US same as draught** **n** adj in preparation and not final ○ She wrote out the draft letter on the back of an envelope. ○ The lawyers were working on the draft contract. **verb 1.** to draw up a rough plan of something ○ We drafted a sales forecast on a piece of paper. **2. US** to call someone for military service ○ At the age of eighteen he was drafted into the Marines. **3.** to ask someone to do something ○ The Boy Scouts were drafted in to dig the garden. Compare draught

draftsman /d्रɔːstʃmən/ **noun US** same as draughtsman

**verb 1.** **drag** /dbraco/ **verb** to pull something heavy along ○ She dragged her suitcase across the platform. ○ The police dragged the protesters away from the gate. **2.** to hang back, to stay behind ○ Tom was dragging along at the end of the line. **3.** to force someone to do something ○ They had to drag her to the party. **4.** to pull a net along the bottom of an area of water to try to find something ○ The police dragged the lake to try to find the body of the missing boy. **noun 1.** a boring thing, which stops you doing things you really want to do ○ It’s a drag, having to write all the Christmas cards. **2.** **in drag (of a man)** wearing women’s clothes **3.** smoking a cigarette; one puff on a cigarette ○ I’ll just pop out for a drag.

drag and drop /dbraco and dɾəp/ **verb** to move an icon or section of text or object from one area of the screen of a computer to another

**verb on, /dbraco on/ **verb** to go on slowly ○ The dinner party seemed to drag on for hours.

dragon /ˈdɾaʊɡən/ **noun 1.** a mythological animal which breathes fire ○ The national emblem of Wales is a red dragon. **2.** an unfriendly woman who seems frightening
dragonfly /ˈdɾaʊɡəflai/ **noun** a long insect with bright transparent wings which often flies near water (NOTE: The plural is dragonflies.)
dragonoon /ˈdɾaʊɡənən/ **noun** an armed soldier on a horse (dated) ○ The dragonoons attacked the French cavalry. **verb** to force someone ○ Mother dragonooned us all into helping move the furniture.

drain /dɾeɪn/ **noun 1.** a pipe for carrying waste water away ○ In the autumn the drains get blocked by leaves. ○ We had to phone the council to come and clear the blocked drain. ○ It’s just like pouring money down the drain it’s a waste of money (informal) ○ laugh 2. a gradual loss ○ The office in Paris is a continual drain on our resources. **verb 1.** to remove a liquid ○ Boil the potatoes for ten minutes, drain and leave to cool. **2.** to drink all the liquid that is in something such as a cup or a glass ○ He drained his glass and asked for some more.

drainage /ˈdɾeɪnɪdʒ/ **noun** the process of removing water by means of drains

drained /ˈdɾeɪnd/ **adj** to look drained to look pale and tired out ○ After the interview she looked completely drained.

draining board /ˈdɾeɪnɪŋ bɔːd/ **noun** a slightly sloping surface next to a sink

drainpipe /ˈdɾeɪnpaɪp/ **noun** a pipe on the outside of a house which takes water down to the drains

drake /dɾeɪk/ **noun** a male duck (NOTE: A female duck is called a duck; the young are ducklings.)

**verb** to drag something ○ The statue was draped in a sheet ○ She made a dramatic entrance ○ The young are dragged by the body of the missing boy.

drama /ˈdɾæmə/ **noun** 1. a serious performance in a theatre ○ The ‘Globe’ has put on an unknown Elizabethan drama. ○ I’m reading a book on 19th-century French drama. ○ a new TV drama series about life in the Lake District ○ She’s a drama student or she’s studying drama. ○ drama department a department in a college which teaches serious theatre ○ a series of serious and exciting events ○ He always makes a drama out of everything ○ a day of high drama in the court ○ the drama of the rescue of the children by helicopter
dramatic /ˈdɾæmətɪk/ **adj** sudden, unexpected and very noticeable ○ The door was flung open and she made a dramatic entrance ○ The TV news showed dramatic pictures of the rescue of the children ○ the dramatic moment in the film, when the dinosaurs start to attack children ○ referring to drama ○ a dramatic performance which begins at 7.30 ○ his latest dramatic work for radio

dramatically /ˈdɾæmətɪkli/ **adv** in a very dramatic way

dramatise /ˈdɾæmatɪz/ **verb** the practice of performing plays, usually by people who are not paid to act

dramatisation /ˈdɾæmatɪzaʃən/ /ˈdɾæmatɪzaʃən/ **noun** the adaptation of something for TV or the theatre

dramatist /ˈdɾæmatɪst/ **noun** a person who writes plays. Synonym playwright ○ a dramatist
hang something long over something ○ He draped his legs over the back of the seat.

drapery /ˈdræpəri/ noun a thin cloth which is draped around something ○ She was clothed in thin draperies. (NOTE: The plural is draperies.)
drapes /ˈdræpəz/ plural noun US curtains ○ Open the drapes – it’s light outside.
drastic /ˈdræstɪk/ adj severe, which has a sharp effect

draughtily /ˈdræstɪklɪ/ adv severely, with a sharp effect

draught /ˈdraʊft/ noun 1. a flow of cool air into a room ○ Don't sit in a draught. 2. draught beer, beer on draught beer which is served from a barrel, and not in a bottle or can ○ I’ll have a pint of draught, please. 3. the depth of water which a ship needs to float and not touch the bottom (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is draft.)
draughts /ˈdraʊfts/ noun a board game played with black and white round pieces ○ Would you like a game of draughts or to play draughts? ○ Draughts is a much simpler game than chess. (NOTE: not plural, and takes a singular verb. The US term is checkers.)
draughtsman /ˈdraʊftsmaʊn/ noun a person who draws plans for machines or buildings (NOTE: The plural is draughtsmen. The US spelling is draftsman.)
draughtier /ˈdraʊtʃɪər/ adj with cool air flowing into it (NOTE: draughtier – draughtiest. The US spelling is draftier.)
draw /drɔ/ verb 1. to make a picture with a pen or pencil ○ He drew a picture of the house. ○ She’s drawing a pot of flowers. 2. not to have a winner in a game ○ The teams drew 2–2 ○ The match was drawn neither side won. 3. to pull open or to close ○ Can you draw the curtains – it’s getting dark. ○ She drew the curtains and let in the sun. 4. to pull out ○ He drew a notepad out of his pocket ○ She was drawing water from a well. ○ to draw lots to take pieces of paper from a box to decide something. The person who has the marked piece wins. ○ We drew lots to decide who would go first. ○ They drew lots for the bottle of whisky. 5. to receive money ○ He doesn’t draw a salary, but charges us for his expenses. ○ Next year I’ll be drawing my old age pension. 6. he drew a blank he was unsuccessful in his search ○ to draw the line at something to refuse to do something ○ I draw the line at inviting your sister to my birthday party.
drawback /ˈdrɔʊbæk/ noun a thing which is not convenient or which causes a problem. Synonym disadvantage. Antonym advantage

drawbridge /ˈdrɔbrɪdʒ/ noun a bridge which can be raised or moved down so that people can move across an area water ○ A drawbridge is a bridge which can be raised or moved down so that people can move across an area water.
drawer /ˈdrɔr/ noun 1. a part of a desk or cupboard like an open box which slides in and out which you pull with a handle ○ I keep my cheque book in the top drawer of my desk. 2. a person who writes a cheque or a bill asking for money to be paid to someone ○ the bank returned the cheque to drawer the bank would not pay the cheque because the person who wrote it did not have enough money in the account to pay it

draw in /ˈdrɔɪn/ verb 1. to pull or to close ○ We are drawing the curtains – it’s getting dark. ○ She drew the curtains and let in the sun. 2. a large flat head, used for fixing papers to a surface such as a wall (NOTE: The US term is thumbtack.)
drawing /ˈdrɔrɪŋ/ noun a sitting room, a room for sitting and talking in, but not eating

drawl /ˈdrɔl/ noun a slow way of speaking ○ He spoke with a southern drawl. □ verb to speak slowly, making the words seem long ○ ‘Come up and see me some time’, she drawled.
drawn /ˈdraʊn/ adj 1. tired and ill ○ She looked drawn after spending all night with her sick baby. 2. □ long drawn-out /ˈdraʊnˈaut/ adj □ long drawn-out taking a very long time ○ There was long drawn-out argument about who was going to pay the bill.
drawn-out /ˈdraʊnˈaut/ adj ○ to move something closer ○ Draw your chairs up to the table.
dread /dred/ noun great fear. □ The sound of his voice filled her with dread. □ She has a dread of being touched. □ in dread of being very afraid of. □ They lived in constant dread of being arrested by the secret police. □ verb to fear something greatly. □ I’m dreading taking my driving test. □ She dreads her weekly visit to the doctor. Antonym look forward to.

dreaded /'dredId/ adj awful, frightening (humorous)

dreadful /'dredfl/ adj very bad or unpleasant. Antonym lovely

dreadlocks /'dredlknks/ plural noun a hairstyle where your hair is plaited into thick strands. □ He had his hair in dreadlocks.

1. dream /'dram/ noun 1. things which you think you see happening while you are asleep. □ She had a dream about big pink elephants. 2. things which you imagine and hope will happen in the future. □ All his dreams of wealth collapsed when he lost his job. □ The results surpassed our wildest dreams. 3. something you would really like to do or to see happen. □ to make a dream come true. □ She dreamed of owning a cottage in the country.

2. dress /drest/ noun 1. a piece of a woman’s or girl’s clothing, covering more or less all the body. □ She was wearing a blue dress. (NOTE: The plural is dresses.) 2. special clothes □ verb 1. to put clothes on. □ He got up, dressed and left home. □ She dressed her little girl all in blue. 2. to clean and put a bandage on a wound. □ The nurse will dress the cut on your knee. 3. to prepare food. □ She dressed the salad with slices of cucumber and tomatoes. 4. to dress a window to arrange the display in a shop window.

dressage /'dresj/ noun a competition in which horses show how well trained they are. □ to dress for success. □ I can’t come down to see the visitors – I’m not dressed yet. □ She was dressed all in black. □ to get dressed to dress yourself. □ Get dressed and come downstairs. □ He got up, got dressed and then had breakfast. □ to dress to kill wearing the costume of. □ He went to the party dressed (up) as a policeman. □ dressed up to the nines wearing your very best clothes. □ I saw her going out all dressed up to the nines.

dressing /'dresɪŋ/ noun 1. a piece of kitchen furniture with open shelves above and cupboards below. □ Put the plates back in the kitchen dresser. 2. a person who dresses in a certain way. □ He’s a very smart dresser. 3. a person who helps someone dress, in a theatre. □ He was standing at the door. □ The dressers need to be changed every hour.

dressing-down /'dresɪŋ 'daʊn/ noun the action of telling someone that you do not approve of what they have done. (informal)

dressing gown /'dresɪŋ gauŋ/ noun a long robe worn over pyjamas or a nightdress.

2. dreamer /'dremər/ noun a person who is out of touch with practical things. Synonym visionary.

3. dread /'dred/ adj dreamy /'draimri/ adj as if you are dreaming. (NOTE: dreamier – dreamiest)

4. dreary /'draeri/ adj sad or gloomy; not interesting. (NOTE: drearer – dreariest)

5. dredge /'dredʒ/ verb 1. to remove dirt or sand from the bottom of a river or lake. □ They had to spend weeks dredging the channel so that boats can still get to the harbour. 2. to cover something with a substance such as sugar or flour. □ When the pie is cooked, dredge it with icing sugar.

dredger /'dredʒə/ noun a boat with a crane and large scoop, used for dredging.

dregs /'dregz/ plural noun the parts of a drink which are left in a cup or glass when you have finished drinking. □ He poured the dregs down the sink. □ the dregs of society the worst people in society.

drench /'drentʃ/ verb to soak something. □ dream /'drem/ noun 1. a piece of a woman’s or girl’s clothing, covering more or less all the body. □ She was wearing a blue dress. (NOTE: The plural is dresses.) 2. special clothes □ verb 1. to put clothes on. □ He got up, dressed and left home. □ She dressed her little girl all in blue. 2. to clean and put a bandage on a wound. □ The nurse will dress the cut on your knee. 3. to prepare food. □ She dressed the salad with slices of cucumber and tomatoes. 4. to dress a window to arrange the display in a shop window.
dressing table 252
dressing table /ˌdresɪŋ tɛb(ə)l/ noun a piece of bedroom furniture with a mirror or mirrors (NOTE: The US term is dresser.)
dressmaker /ˈdrɛsməkər/ noun a person who makes women’s clothes
dress rehearsal /ˌdres ˈrɛhərəl/ noun 1. the last rehearsal for a play, where the actors wear costumes, and the scenery is ready 2. the final practice for something  
• The dress rehearsal was excellent. I hope they perform as well as that on the first night.
dress up /ˌdres ˈʌp/ verb 1. to put on costumes  
• The children love dressing up as doctors and nurses. 2. to wear your best elegant clothes  
• Don’t dress up – come just as you are.
dressy /ˈdresi/ adj (of person) wearing formal and fashionable clothes
dribble /ˈdrɪbl/ verb 1. to let liquid flow slowly out of an opening, especially out of your mouth  
• The baby dribbled over her dress. 2. to kick a football along as you are running or to move a ball along with one hand as you are running

driffs and drabs /ˈdrɪfs ənd ˈdræbz/ plural noun little bits  
• in dribs and drabs a little at a time  
• We finally pieced together what had happened in dribs and drabs.
dried, drier, driest /ˈdrɪd, ˈdrɪər, ˈdrɪəst/ adj  
• dry drier /ˈd्रɪər, ˈd्रɪəst/ noun a machine which dries

drift /drɪft/ noun 1. a general meaning  
• Did you follow the drift of the conversation? 2. My Italian isn’t very good, but I got the drift of what they were saying. 3. I think she got the general drift of my argument.
drift apart /drɪf t əˈpɑrt/ verb to move away from each other gradually

drift up /drɪf t ˈʌp/ verb to move all of a liquid

driftwood /ˈdrɪftwʊd/ noun wood which floats and is blown onto the seashore. Synonym flotsam (NOTE: no plural)
note: drill /drɪl/ noun 1. a tool for making holes in a hard substance such as wood or metal  
• He used an electric drill to make the holes in the wall. 2. the action of practising marching, especially in the armed forces  
• New recruits spend hours practising their drill. 3. what’s the drill? what’s the next thing to do now?  
• (informal) I’ve never been to a board meeting before so you’ll have to tell me what’s the drill.
drink /drɪŋk/ verb 1. to make holes with a drill  
• He drilled two holes for the screws. 2. to drink alcohol  
• Would you like a drink? 3. to swallow liquid  
• He drank two glasses of water. 4. What would you like to drink? 5. Do you want something to drink with your meal? 6. to drink alcoholic drinks  
• She doesn’t drink or she never drinks. 7. he drinks like a fish he drinks a lot of alcohol 8. to drink a toast to someone to drink and wish someone well  
• We all drank a toast to the future success of the company.
drinkable /ˈdrɪŋkəbl/ adj good enough to drink

drink-driver /ˈdrɪŋk ˈdraʊvər/ noun a person who drives a car when drunk

drink-driving /ˈdrɪŋk ˈdraʊvɪŋ/ noun driving a car when drunk

drinker /ˈdrɪŋkər/ noun a person who usually drinks a particular quantity or type of alcohol, or a person who drinks too much alcohol regularly  
• She’s only a light drinker. 2. they’re all beer drinkers. 3. her father was drinker.
drinking /ˈdrɪŋkɪŋ/ noun the act or process of drinking a lot of alcohol, especially frequently and over a period of time

drinking chocolate /ˈdrɪŋkɪŋ ˌʃkɒklæt/ noun powdered chocolate used to make a milk drink

drinking fountain /ˈdrɪŋkɪŋ ˈfaʊntən/ noun a public tap where you can drink water

drinking water /ˈdrɪŋkɪŋ ˈwɔːtərn/ noun water which is safe to drink

drink to /drɪŋk ˈtʊz/ verb to give someone good wishes for success or happiness in the future, especially by having a drink

drink up /ˌdrɪŋk ˈʌp/ verb to drink all of a liquid

drip /drɪp/ noun 1. a small drop of water  
• There’s a hole in the tent – a drip just fell on
my nose. A liquid given to a patient directly into the body, or the tube used to put a liquid into a patient’s body. [verb] to fall in drops, or to let a liquid fall in drops. The tap is dripping. His nose is dripping because he has a cold. Water was dripping from the roof. Synonym: dribble  • dripping wet: very wet

drip-dry  /drip dræt/ adj  • drip-dry shirt: a shirt which does not crease if hung to dry while wet

dripping noun fat that comes out of a piece of beef when you cook it. [adj] extremely wet

drive  /drəv/ n 1. a journey, especially in a car. Let's go for a drive into the country. The baby gets sick on long drives. 2. It's a four-hour drive to the coast. 3. the way in which power gets from the engine to a car's wheels. 4. a car with front-wheel drive. 5. a car with left-hand drive. (NOTE: British cars are right-hand drive.) 4. a part of a computer which performs very quickly and with a lack of care or purpose. Synonym: nonsense  • drive-by /ˈdræv biː/ noun the firing of a gun at somebody from a moving vehicle. [adj] performed very quickly and with a lack of care or purpose

drive in /ˈdræv in/ verb 1. to go in by car. Each car that drives in is issued with a ticket. 2. to force in. The shepherd stood by the gate, waiting for the dogs to drive the sheep in.
drive-in /ˈdræv in/ adj, noun bank, cinema, restaurant, etc. where cars drive up for service. We went to see the movie at the local drive-in. 3. to get a Chinese takeaway at a drive-in restaurant.
driver /ˈdrɪvər/ noun a person who drives a vehicle such as a car or train. He's got a job as a bus driver. The drivers of both cars were injured in the accident. Synonym: chauffeur
driver's license /ˈdrɪvəriz ˌlais(ə)ns/ noun US same as driving licence

drive-through /ˈdrɪv θruː/ noun a business that serves people who wait by a special window in their cars

driveaway /ˈdrɪvəwɛt/ noun a short private road leading to a house

driving /ˈdrɪvɪŋ/ adj (of rain or snow) blown horizontally by the wind. They were forced to turn back because of the driving rain. [noun] the action of driving a motor vehicle. Driving in the centre of London can be very frustrating. She's taking driving lessons. Careless driving: driving in such a way that other people or vehicles may be harmed. He was charged with careless driving. Drunken driving: the offence of driving a car when drunk.
drive-on /ˈdrɪv ən/ verb 1. to go or come back in a motor vehicle. We were driving back to London after a day out. 2. to force someone or something back. The police drove the demonstrators back into the square.

drive-by /ˈdræv baɪ/ noun the firing of a gun at somebody from a moving vehicle. [adj] performed very quickly and with a lack of care or purpose

drive in /ˈdræv in/ verb 1. to drive or ride in a motor vehicle. The bank robbers leapt into a car and drove off at top speed. 2. to force someone or something to go away. They drove off the attackers with shotguns.

driver /ˈdrɪvər/ noun a person who drives a vehicle such as a car or train. He's got a job as a bus driver. The drivers of both cars were injured in the accident. Synonym: chauffeur

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drizzly
Antonym: downpour
verb to rain a little ○ It’s drizzling outside, so you need a raincoat.
drizzly /'drazlɪ/ adj when it is raining lightly, Synonym: damp

dromedary /'dromədərɪ/ noun a camel with only one hump. Also called Arabian camel (NOTE: The camel with two humps is a Bactrian camel.)
drone /drɒn/ noun 1. a male bee ○ The workers are busy getting pollen, while the drones do nothing. (NOTE: In a bee colony, the females are workers.) 2. a buzz of an insect, of an engine ○ I could hear the drone of a small aircraft in the distance. 3. a monotonous sound ○ The drone of the bagpipes sounded across the lake. ■ verb 1. to buzz ○ We could hear a small aircraft droning overhead. 2. to talk slowly and in a monotonous voice ○ The lecturer droned on and on about population statistics.
drool /'draʊl/ verb 1. to slobber ○ A baby drooling in his high chair. 2. to show excessive pleasure about something ○ I absolutely drooled over the painting.
drop /drɒp/ verb to hang down ○ his spirits dropped he felt miserable ○ drop /drɒp/ noun 1. a small amount of liquid which falls ○ The roof leaks and we have placed a bucket to catch the drops. ○ Drops of rain ran down the windows. 2. a small amount of liquid ○ would you like a drop of whisky? would you like a small glass of whisky? 3. a liquid medicine to be given in small quantities ○ I was given some drops for my eyes. 4. a distance which you might fall ○ There is a drop of three metres from the bathroom window to the ground. 5. a decrease ○ Sales show a drop of 10%. 6. ○ at the drop of a hat immediately ○ If you phone him he’ll come at the drop of a hat. ■ verb 1. to fall or let something fall ○ He dropped the glass and it broke. ○ The plate dropped onto the floor. 2. to decrease ○ Prices are dropping. ○ Take a warm pull-over, because at night the temperature can drop quite sharply. ○ the wind has dropped the wind has stopped blowing 3. to let someone get off a bus or car at a place ○ I’ll drop you off at your house. ○ The bus dropped her at the school. 4. ○ to drop someone a line to send someone a note (informal) ○ Drop me a line when you are back from the USA. 5. to give up ○ They have dropped the idea of going to settle in Australia. ○ The whole plan has been dropped because of the cost. ○ drop by /drɒp 'baɪ/, drop in /'drɒp 'ɪn/, drop round /'drɒp 'rəʊnd/ verb to call on someone, to visit someone.
drop-down menu /drɒp dəʊn 'menju/ noun a list of choices which appears on a computer screen, and stays there until you click on one of them
drop-in centre /drɒp in ˈsentʃə/ noun a place which people can visit without arranging a time, to get advice or information, or to meet other people
droplet /drɒplət/ noun a very small drop of liquid ○ drop off /drɒp ˈɒf/ verb 1. to fall asleep ○ She dropped off in front of the TV. ○ It took me ages to drop off. 2. ○ to drop someone off to let someone who is a passenger in a car get out somewhere ○ Can you drop me off at the post office?
drop out /drɒp aʊt/ verb 1. to stop competing ○ He got as far as the semi-finals but dropped out because of a shoulder injury. 2. to decide to give up your ordinary job or studies, usually because you want to live a more simple life ○ He dropped out and went to live on a beach in India.
dropout /drɒpəut/ noun a person who has stopped studying or stopped living conventionally
droppings /drɒpɪŋz/ plural noun solid waste matter from animals ○ The grass was covered with rabbit and sheep droppings. Synonym: dung
3. drought /drəʊt/ noun a long period when there is no rain and when the land is dry. Synonym: lack ○ Antonym: abundance ○ drove /draʊv/ drive
droves /'draʊvz/ plural noun large numbers ○ drown /draʊn/ verb 1. to die by being unable to breathe in water ○ He drowned in a shallow pool. 2. to cover up a sound ○ The shouting drowned his speech.
drowsily /'draʊzɪli/ adv sleepy
drowsiness /'draʊzɪnəs/ noun a feeling of wanting to go to sleep
drowsy /'draʊzi/ adj sleepy. Antonym: awake (NOTE: drowsier – drowsiest)
drudge /drʌdʒ/ noun a person who does hard boring work
drudgery /'drʌdʒərɪ/ noun hard boring work
3. drug /drʌɡ/ noun 1. medicine ○ They have found a new drug for people with arthritis. 2. a substance which affects the nerves, and which can be habit-forming ○ The customs are looking for such things as drugs or alcohol. ○ drug addict a person who takes drugs as a habit ○ drug dealer a person who sells illegal drugs to other people ○ verb to give someone a drug ○ They drugged him and took him away in a car. (NOTE: drugging – drugged)
3. drugstore /drʌgstoʊ/ noun US a shop where medicines can be bought, as well as many other goods such as shampoo, writing paper, etc. (NOTE: The British term is a chemist’s, though many chemists do not
sell the variety of goods as an American drugstore.

drum /drʌm/ noun 1. a large round musical instrument which is hit with a stick ○ He plays the drums in the band. 2. a large barrel or container shaped like a cylinder ○ Oil drums were piled up in the corner of the yard. ■ verb 1. to play on a drum 2. to hit something frequently ○ He drummed his fingers on the table. 3. to drum something into someone to make someone learn something ○ My grandfather drummed it into me that I had to be polite to customers.

drummer /'dræmə/ noun a person who plays the drums

drumming /'dræmnɪŋ/ noun a sound like a drum being hit over and over again

drumstick /'drʌmstɪk/ noun 1. a wooden stick for playing a drum ○ He threw his drumstick in the air between beating time on the bass drum. 2. the lower part of the leg of a cooked bird such as a chicken or turkey ○ Who wants the drumstick? ○ He had a cold turkey drumstick for his lunch.

dry /draɪ/ adj excited or ill because of drinking too much alcohol ○ When he's drunk, he shouts at his children. 4. drink synonym: double ○ she has dual nationality she is a citizen of two countries. 4. dry run /draɪ 'rʌn/ a practice (informal)

dry land /draɪ 'lænd/ noun 1. the land, not the sea. 2. areas of land prone to severe drought, e.g. deserts and savannas
dry out /draɪ 'aʊt/ verb 1. to become completely dry ○ Hang up your coat to dry out in front of the fire. 2. to try to stop drinking alcohol ○ He went to a clinic in London to dry out.

dry rot /draɪ 'rɒt/ noun a decay in the wooden parts of a house caused by a fungus
dry run /draɪ 'rʌn/ a practice (informal)

dry season /draɪ ,sɪz(ə)n/ noun a period of the year when it does not rain much. Compare rainy season

dry up /draɪ 'ʌp/ verb 1. to stop flowing ○ The heat wave has made the rivers dry up. ○ The government grants have dried up and it looks as though the theatre will have to close. 2. to stop talking, because you can’t remember what you were going to say ○ He dried up in the middle of his speech, and sat down hurriedly. ○ As soon as she got on the stage she dried up.

dual /djuːəl/ adj existing as a pair. Synonym: double ○ she has dual nationality she is a citizen of two countries. 4. carriageway dual carriageway /djuːəl ,kærɪdʒweɪ/ noun a road with two lanes in each direction, with a barrier between the two sides (NOTE: The US term is two-lane highway.)

dub /dʌb/ verb 1. to give someone a nickname ○ At college he was dubbed Tom ‘Pigpen’ Smith because his room was so dirty. 2. to add dialogue to a film in a different language from the original ○ The film has been dubbed into Swedish. (NOTE: dubbing – dubbed)
dubious /dʌbjuəs/ adj 1. suspicious ○ There were some dubious characters hanging around outside the off-licence. ○ Have you heard about his dubious past in South America? 2. doubtful, hesitating ○ I’m dubious about getting involved. ○ Everyone else seems to believe her story, but personally I'm dubious about it

duchess /dʌʃɪəs/ noun the wife of a duke (NOTE: The plural is duchesses.)
duchy /dʌʃi/ noun a territory ruled by a duke or duchess

duck /dʌsk/ noun 1. a common water bird ○ A duck came up to me and asked, ‘What do you want?’ ○ He scored a duck in his last dual carriageway
duck-billed platypus

two matches. ■ verb to lower your head quickly to avoid hitting something □ She didn’t duck in time and the ball hit her on the head. □ He ducked as he went through the low doorway.

duck-billed platypus /ˈdɔsk budlˈpətətɒps/ noun an Australian mammal which lives in water and lays eggs (NOTE: The plural is platypuses.)

duckling /ˈdʌklɪŋ/ noun 1. a baby duck □ A duck with six little ducklings. 2. a small duck □ We had roast duckling and orange sauce.

duct /dʌkt/ noun 1. a tube which carries liquids in the body □ tear duct a duct which brings tears into the nose and eyes 2. a tube which carries air or wires in a building □ The central heating ducts caught fire.

dud /dʌd/ adj false (informal) □ He paid me with a dud £10 note. Synonym useless. Antonym usable ■ noun 1. a false banknote □ The £50 note was a dud. 2. something which does not work properly □ Most of the fire-works in the box were duds.

dude /djuːd/ noun US 1. a man who is very interested in clothes □ that dude, with his stiff collar and wide pink tie 2. a visitor from a city on the East coast to a ranch in the Midwest

dude ranch /djuːd ˈraʊntʃ/ noun US a ranch where city people come for vacations

■ due /djuː/ adj 1. expected □ When is the baby due? □ We are due to leave London Airport at 5 o’clock. □ The plane is due to arrive at 10.30 or it is due at 10.30. 2. in due course later □ In due course you will have to pass an exam. 3. owed □ to fall due, to become due to be ready for payment □ balance due to us an amount owed to us which should be paid 4. due for likely to get □ We’re due for a thunderstorm after all this hot weather. □ She must be due for retirement this year. ■ adv straight □ The plane flew due west. □ Go due east for ten miles and you will see the church on your left. Synonym directly. Antonym indirectly ■ noun what is deserved □ to give him his due he works very hard to be fair to him, you must see that he works very hard
duel /ˈdjuːl/ noun a fight between two people with weapons such as swords or guns □ They fought a duel over a girl. □ He challenged the doctor to a duel. Synonym contest (NOTE: Do not confuse with dual.) ■ verb to fight a duel
dues /djuːz/ plural noun money owed as a fee or regular payment
duet /djuːɛt/ noun a piece of music played or sung by two people

due to /djuː tuː/ adj because of □ The trains are late due to fog.

dump /dʌmp/ noun 1. a place for rubbish □ Take your rubbish to the municipal dump. 2. ■ what a dump! what an awful place!
dumping /ˈdʌmplɪŋ/ noun a small ball of dough served with hot meat
dumps /ˈdʌmps/ plural noun (informal) □
down in the dumps miserable
dumpy /ˈdʌmpɪ/ adj short and rather fat (informal disapproving)
dune /dʌn/ noun a hill of sand
dung /dʌŋ/ noun solid waste from animals, especially cattle, often used as fertiliser. Synonym manure (NOTE: no plural)
dungarees /ˈdʌŋɡəri,z/ plural noun working clothes, formed of a pair of trousers and a bib covering the chest, usually of thick blue cloth, and worn over ordinary clothes □ The workmen came into the café in their dungarees.
dungeon /ˈdʌŋʒən/ noun a dark and unpleasant underground prison
dunk /dʌŋk/ verb to dip a biscuit or other food into a liquid
dunno /ˈdʌnəʊ/ contr don’t know (informal) □ Whose car is that? — I dunno.
duo /ˈdjuːoʊ/ noun 1. two people, usually two performers □ a TV comedy duo 2. same as duet
dupe /djuːp/ noun a person who has been tricked □ He was the dupe of a Russian businessman. Synonym victim □ verb □ to dupe someone into doing something to trick someone into doing something □ They duped him into giving them all his cash he had in his wallet.
duplex /ˈdjuːplɛks/ noun US a house for two families □ duplex apartment an apartment on two floors □ They live in a duplex on E36th Street.
duplicate adj /ˈdjuːplɪkət/ which is a copy □ Put the duplicate invoices in the file. Synonym identical □ noun /ˈdjuːplɪkət/ a copy □ She sent the invoice and filed the duplicate. Antonym original □ verb /ˈdjuːplɪkət/ to make a copy of a document such as a letter □ She duplicated the letter and put the copy into a file. □ you are just duplicating his work you are just doing the same work as he did earlier.
duplication /ˈdjuːplɪˈkeɪʃən/ noun 1. the act of copying or repeating something exactly 2. an exact copy or repeat

dumpling 257 duty

dumpling /ˈdʌmplɪŋ/ verb 1. to put something heavily on the ground □ She just dumped her suitcases in the hall. 2. to throw something away, to get rid of something □ Someone has dumped an old pram in the car park. □ to dump goods on a market to sell surplus goods at a very cheap price, usually in another country. 3. □ to dump someone to end a relationship with someone □ She’s been dumped by her boyfriend.
dumplings /ˈdʌmplɪŋz/ plural noun

duplicate /ˈdjuːplɪkət/ noun the action of tricking someone. Synonym deceit (NOTE: no plural)
durable /ˈdjuərəbl/ adj 1. which lasts, which does not wear away □ You need a really durable floor covering in a kitchen. □ They’ve signed a peace agreement but will it be more durable than the last one? 2. which will be felt for a long time □ The strike will have durable effects on the economy.
duration /ˈdjuərəʃən/ noun the period of time for which something lasts
d Venus /ˈdjuːves/ noun force or illegal threats of force used to make someone do something
during /ˈdjuərɪŋ/ prep 1. while something is going on □ Conditions were bad during the war. 2. at a point when something is going on □ He went to sleep during the concert.
dusk /dʌsk/ noun the period in the evening just before it gets dark. Synonym twilight
dusky /ˈdʌskaɪ/ adj with fairly dark skin
dust /dʌst/ noun a thin layer of dry dirt □ The room had never been cleaned — there was dust everywhere. □ A tiny speck of dust got in my eye. Synonym powder (NOTE: no plural) □ verb 1. to remove dust from something □ Don’t forget to dust the Chinese bowls carefully. 2. to sprinkle a powder on something □ She dusted the cake with icing sugar.
dustbin /ˈdʌstbɪn/ noun a large container for rubbish (NOTE: The US term is trashcan.)
duster /ˈdʌstə/ noun a cloth for removing dust
dust jacket /ˈdʌst ˈdʒækt/ noun a paper cover round a book
dustman /ˈdʌstmtən/ noun a person employed by a town to collect rubbish (NOTE: The plural is dustmen.)
dustpan /ˈdʌstpæn/ noun a small flat container for brushing dirt into
dusty /ˈdʌstɪ/ adj covered with dust. Synonym dirty. Antonym spotless (NOTE: dusty – dustiest)
Dutch /dʌtʃ/ adj 1. referring to the Netherlands □ We are going on a tour to visit the Dutch bulb fields. 2. □ to go Dutch to share the cost of a meal equally between everyone □ noun 1. the language spoken in the Netherlands □ You will need to practise your Dutch if you’re going to live in Amsterdam. 2. the Dutch the people living in the Netherlands □ The Dutch are great travellers.
dutiful /ˈdjuːtɪfl/ adj who does what should be done. Synonym obedient. Antonym disobedient
duty /ˈdjuːtɪ/ noun 1. work which you have to do □ One of his duties is to see that
duty-free

the main doors are locked at night. ☐ to be duty bound to do something to be obliged to do something ☐ If you have any information relating to this case, you are duty bound to pass it to the police. ☐ on duty doing official work which you have to do in a job ☐ He’s on duty from 9.00 to 6.00. ☐ She’s been on duty all day. 3. a tax which has to be paid duty-free/djuːtɪ fɜːr/ adj sold with no tax to be paid ☐ He bought a duty-free watch at the airport or he bought the watch duty-free. ☐ duty-free allowance the amount of goods which you are allowed to take into a country without paying tax on them
duty officer/djuːtɪ ˈɒfɪsər/ noun an officer who is on duty at a certain time
duet/djuːɛt/ noun a bag full of feathers, used as the only covering for a bed 2. a substance used to colour vegetable dyes
dye/dai/ noun, suffix a person of small stature ☐ dwarfs or dwarves. (NOTE: The plural is dwarves.) ☐ person of shorter stature or person of restricted growth) ☐ adj (of plants) low-growing ☐ dwarf bean ☐ verb to make something look very small ☐ His house is dwarfed by the office block next door.
dwell/dwel/ verb 1. ☐ to dwell on a problem to keep thinking or talking about a problem ☐ It’s best not to dwell too much on your financial situation. 2. to live (dated) ☐ There dwelt a beautiful princess in a castle by the edge of the forest. (NOTE: dwelling — dwelled or dwelt/dwel/t/) dweller/dwelər/ noun, suffix a person who lives in a place ☐ Many city-dwellers have cottages in the country where they go for weekends. ☐ Prehistoric man was a cave-dweller.
∞ dwelling/dwelɪŋ/ noun a place to live (formal) Synonym home dwindle/dwaɪndl/ verb to get less gradually. Synonym decrease dwindling/dwaɪndliŋ/ adj which is getting less. Antonym burgeon
dye/dai/ noun a substance used to colour cloth ☐ synthetic dyes ☐ vegetable dyes ☐ fast dye a colour which will not fade when washed ☐ verb to stain with a colour ☐ She dyed her hair green. (NOTE: Do not confuse with die.) ☐ dying/daiŋ/ adj die
dye /dai, diːk/ diːk noun 1. a long wall of earth to keep water from flooding land ☐ They built dykes along the river. ☐ With this storm blowing from the east, do you think the dykes will hold? 2. a long ditch for rainwater ☐ It ruined all month, and the dykes were full. 3. a lesbian (offensive) dynamic/daiˈnæmɪk/ adj very energetic and with a strong personality. Antonym lethargic
dynamism/daiˈnæmɪz(ə)m/ noun being dynamic. Synonym vitality. Antonym lethargy
dynamite/daiˈnæmɪt/ noun 1. a powerful explosive ☐ They used dynamite to blow up the old building. 2. something or someone that has a very powerful effect ☐ This news is dynamite! ☐ verb to blow something up with dynamite ☐ Guerrillas have dynamited stretches of railway line.
dynasty/daiˈnæstɪ/ noun 1. a small piece of equipment for making electricity ☐ The electric light works by a dynamo attached to the back wheel. 2. a very energetic person (NOTE: The plural is dynasties.)
dynastic/daiˈnæstɪk/ adj referring to a dynasty. Synonym hereditary
dynasty/daiˈnæstɪ/ noun 1. a family of rulers, following one after the other ☐ The Ming dynasty ruled China from 1368 to 1644. ☐ Henry VII founded the Tudor dynasty in 1485. ☐ 2. a period of rule by members of the same family ☐ The Great Wall of China was built during the Tsin dynasty. (NOTE: The plural is dynasties.)
dysentery/daiˈsɛntrɪ/ noun an infection of the intestines, causing bleeding and diarrhoea
dysfunctional/daiˈfʌŋkʃənəl/ adj 1. unable to relate to other people emotionally and socially, failing to work properly ☐ dyslexia/daiˈleksɪə/ noun a medical condition in which a person is not able to read and spell correctly ☐ dyslexic/daiˈleksɪk/ adj affected by dyslexia ☐ Their daughter is dyslexic. ☐ noun a person who has dyslexia ☐ There are several dyslexics in the family.
dyspepsia/daiˈpsɪsiə/ noun pains in the stomach caused by not digesting food properly (technical) Synonym indigestion
dystrophy/daiˈstrəfi/ noun ☐ muscular
2. low what is happening and know all about three hundred pages each.

printed notes of music to play without reading the you hear with /L50263

goog eyesight. Synonym observant /L50765

of two people or of two things /L50263

boxes fit into each other.

each other /L50765

keenness eagerness /L50263

eagerly /vertstrokeinferiori/lengthmark/gcursiveə

eagerness /L50263

eagerness /L50263

an ability to sense sound /L50263

ear /L50263

ear /L50263

a nobleman of middle rank, below a marquess and above a viscount.

COMMENT: The title of earl is followed directly by the family name; they are addressed as ‘Lord’ followed by the family name; their wives are addressed as ‘Lady’ followed by the family name.

earlier /L50765

earlier referring to a time before now or a time being mentioned /L50263

an earlier edition of the book /L50263

earlier train. /L50765

adv before now or a time being mentioned /L50263

Can’t you come any earlier than Thursday? /L50263

I tried to phone earlier but you were out.

earest /L50765

earliest /L50765

soonest, first

earlobe /L50263

the lower part of the outside of the ear

early /L50765

earlier /L50263

earlier – earliest

early bird /L50263

ear some one who likes to get up early and work before breakfast, and who does not stay up late at night.

Compare night owl

early warning /L50263

early warning which gives advance warning of danger

earmark /L50263

verb to reserve for a special purpose. Synonym allocate

earn /L50263

verb 1. to be paid money for working /L50263

He earns £20,000 a year. /L50263

How much does a bus driver earn? /L50263

2. to deserve something or to be given something /L50263

You can all take a rest now – you’ve earned it! /L50263

His cheeky remarks earned him a reprimand from the teacher. (NOTE: Do not confuse with urn.)
earner /ˈearnər/ noun a thing or person that earns \( \text{a} \) nice little earner a small business or clever scheme which gives an easy income (informal) \( \text{b} \) The corner shop must be a nice little earner – it's in a prime position.

earnest /ˈəːrnɪst/ adj serious. \( \text{a} \) They were engaged in earnest conversation. \( \text{b} \) noun \( \text{c} \) in earnest seriously \( \text{d} \) The discussions began in earnest.

earnings /ˈɛərnɪŋz/ plural noun a salary, the money which you earn from work. \( \text{a} \) His earnings are not enough to pay the rent.

earphones /ˈɛəfəʊnz/ plural noun a piece of equipment which you put on your ears to listen to sounds from a machine such as a radio or telephone. \( \text{a} \) She took off her earphones when I asked her a question.

earplug /ˈɛəsplʌg/ noun a piece of plastic, rubber or other material which you put in your ears to stop you hearing loud sounds

earring /ˈɛərɪŋ/ noun a piece of jewellery worn attached to part of the ear as an ornament. \( \text{a} \) a pair of earrings two similar rings, one worn in each ear \( \text{b} \) She was wearing a pair of old earrings which belonged to her mother.

earshot /ˈɛəʃɔt/ noun \( \text{a} \) within earshot near enough to hear something. \( \text{b} \) Everyone within earshot heard the details of her divorce. \( \text{c} \) out of earshot not near enough to hear something. \( \text{d} \) Now that she's out of earshot, you can tell me what really happened.

ear-splitting /ˈɛərˌsplɪtɪŋ/ adj extremely loud.

earth /ɜːθ/ noun 1. also Earth the planet on which we live. \( \text{a} \) The earth goes round the sun once in twenty-four hours. \( \text{b} \) The space shuttle came back to earth safely. \( \text{c} \) it costs the earth it costs a great deal of money (informal). \( \text{d} \) It wouldn't cost the earth to have the house repainted. 2. soil, a soft material made up of minerals and rotting vegetable matter, which plants grow in. \( \text{a} \) Put some earth in the plant pot and then sow your cucumber seeds. 3. a hole where a fox lives. \( \text{a} \) to run someone to earth to find someone after a difficult search. \( \text{b} \) We finally ran him to earth in Mexico. \( \text{c} \) verb to connect an electrical appliance to the earth \( \text{d} \) Household appliances should be properly earthed. (NOTE: The US term is to ground.)

earthenware /ˈɛərθenwɛər/ noun objects such as pots and dishes, made of clay.

earthly /ˈɜːθli/ adj \( \text{a} \) he hasn't an earthly (chance) he has no possibility of succeeding (informal). \( \text{b} \) Realistically, he hasn't an earthly against the champion, but I'm sure he'll still give it a go.

earthquake /ɜːθˈkwɪk/ noun the shaking of the earth caused by movement of the earth's surface. Synonym tremor (NOTE: also called simply a quake).

earth science /ɜːθˈsɛntɪs/ noun geology or a similar science

earth tremor /ɜːθ ˈtremər/ noun a slight earthquake.

earthworm /ɜːθwɜːm/ noun a little animal which looks like a very small snake and lives in soil

easy /ˈɛzi/ noun 1. \( \text{a} \) to put someone at their ease to make someone feel relaxed and confident. \( \text{b} \) The policewoman offered the children sweets to put them at their ease. 2. a lack of difficulty. \( \text{b} \) He won the first round with the greatest of ease. \( \text{c} \) The bottle has a wide mouth for ease of use. 3. \( \text{a} \) at ease! (in the army) a command to stand in a relaxed position, with the feet apart, after standing to attention. \( \text{b} \) to make less painful. \( \text{c} \) A couple of aspirins should ease the pain. 4. to make easy. \( \text{b} \) An introduction from his uncle eased his entry into the firm.

easel /ˈɛz(ə)l/ noun a vertical frame on legs to support a blackboard or painting. Synonym stand

easier, easiest /ˈɛzər, ˈɛzɪst/ adj 1. without any difficulty. \( \text{a} \) I can get there easily by 9 o'clock. 2. a lot (compared to something else) (for emphasis before comparatives or superlatives) \( \text{a} \) Her work was easily better than yours. \( \text{b} \) He is easily the tallest man in the team. \( \text{c} \) Our shop is easily the biggest in the High Street.

east /ɛst/ first noun the direction of where the sun rises. \( \text{a} \) The sun rises in the east and sets in the west. \( \text{b} \) Germany is to the east of France. \( \text{c} \) The wind is blowing from the east. 2. the part of a country which is to the east of the rest. \( \text{a} \) The east of the country is drier than the west. 3. the Far East the countries to the east of Pakistan and India. \( \text{b} \) the Middle East the countries to the east of Egypt and west of Pakistan. \( \text{c} \) the Near East the countries to the east of the Mediterranean. \( \text{d} \) referring to the east. \( \text{e} \) The east coast is the coldest part of the country. \( \text{f} \) towards the east. \( \text{g} \) The kitchen windows face east, so we get the morning sun. \( \text{h} \) Drive east along the motorway for twenty miles.

eastbound /ˈɛstbaʊnd/ adj travelling towards the east

Easter /ˈɛstər/ noun an important Christian festival, in March or April, celebrating Christ's death and resurrection

Easter egg /ˈɛstər ɛɡ/ noun a chocolate or sugar egg eaten at Easter.
The driving test isn’t very easy – lots of people fail it. Antonym

Antonym eating apple

easy-going /ˈiːzəʊɪŋ/ adj friendly and not very critical
easy Listening /ˈiːzi lɪsnɪŋ/ noun slow or quiet popular music
eating apple /ˈeɪtɪŋ ˈæpl/ noun a sweet apple which you can eat (informal)
eating disorder /ˈeɪtɪŋ dɪzər/ noun an emotional disorder manifesting as an obsessive attitude to food
easy chair /ˈiːzi tʃeər/ noun a large comfortable armchair
easy going /ˈiːzi ˈgoʊɪŋ/ adj friendly and not very critical
easy Listening /ˈiːzi lɪsənɪŋ/ noun slow or quiet popular music
eating apple /ˈeɪtɪŋ ˈæpl/ noun an apple that you can eat

Antonym eating apple

east /east/ 1. (of a wind) from the east

towards the east

2. eastern /ˈiːstərn/ adj, from, or of the east

Bulgaria is part of Eastern Europe. Antonym

with the jam!

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can hear the echo very clearly. (NOTE: The plural is echoes.) 2. verb 1. (of sound) to make an echo 2. Their voices echoed down the tunnel. 2. to repeat 1. The newspaper article echoed the opinions put forward in the minister’s speech. 

éclair 262 noun a long light cake filled with cream and with chocolate on top.

eecliptic /ɛkˈlɪptɪk/ noun taking ideas from several different sources. Synonym heterogenous. Antonym narrow.

eclipsed /ɪkˈlɪpsɪd/ noun a time when part of the sun or moon disappears, because either the earth’s shadow passes over the moon, or the moon passes between the earth and the sun 1. There will be a partial eclipse of the moon tonight. 2. verb 1. to hide the sun or moon by passing in front of it 2. The sun is eclipsed by the moon. 2. to be more successful than someone 3. She was eclipsed by her younger sister.

eco-friendly /ˌɛkəʊˈfrendli/ adj intended to have no harmful effect on the natural environment and its inhabitants.

eco logical /ˌɛkəʊˈlɒdʒɪk(ə)/ adj referring to ecology. Synonym environmental. 2. ecological disaster a disaster which seriously disturbs the balance of the environment 3. The oil from the tanker caused an ecological disaster.

economist /ˌɛkəʊˈnɒmɪst/ noun a person who specialises in the study of money and its uses.

economy /ˌɛkəʊˈnɒmɪ/ noun 1. The study of how money functions in trade, society and politics 2. She is studying for an economics degree. 2. the way money is used in a particular activity 3. The economics of town planning must be taken very seriously. 4. Have you worked out the economics of starting your own business?

economies of scale /ˌɛkəʊˈnɒmɪz əv ˈskɛl/ plural noun the practice of making more money by making a product in larger quantities.

ecology /ˌɛkəʊˈlɒdʒi/ noun the study of the relationship between plants and animals and their environment.

e-commerce /ˈɛkmənəs/ noun business which is done online, especially over the Internet.

economic /ˌɛkəʊˈnɒmɪk/ adj 1. referring to the economy 2. I don’t agree with the government’s economic policy. 3. The government has introduced controls to solve the current economic crisis. 4. The country enjoyed a period of economic growth in the 1980s. 5. economic growth the rate at which a country’s national income grows 6. which provides enough money 7. The flat is let at an economic rent. 8. It is hardly economic for us to run two cars.

economical /ˌɛkəʊˈnɒmɪk(ə)/ adj which saves money or resources 2. economic car a car which does not use much petrol.

economically /ˌɛkəʊˈnɒmɪklɪ/ adv 1. referring to economics 2. Scrapping the power station is economically justifiable. 2. saving money, without waste 3. We use electricity as economically as possible.

economic migrant /ˌɛkəʊˈnɒmɪk ˈmɪgrant/ noun a person who moves to live in another country where living conditions are better.
edge 263

effect

der the waterfall. Synonym whirlpool (NOTE: The plural is eddies.) • verb to twist round in a circle • Water eddied round the rocks.

edge /eʤ/ noun 1. a side of something flat • He put his plate down on the edge of the table. • She lay down on the roof and looked over the edge. • You can stand a £1 coin on its edge. • The axe has a very sharp edge. 2. a line between two quite different things • He lived in a house at the edge of the forest. • The factory is built right on the edge of the town. 3. an advantage • to have the edge on a rival company to have a slightly larger share of the market than another company 4. on edge nervous or jumpy • Everyone was on edge, waiting for the telephone call. • verb to move in a slow, careful way • He started edging towards the door.

edgeways adv. adj with the edge first • edging /eʤɪŋ/ noun a decoration along the edge of something. Synonym border

edgy /eʤi/ adj nervous or anxious. Antonym relaxed (NOTE: edgy – edgier – edgiest.) • edible /ˈɛdɪbl/ adj which can be safely eaten. Antonym poisonous

edict /ˈɛdɪkt/ noun a public announcement of a law. Synonym proclamation

edifice /ˌɛdɪfɪs/ noun a large building (formal) • edit /ˈɛdɪt/ verb 1. to be in charge of a newspaper or magazine • He edited the ‘Sunday Express’ for more than twenty years. 2. to change a text to make it better • The edited text is now ready. • It took me two hours to edit the first chapter. 3. to get a text ready to be published • I am editing a volume of 20th-century poetry. 4. to cut up a film or tape and stick it together in correct order to make it ready to be shown or played • Once the film has been edited it will run for about 90 minutes.

edition /ˈɛdɪʃən/ noun 1. a number of copies of a book or newspaper printed at the same time • The book of poems was published in an edition of one thousand copies. 2. the form in which a book is published • She bought the hardback edition for her father.

editor /ˈɛdɪtər/ noun 1. a journalist in charge of a newspaper or part of a newspaper • He wrote to the editor of ‘The Times’ asking for a job. • She is the sports editor of the local newspaper • a person who gets a text, a radio or TV programme, etc. ready to be published • He worked as a dictionary editor all his life. 2. of a TV series on French cooking 3. a computer program for editing text • The software contains a basic text editor.

editorial /ˈɛdɪtəriəl/ adj referring to editors or to editing • He has overall editorial control of the series. • editorial board a group of editors who work together • noun a main article written by the editor of a newspaper • Did you read today’s editorial in ‘The Times’? Also called leading article, leader

educate /ˈɛdʒɪkət/ verb to teach someone • She was educated privately in Switzerland. • We need to educate young people about the dangers of alcohol.

educated /ˈɛdʒɪkətɪd/ adj having been to school and university

educational /ˌɛdʒɪˈkæʃənl/ adj referring to education, teaching and schools • This game for 3 to 5-year-olds is very educational. • a campaign to improve educational standards. Synonym instructive • educational publisher a company that publishes school books

educationalist /ˌɛdʒɪˈkeɪʃənlɪst/, educationist /ˌɛdʒɪˈkeɪʃənɪst/ noun a person who specialises in the study of teaching methods

educative /ˌɛdʒɪˈkeɪtɪv/ adj which teaches • educator /ˈɛdʒɪdjuːkətər/ noun a person who teaches, especially someone who teaches people how to teach. Synonym teacher

Edwardian /ˈɛdɪwərdɪən/ adj referring to the time of King Edward VII (1901 – 1910). EEC abbr European Economic Community, now the European Union

eel /ɛl/ noun a long thin fish which looks like a snake.

eerie /ˈɛri/ adj strange and frightening. Synonym unnerving (NOTE: eerier – eeriest)

eerily /ˈɛriːli/ adv in an eerie way • effect /ɛfekt/ noun 1. a result or influence • The cuts in spending will have a serious effect on the hospital. • The cream has had no effect on her rash. • The effects of the anaesthetic took some time to wear off. • the order comes into or takes effect from January 1st the order starts to have to be obeyed on January 1st • in effect actually • In effect, he gave up trying. • with effect from starting from • Prices will be increased by 10% with effect from January 1st. 2. an approximate meaning • The notice said something to that effect that the shop had closed. • or words to that effect or something with that meaning • She said she wouldn’t pay, or words to that effect • verb to make, to carry out (formal) • She was able to effect a num-
effective

er of changes during her time in charge. Synonym achieve □ to make a payment to make a payment

effectively /ɪˈfektvli/ adv 1. which produces the required result □ His method of keeping the children quiet is very effective. □ Advertising on TV is a very effective way of selling. 2. which takes effect □ an order which is effective from January 1st
effectiveness /ɪˈfektvnəs/ noun the ability to produce an effective result. Synonym efficiency
effeminate /ɪˈfemɪnət/ adj referring to a man who behaves in a feminine way (disapproving)
effervesce /ɛfəˈvɛs/ verb (of a liquid or substance) to make bubbles
effervescent /ɛfəˈvɛs(ə)nt/ adj 1. which makes bubbles □ The water will become effervescent if you put this tablet into the glass. 2. lively and excited □ Her effervescent good humour made the party go with a swing.
efficacy /ɪˈfɪksi/ noun effectiveness; the power to produce the correct result. Synonym effectiveness
efficiency /ɪˈfɪʃni/ noun being able to produce a good result without wasting time, money or effort □ How can we improve the efficiency of our working methods? □ She is known for her extreme efficiency. Synonym competence. Antonym inefficiency
efficient /ɪˈfɪʃnt/ adj able to work well and do what is necessary without wasting time, money or effort □ He needs an efficient assistant to look after him. □ The system of printing invoices is very efficient. □ a fuel-efficient car a car which does not use much petrol
efficiently /ɪˈfɪʃntli/ adv in an efficient way
effigy /ɛfɪdʒi/ noun a rough model of a person, usually someone unpopular. Synonym image (NOTE: The plural is effigies.)
effluent /ɛfljuənt/ noun sewage, especially liquid waste from a factory

effort /ɛfət/ noun the use of the mind or body to do something □ He’s made great efforts to learn Spanish. □ Thanks to her efforts, we have collected more than £10,000 for the children’s home. □ If we make one more effort, we should get all that rubbish cleared away.
effortlessly /ɛfətˈləsli/ adv without needing to use any energy. Synonym easy. Antonym strenuous
egoism /ɪɡəʊɪz(ə)m/ noun thinking only about yourself, and not bothering about any other person.

egoist /ɪɡəʊɪst/ noun a person who only thinks about himself or herself.

egotism /ɪɡəʊtɪz(ə)m/ noun thinking that you are better than anyone else.

egotist /ɪɡəʊɪstɪst/ noun a person who thinks he or she is better than everyone else.

egotistic /ɪɡəʊtɪstɪk/, egotistical /ɪɡəʊtɪstɪkl(ə)/ adj thinking you are better than everyone else.

ego trip /ɪɡoʊ ˈtrɪp/ noun an activity designed to improve your good opinion of yourself (informal).

egregious /ɪɡrɪˈdʒiəs/ adj very bad (formal).

eh /ɛ/ interj used when asking questions.

What a laugh, eh?  ○ What about a drink, eh?  ○ Eh?  ○ What did he say?

eiderdown /ˈaɪdərdaʊn/ noun a large bag full of feathers, used on top of sheets and blankets as a bed covering. Synonym: quilt.

eight /eɪt/ noun 1. the number 8  ○ He ate eight chocolates.  ○ The little girl is eight years old).  ○ I usually have breakfast before eight o'clock.

2. a crew of eight people rowing a boat.

Our college eight won the race. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is eight.

eighteen /ˈeɪtɪn/ noun the number 18.

There are eighteen people in our dance class.

He will be eighteen years old next week.

The train leaves at eighteen twenty (18:20).  ○ The eighteen hundreds the years between 1800 and 1899.

18 /eɪtɪn/ noun a classification of films considered not suitable for people under 18.

eighteenth /ˈeɪtɪnθ/ , 18th adj, noun referring to 18  ○ The eighteenth of April or April the eighteenth (April 18th).

Today's the seventeenth, so tomorrow must be the eighteenth.  ○ That's the eighteenth invoice we've sent out today.

It's his eighteenth birthday next week.

18-wheeler /ˌeɪtɪn ˈwiːlə/ noun a large lorry with 18 wheels.

eighty /ˈeɪtɪ/ noun the number 80.  ○ It's about eighty miles from London to Dover.

She's eighty (years old).  ○ She's in her eighties.  ○ She is between 80 and 89 years old.

The (nineteen) eighties (1980s).

either /ˈʌðər, ˈɪðər/ adj, pron 1. one or the other.

You can use either computer – it doesn't matter which.

I don't like either of them.

2. each of two.

There are trees on either side of the road.

Some people don't take sugar in their coffee, some don't take milk, and some don't take either.

They sat on either side of him.

One sat on each.

You must do it either today or tomorrow.

Or, you can show one of two possibilities.

Either you come here or I'll come to see you.

It's either a fox or a wolf.

You don't want to go, and I don't want to go either.

The report wasn't on the TV news, and it wasn't on the radio either.

ejaculate /ɪˈdʒækjʊleɪt/ verb 1. to send out semen from the penis.

2. to exclaim (literary).

ejaculation /ɪˈdʒækjʊleɪʃ(ə)n/ noun the sending out of semen from the penis.

eject /ɪˈdʒekt/ verb 1. to throw out.

The chairman called in the police to eject the troublemakers from the meeting.

2. to escape from an aircraft using an ejector seat.

The pilot ejected safely.

ejection /ɪˈdʒekʃ(ə)n/ noun the action of throwing out.

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Elastoplast

Elastoplast /'elastplast/ trademark a small strip of cloth which can be stuck to the skin to cover a wound

eiated /'ielt/ adj very excited and pleased. Synonym ecstatic

eation /'iɛʃən/ noun a strong feeling of excitement and pleasure. Synonym ecstasy.

Antonym despair (NOTE: no plural)

elbow /'elbou/ noun the joint in the middle of your arm. ○ She nudged him with her elbow.

to give someone the elbow to tell someone that you do not want to see them any more (informal) ○ They had been going out together for some time, and then she suddenly gave him the elbow. ○ more power to your elbow! keep on doing the good work. ○ verb to push with your elbows ○ He elbowed his way to the front of the crowd.

eadow-room /'elbou ru/ noun space to move about (informal)

eider /'eldə/ adj older ○ I have two elder brothers. ○ She brought her elder sister. (NOTE: elder is a comparative adjective, used mainly of brothers or sisters. It is never followed by than, when older should be used.) ■ noun 1. an older person ○ Mary is the elder of the two. ○ Which brother is the elder? ○ The village elders met to discuss the plan. ○ Children should have respect for their elders and betters. 2. a common tree with white flowers and bunches of small purple berries ○ There’s an elder growing in the hedge by the field.

elderberry /'eldəbo/ri/ noun 1. an elder tree ○ An elderberry was in flower at the corner of the field. 2. the little black fruit of an elderberry. (NOTE: The plural is elderberries.)

eeldier /'eldəri/ adj older ○ An elderly man sat down beside her. ○ My mother is now rather elderly and doesn’t drive any more. Antonym young (NOTE: used as a polite way of saying old) ■ plural noun ○ the eldier old people

elder statesman /'eldə 'stɛtstman/ noun an older and wiser politician

elest /'eldest/ adj the eldest of a series of people ○ This is John, my eldest son. ■ noun the oldest person of a series of people (informal) ○ He is the eldest of the three brothers.

elect /'iɛkt/ verb 1. to choose by voting ○ She was elected MP for the town. ○ The president is elected for a term of four years. ○ The chairman is elected by the members of the committee. 2. to elect to do something to choose to do something (normal) ○ We all went to the pub, but she elected to stay at home and watch TV.

-elect /'iɛkt/ suffix a person who has been elected but has not yet started the job ○ She is the president-elect. (NOTE: The plural is presidents-elect.)

election /'iɛkʃən/ noun 1. the process of choosing by voting ○ After the election, the crowds were dancing in the streets. ○ The next item on the agenda is the election of a new treasurer for the club. 2. an occasion when someone is chosen by voting ○ Elections are being held throughout the country next week.

electioneering /'iɛkleərɪŋ/ noun the process of working for an election campaign, making speeches, writing pamphlets and meeting voters

elective /'iɛktɪv/ adj 1. requiring to be elected 2. not obligatory

elector /'iɛktə/ noun a person who votes or who is able to vote in an election. Synonym voter

electoral /'iɛktərəl/ referring to an election. Synonym democratic

electoral college /'iɛktərəl 'kəlnidʒ/ noun a group who elect someone such as a president

electorate /'iɛktərət/ noun all the people in an area who are able to vote

electric /'iɛktrik/ adj 1. worked by electricity ○ Is your cooker electric or gas? ○ He plays an electric guitar. ○ He cut the wood with an electric saw. ○ She gave me an electric toothbrush for Christmas. 2. making or carrying electricity ○ Don’t touch those electric wires. ○ Electric plugs in the USA are different from those in Britain. 3. full of excitement ○ The atmosphere was electric as the votes were being counted.

electrical /'iɛktrikəl/ adj referring to electricity ○ a shop selling electrical appliances ○ The college offers courses in electrical engineering. ○ They are trying to repair an electrical fault.

electric chair /'iɛktrik tʃeə/ noun a chair attached to a powerful electric current, used in some states of the United States to kill criminals as a punishment

electrician /'iɛktrikən/ noun a person who works on electrical repairs

electricity /'iɛktrikətɪ/ noun energy used to make light, heat, or power ○ We haven’t paid the electricity bill this month. ○ The electricity was cut off this morning. ○ The heating is run by electricity. ○ The cottage is in the mountains and doesn’t have any electricity. (NOTE: no plural)

electrics /'iɛktrikz/ plural noun the wires and electrical connections in a building or piece of equipment

electric shock /'iɛktrik /'ʃɒk/ noun a sudden pain when an electric current goes through your body
electrify /ɪˈlektrɪfaɪ/ verb 1. to connect to an electric source of power. 2. to startle and excite. 3. to think of as dead.
electrocardiogram /ɪˈlektrəʊkɑːdrɪəʊɡrɑːm/ noun a chart which shows the electrical impulses of the heart as it is beating.
electrocute /ɪˈlektrəkʌt/ verb to hurt or kill someone with an electric shock.
electrocution /ɪˈlektrəkjʊʃən/ noun the process of killing someone by an electric shock.
electrode /ɪˈlektrəʊd/ noun one of two points on an electric circuit where the current enters or leaves a battery.
electromagnet /ɪˈlektrəʊmæɡnət/ noun a magnet made of a substance with wire round it, through which an electric current passes.
electromagnetic /ɪˈlektrəʊmæɡˈnetɪk/ adj generating a magnetic field or magnetic effect when supplied with electrical power.
electron /ɪˈlektrən/ noun a basic negative particle in an atom.
electronic /ɪˈlektrənɪk/ adj using devices such as silicon chips which affect the electric current which passes through them.
electronic engineer /ɪˈlektrənɪkˌɪŋɡɪnər/ noun an engineer who specialises in electronic devices.
electronic mail /ɪˈlektrənɪk ˈmeil/ noun e-mail, the system of sending messages from one computer to another, via telephone lines.
electronics /ɪˈlektrənɪks/ noun the science of the movement of electricity in electronic devices.
electronic industry /ɪˌlektrəˈnɪsk ˈaɪndəstri/ the industry which makes TV sets, radios, calculators, etc.
electronic tag /ɪˌlektrənɪk tæɡ/ noun an electronic device attached to someone, e.g. an electronic tag.
elevated railway /ˌɛlvɪtərd ˈreɪlweɪ/ noun a form of local railway system which runs along rails placed high above the street.
elevation /ˌɛlvɪˈteɪʃən/ noun height above sea level.
elevator /ˈɛlvətor/ noun 1. a US device for lifting people from floor to floor inside a building. 2. a part of the tail of an aircraft which helps the aircraft lift off the ground.
eleven /ˈɛlɪvən/ noun 1. the number 11. 2. When you're eleven (years old) you will go to secondary school.
eleven hundred /ˈɛlɪvən ˈhʌndrəd/ the years from 1100 to 1199. 2. eleven people, as in a football team or cricket team.
eleven people, as in an un-electric bachelor.
eleven syntactic elements of language.
elevenses /ˈɛlɪvənˌsɛz/ noun a snack served in the middle of the morning at about 11 o'clock (NOTE: no plural).
eleventh /ˈɛlɪvəθ/ , 11th adj, noun referring to 11 or The eleventh of July or July the eleventh (July 11th). Today's the tenth, so tomorrow must be the eleventh. 2. That's the eleventh complaint we've received this week. 3. It's his eleventh birthday next month.
elf /ɛlf/ noun a little person in fairy stories (NOTE: The plural is elves /ˈɛlvz/).
elicit /ɪˈlɪsɪt/ verb to obtain (NOTE: Do not confuse with illicit.)
eligible /ˈelɪdʒəbl/ adj the state of being eligible. 2. You aren't eligible to vote until you are eighteen. 3. She's not eligible to enter the competition because she works for the company running it.
elegible bachelor an unmarried man who is thought to be a good person for a woman to marry.
eliminate /ɪˈlɪmɪnt/ verb 1. to remove mistakes or waste ○ Using a computer should eliminate all possibility of error. ○ Smallpox has been eliminated in most parts of the world. 2. to remove someone from a competition ○ He came last and so was eliminated from the next round of the contest.

elimination /ɪˈlɪmɪneɪʃən/ noun the act of eliminating. Antonym preservation

elision /ɪˈlɪʒən/ noun the omission of an element of a word or phrase

elite noun a group of people with more privileges than most others ○ adj 1. more talented, privileged or highly trained than others 2. limited to the rich or privileged

elitism /ɪˌlɪtɪzəm/ noun rule by an elite ○ elitist /ɪˈlɪtɪst/ adj believing that an elite should run a group or society

Elizabethan /ˈɪlzəbiˌθiən/ adj referring to the time of Queen Elizabeth I (1558 – 1603)
elk /ɛlk/ noun a large European deer with flat antlers (NOTE: similar to the American moose. The plural is elk.)

eclipse /ɪˈklɪps/ noun an oval shape

ecliptical /ɪˈklɪptɪk(ə)l/ adj 1. oval ○ The comet follows an ecliptical orbit round the sun. 2. difficult to understand because of a missing word or phrase

elm /ɛlm/ noun a large hardwood tree which grows in temperate areas

elopement /ˈeləpmənt/ noun the act of speaking in a clear and elegant way. Synonym diction

elongated /ˈlɒŋətɪd/ adj longer than normal

elope /ɪˈləʊp/ verb to run away to get married

elopement /ɪˈləʊpɪment/ noun the act of eloping

eloquence /ˈeləkwəns/ noun the art of making speeches which persuade and convince (NOTE: no plural) ○ eloquent /ˈeləkwənt/ adj convincing and persuasive. Synonym expressive

eloquently /ˈeləkwəntli/ adv in an eloquent way

else /els/ adv 1. other (used after pronoun) ○ What else can I say? ○ Everyone else had already left. ○ Who else was at the meeting? 2. or else or if not ○ Come in right now, or else stay outside. ○ You must have a ticket, or else you will be thrown off the train by the inspector. ○ you’d better pay, or else if you don’t pay, I’ll hurt you (an informal threat)

elsewhere /ˈelswɛr/ adv somewhere else, in another place ○ This shop doesn’t stock maps, so you’ll have to try elsewhere.

ELT abbr English Language Teaching ○ She’s an ELT specialist

elucidate /ɪˈlʊsidɪt/ verb to make something clear or easy to understand. Synonym explain

elude /ɪˈljuːd/ verb 1. (of a fact or word) to be difficult to remember ○ Her name eludes me. 2. to be unable to achieve something ○ International recognition eluded him for many years. 3. to avoid being caught ○ The protesters managed to elude the security guards.
elusive /ɪˈljuːsɪv/ adj difficult to find. Synonym indefinable. Antonym obvious

emancipated /ɪˌmæŋkɪˈteɪtɪd/ adj extremely thin. Antonym plump

emancipation /ɪˌmæŋkʃəˈʃən/ noun being emancipated ○ emancate /ɪˈmæŋkneɪt/ verb to emancipate someone the right to equal status. Synonym freedom ○ emancipated ○ emancipation ○ emancipated ○ emancipation ○ emancipated ○ emancipation

embrace /ɪˈembræs/ verb 1. to take something without paying for it ○ She embraced the sale of arms to Middle Eastern countries. 2. to place or put an embargo on to forbid something officially ○ The government has embraced the sale of arms to Middle Eastern countries. 3. to lift an embargo to allow trade to start again ○ The government has lifted the embargo on the export of weapons. ○ to be under an embargo to be forbidden ○ to forbid something officially ○ The government has embraced the sale of arms to Middle Eastern countries. ● to use publication of information for a period of time ○ The news has been embargoed until next Wednesday. 3. to embark /ɪmˈbɑːrk/ verb 1. to go onto a ship or aircraft ○ The passengers embarked at Southampton. 2. to embark on some-
embody  /'embəd/ verb 1. to include □ The latest model embodies several new safety features. 2. to show an idea in a physical form □ She embodies all the best qualities of a child's doctor.

embolism  /'embəlɪzəm/ noun the blocking of a blood vessel by a blood clot or a bubble of air

embrace  /'embrəs/ verb 1. to hold and kiss someone to show affection □ They embraced for several minutes before he got on the train. 2. to become a convert to a belief □ He embraced communism when he was at university. 3. noun the act of holding someone tightly and kissing them (literary) □ She shrank from his embraces. □ They lay on the grass in a close embrace.

embroider  /'embrədər/ verb 1. to make artistic patterns by sewing with coloured threads on cloth □ She embroidered a tablecloth for her mother. 2. to invent extra details and add them to a story □ He embroidered the story of his escape from prison with details of how he overpowered three guards and stole their guns.

embroidery  /'embrədərɪ/ noun 1. the art of sewing decorations on cloth □ She went to embroidery classes. 2. sewn decorations □ We admired the delicate embroidery on the tablecloth.

embroideried  /'embrədərid/ adj, fixed in a mass of something

emblem  /'emblem/ noun a design which is used as the symbol of a country, team or town. Synonym symbol

embodiment  /'embədɪmənt/ noun a physical expression of an idea

thing new until we have finished this job. □ She said she had forgotten to bring the present.

embarks  /'embrəks/ verb to make someone feel uncomfortable in front of other people, especially by being rude or indecent □ embarrased  /'embrəzd/ adj uncomfortable or ashamed, and not knowing what to do □ She gave an embarrassed laugh, and said she had forgotten to bring the present. □ He was so embarrassed that he turned bright red.

embarrassing  /'embrəsɪŋ/ adj, adv making a person feel embarrassed □ It was very embarrassing to find that the bride's mother was wearing exactly the same dress as me. Synonym awkward

embarrassment  /'embrəsment/ noun a feeling of being worried and ashamed

embarrassed  /'embrəzd/ adj...
emergency /ɪˈmɜːdʒənsi/ noun a dangerous situation such as a fire, an accident or a breakdown of law and order, where decisions have to be taken quickly ○ Phone for an ambulance – this is an emergency! Synonym: crisis □ emergency operation an operation done immediately on a seriously ill patient ○ in case of emergency, in an emergency if a dangerous situation develops ○ In an emergency or In case of emergency, press the red button. (NOTE: The plural is emergencies.)

emergency exit /ɪˈmɜːdʒənsi ˈɛɡzɪt/ noun a door used in an emergency

emergency room /ɪˈmɜːdʒənsi ruːm/ noun the department of a hospital which treats emergency cases

emergency services /ɪˈmɜːdʒənsi sɜːvɪsɪz/ plural noun the police, fire service and ambulance service

emergency /ɪˈmɜːdʒənmənt/ adj in a very early stage of development. Synonym: developing. Antonym: established ○ emergency nations nations that are becoming economically independent

emergency /ɪˈmɜːdʒəmənt/ adj starting to appear, occur or develop

emigrate /ɪˈmɪɡrət/ verb to leave your country to live in another. Compare immigrate

emigration /ɪˈmɪɡrəʃən/ noun the act of leaving your country to live in another

emigrate /ɪˈmɪɡrət/ verb to leave your country to live in another. Compare immigrate

emigrant /ɪˈmɪɡrənt/ noun a person who emigrates. Compare immigrant

emigré /ɪˈmɪɡrɛ/ noun a person who has emigrated for political reasons

eminence /ɪˈmɪnəns/ noun (formal 1. a high place ○ The castle stands on an eminence overlooking the river. 2. high rank ○ He owed his position of eminence in the government entirely to his friend the Prime Minister. ○ She was met by several persons of great eminence in the university hierarchy. 3. used as a form of address to a cardinal ○ His Eminence, the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster (NOTE: When speaking directly to a cardinal, say Your Eminence.)

eminent /ɪˈmɪnənt/ adj important and very highly respected. Synonym: well-known. Antonym: unknown

eminently /ɪˈmɪnəntli/ adv remarkably, particularly (formal)

emir /ɪˈmɜːr/ noun a Muslim ruler

emirate /ɪˈmɛrət/ noun a country ruled by an emir. Synonym: principality

emissary /ɪˈmɪsərɪ/ noun a person sent with a message or to act on someone's behalf (NOTE: The plural is emissaries.)

emission /ɪˈmɪʃən/ noun 1. the process of emitting ○ They are trying to reduce the emission of carbon monoxide from vehicles. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 2. a substance which is emitted ○ Gas emissions can cause acid rain.

emit /ɪˈmɪt/ verb to send out something such as a sound, a signal or smoke (NOTE: emitting – emitted)

emotion /ɪˈməʊʃən/ noun a symbolic picture representing an emotion, made from computer keyboard characters such as ○ emotion ○ He tried to hide his emotions when he made his speech.

emotional /ɪˈməʊʃənəl/ adj which shows emotion ○ We bade an emotional farewell to our son and his family. ○ The music made her feel very emotional and she started to cry.

emotionally /ɪˈməʊʃənlɪ/ adv in an emotional way ○ He spoke emotionally of his time as a hostage. 2. in a sexual way ○ He became emotionally entangled with his secretary.

emotive /ɪˈməʊtɪv/ adj likely to cause strong feeling

emphasise /ɪmˈfəʊzɪz/, emphasize verb to feel empathy

empathy /ɪmˈθæpəti/ noun the ability to share the feelings of another person, by imagining yourself as that person. Antonym: indifference

emperor /ɪˈmɒprər/ noun the ruler of an empire

emphasis /ɪmˈfəʊzn/ noun 1. showing the importance of something, usually in speech ○ Don’t put too much emphasis on his age. ○ She banged the table for emphasis as she spoke. 2. the loudness of your voice when you pronounce a word or phrase ○ Everyone noticed the emphasis he put on the word ‘peace’. (NOTE: [all senses] The plural is emphases.)

emphasis /ɪmˈfəʊzn/ emphasize verb to show that you feel something is important, by saying it more loudly or slowly ○ Please emphasise that the meeting must start on time. ○ He emphasised the importance of everyone working together. ○ She kept on emphasising the same point over and over again. Antonym: understate. Antonym: understatement

emphatic /ɪmˈfætɪk/ adj using emphasis emphatically /ɪmˈfætɪklɪ/ adv in a forceful way

emphysis /ɪmˈfɪzɪs/ noun a condition where the surface of the lungs is reduced, making it difficult to breathe

empire /ɪmˈprɪər/ noun several separate territories ruled by a central government ○ We’re studying the history of the British Empire. ○ The Soviet empire covered a huge
empirical

area from the Pacific Ocean to the middle of Europe.

empirical /ɪmˈprɪk(ə)l/ adj based on practical experiment and not on theory.

employ /ɪmˈplɔːr/ verb 1. to give someone regular paid work. He is employed as a gardener by the duke. She is employed in the textile industry. 2. to use (formal) If we were to employ more up-to-date methods, would we make more money? 3. How can we best employ our free time on Sunday?

employed /ɪmˈplɔːd/ adj in regular paid work. Please state the occupations of the employed members of your household.

employee /ɪmˈplɔːri/ noun a person who is employed. The company has decided to take on twenty new employees. Antonym employer.

employer /ɪmˈplɔːrər/ noun a person or organisation that gives work to people and pays them. Her employer was a Hong Kong businessman.

empire /ɪmˈpɜːri/ noun 1. a large shop (humorous) (NOTE: The plural is emporiums or emporias.)

empower /ɪmˈpauər/ verb to give someone the power to do something.

empowerment /ɪmˈpauərment/ noun the act of giving power to someone.

emptiness /ˈemptɪniz/ noun the state of being empty. (NOTE: no plural)

empty /ˈempti/ adj with nothing inside. When we opened it, the box was empty.

Enable /ɪnˈeɪbl/ to make something empty. She emptied the clothes out of the suitcase. He emptied the bottle into the sink. They emptied the contents of the petty cash box into a bag.

Antonym fill

empty-handed /ˈemptɪˌhændid/ adj having obtained nothing. Synonym unsuccessful.

emu /ˈɛmjuː/ noun a large Australian bird which cannot fly.

emulate /ˈɛmjʊleɪt/ verb to try to do as well as or better than someone.

emulation /ˈɛmjuːleɪʃən/ noun the act of emulating. Synonym imitation.

emulsify /ˈɛməlˌsfai/ verb to mix two liquids which cannot unite completely, such as oil and water.

emulsion /ˈɛməlʃən/ noun a mixture of two liquids which do not unite completely, such as oil and water.

emulsion paint /ˈɛməlʃən ˈpeɪnt/ noun paint made from colour added to oil and water, used for painting walls and ceilings.

enable /ɪnˈeɪbl/ verb to make it possible for someone to do something. The dictionary should enable you to understand English better. Antonym prevent.

enact /ɪnˈeɪkt/ verb to make a law.

enactment /ɪnˈeɪktmənt/ noun 1. the process of making a law. The enactment of this Bill is likely to take several months. (NOTE: no plural in this sense) 2. an Act of Parliament.

emulsion paint /ˈɛməlʃən ˈpeɪnt/ noun paint made from colour added to oil and water, used for painting walls and ceilings.

emulsiﬁcation /ˈɛməlˌʃiﬁkeɪʃən/ noun the process of making emulsions.

emulsifying /ˈɛməlˌsfaiŋ/ verb to mix two liquids which cannot unite completely, such as oil and water.

enamel /ˈɛnəm(ə)l/ noun 1. a very hard covering of colour. The enamel of the painting had begun to crack. 2. a hard coloured coating fixed to metal by heating. The hard coating on the teeth. If the enamel of a tooth gets damaged the tooth will soon start to discolor.■ verb to cover with enamel. This must have taken a long time to enamel. Synonym coat. (NOTE: enamelling – enamelled. The US spelling is enameling – enameled.)

enamoured /ˈɛnəmərd/ adj liking something a lot. (NOTE: The US spelling is enamored.)

in bloc (ɪnˈblɒk) adv all together as a group. Antonym separately.

encampment /ˈɛn kæmpmənt/ noun a large camp.

encapsulate /ɪnˈkæpsələt/ verb to summarize, to put in a shorter form.

encase /ɪnˈkeɪs/ verb to completely surround with a substance.■ verb in concrete in.

enchant /ɪnˈtʃænt/ verb 1. to delight and attract someone. Synonym charm.

Antonym charm.
enchanted

enchantment

disguise

disguise

enclave

enclosed

enclosure

encircle

encore

encounter

encourage

encouragement

encroach

encroaching

encroachment

encroaches

encroaching

encroachment

encroaches
endorse /ɪnˈdɔːr/ verb to put in danger. Antonym protect

endangered species /ɪnˈdɔːrɪdʒd ˈspiːʃɪz/ noun a species of animal or plant at risk of dying completely

endear /ɪnˈdɪər/ verb to endear someone to someone to make someone loved. The old teacher endeared herself to generations of children.

dear /dɛər/ adj which makes you like someone. Synonym appealing, endearing

dear /dɛər/ adj (of a person) loved. The old teacher endeared herself to generations of children.

dear /dɪər/ noun a gland which produces hormones. Endocrine gland

dear /ˈdiər/ noun an attempt (formal). All our endeavours to get the car to start were in vain. In spite of all his endeavours, he could not avoid bankruptcy.

end /ɪnd/ noun the way a story finishes. I like films which have a happy ending. He told us so much of the story that we could guess the ending. Antonym beginning

end /ɪnd/ verb to try hard. He endeavoured to contact her by phone and fax. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is endeavor.)

endemic /ɪnˈdɪmɪk/ adj 1. (of a pest or disease) which is very common in certain places. This disease is endemic to Mediterranean countries. 2. (of a plants or animal) that exists in a certain area

ending /ɪnˈdɪnɪŋ/ noun the end product isn't always satisfactory.

end /ɪnd/ verb to end a process or discussion. Synonym outcome

end /ɪnd/ verb to finish in a particular situation. Synonym finish up

endorsement /ɪnˈdɔrsmənt/ noun the giving of money to an organisation such as a school or hospital. He made an endorsement to the local animal sanctuary.

end product /ɪnˈprɒdʌkt/ noun 1. a product made at the end of a production process. After six months' trial production, the end product has still not reached an acceptable standard. 2, the result at the end of a process or discussion. He worked hard, but the end product isn't always satisfactory.

end result /ɪnˈrɪzn/ noun the result at the end of a process or discussion. Synonym outcome

end /ɪnd/ verb to officially mark or switch off the lights when the rooms are empty.

endow /ɪnˈdəʊ/ verb 1. to give money which will provide a regular income for an organisation such as a school or hospital. In her will, she left money to endow a new ward in the children's hospital. 2. to endow with having certain qualities. He is richly endowed with musical talent. She is not endowed with a sense of humour.

endorse /ɪnˈdɔːs/ verb 1. to officially mark or sign the back of a document to endorse a cheque or sign a cheque on the back to show that you accept it. The cashier asked him to endorse the cheque before depositing it. His driving licence was endorsed. His licence was marked to show that he had committed a traffic offence. 2. to show approval of. I heartily endorse what has just been said. They asked us to endorse Mrs Martin as the local candidate.

endorsement /ɪnˈdɔrsment/ noun 1. approval. We received a letter inviting our endorsement of his application. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 2. a note which endorses a driving licence

energy /ˈenədʒi/ noun 273 The pain was more than she could endure. The memory of that day will endure for ever in my mind.

energetic /ˌenəˈdʒɪtɪk/ adj active and lively

energetically /ˌenəˈdʒɪtɪkli/ adv using much force

energise /ˈenədʒaɪzɪ, ˈenədʒɪzaɪ/ energize verb to make someone more energetic. Synonym invigorate

energy /ˈenədʒi/ noun 1. the force or strength of a person. He used up a lot of energy rushing around doing the Christmas shopping. She put all her energies into her art gallery. (NOTE: The plural is energies.) 2. a power which makes something work. The use of atomic energy to make electricity. We try to save energy by switching off the lights when the rooms are empty. Trams are an energy-efficient method of public transport. (NOTE: no plural)
engine

engine /en'gi:n/ noun
1. a part of a ship where the engines are engineered the dismissal of one of her colleagues. Synonym bring about
2. a person whose profession is designing mechanical, electrical or industrial equipment 3. US a person who drives an engine that pulls a train (NOTE: The US term is engine driver.) 4. (in the army) a soldier who specialises in construction of things such as bridges or defences  verb to arrange something secretly  She engineered the dismissal of one of her colleagues. Synonym bring about

engine driver /en'gi:n'draivə/ noun a person who drives an engine that pulls a train (NOTE: The US term is engineer.)

engineer /en'gi:nə/ noun 1. a person who looks after technical equipment, especially engines  There are not enough tele-

energy-saving 274

energy-saving /en'dʒəri 'sevəriŋ/ adj

enfold /'enfould/ verb to wrap something up in something. Synonym envelop

enforce /'enfɔrs/ verb to make sure a rule is obeyed

enforceable /'enfɔsəb(l)ə/ adj which can be enforced

enforcement /'enfɔrsment/ noun the act of enforcing. Synonym implementation

enfranchise /'enfrəʤənt/ verb to give someone the right to vote in elections

enlist /'enlist/ verb 1. to employ a worker (formal)  We have engaged a lawyer to represent us.  The company has engaged twenty new salesmen. 2. to make parts of a machine fit into each other  The gears aren't properly engaged. 3. to engage a low gear to put your car into a low gear 4. to be engaged in to be busy with  The whole family was engaged in cleaning the car.  The general is engaged in high-level talks.

engage /'enɡidʒ/ verb 1. having officially stated your intention to marry  She was engaged to Tom and then broke it off.  John and Sue are engaged: they got engaged last week. 2. busy or occupied  You can't speak to the engineer – his line is engaged.

engagement /'enɡidʒmənt/ noun 1. a statement that you intend to get married  My son has announced his engagement to Pam.  Their engagement was announced in the local paper. 2. an appointment  I have no engagements for the rest of the day.  She noted the appointment in her engagements diary. 3. to have a prior engagement to already have an appointment  I can't meet you tonight – I have a prior engagement. 3. an agreement to do something  to break an engagement to do something not to do what you have legally agreed to do

engagement ring /'enɡidʒmənt riŋ/ noun a ring given by a man to a woman at their engagement

engaging /'enɡidʒɪŋ/ adj charming

engender /'enɡidʒər/ verb to produce something such as a feeling (formal)

engine /'enɡi:n/ noun 1. a machine which powers or drives something  The lift engine has broken down again – we shall just have to walk up to the 4th floor.  Early industrial equipment was powered by steam engines. 2. a vehicle which pulls a train  The engine broke down and the train was stuck in the tunnel.

engineer /'enɡi:nər/ noun 1. a person who drives an engine that pulls a train (NOTE: The US term is engine driver.) 2. a person whose profession is designing mechanical, electrical or industrial equipment 3. US a person who drives an engine that pulls a train (NOTE: The US term is engineer.)
something that you will never forget

enlighten /in/'lertn/ verb 1. to enlighten someone on or about something: to make someone understand something. 
2. to enlighten someone please enlighten me about or on what is happening.

enliven /in/'livn/ verb to make someone or something more lively. Synonym lively

enlargement /in/'lrgmt/ noun 1. the process of making something bigger 2. a bigger photograph than the original

engraving /in/'greivn/ noun a picture made by printing from a plate that has been engraved

enlivened /in/'lrvntd/ adj very interesting

enlarge /in/'lafr/ verb 1. to make something bigger 2. We could enlarge the vegetable plot and grow more potatoes.
3. to enlarge on or upon something: to give details of something. 
Even though we asked him twice, he refused to enlarge upon his meeting with the principal.

enlarge /in/'lrg/ verb 1. to make something bigger 2. We could enlarge the vegetable plot and grow more potatoes.
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3. to enlarge on or upon something: to give details of something.
entangle /ɪnˈtændʒ/ verb 1. to catch or tie up in or He her dress became entangled in the seaweed. 2. to put in a difficult situation from which it is difficult to escape. 2. He became emotionally entangled with a colleague.

enrich /ɪnˈrɪtʃ/ adj made richer.

enrichment /ɪnˈrɪtʃmənt/ noun making richer. Synonym enhancement.

enrol /ɪnˈroʊl/ verb to admit or be admitted as a new student (NOTE: enrolling – enrolled. The US spelling is enrol.)

enrolment /ɪnˈroʊlmənt/ noun 1. the action of admitting new members or new students ○ Enrolment starts next Saturday. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning. The US spelling is enrollment.) 2. the number of students who have enrolled ○ Student enrolments have increased enormously over the past three years. (NOTE: The US spelling is enrollment.)

en route /ən ˈrjuːt/ noun on the way ○ The tanker sank when she was en route to the Gulf.

ensemble /ənˈsɜmbəl/ noun 1. a small group of musicians or singers ○ a jazz ensemble ○ An ensemble played music by Mozart. 2. a set of women’s clothes which match ○ She lost the hat that went with her ensemble and couldn’t find another one to match. 3. a group of things which go together to form a whole ○ The whole ensemble of church, cottages and pub looks just like a postcard.

enshrine /ɪnˈʃraine/ verb to make something a legal right that cannot be taken away. Synonym protect.

ensign /ɪnˈsɪgn/ noun a national flag used by a ship.

enslave /ɪnˈsləiv/ verb 1. make someone into a slave 2. to control someone, taking away their freedom.

ensue /ɪnˈsjjuː/ verb to follow, or happen after something ○ to ensure from to happen as a result of ○ Several important developments will ensue from the committee’s decision.

ensuing /ɪnˈsjʊəŋ/ adj which follows. Synonym consequent. Antonym preceding.

en-suite /,ɛnˈswiːt/ adj, adv attached ○ a bedroom with an en-suite shower room. ○ ensure /ɪnˈʃuər/ verb to make sure of something ○ When taking a shower, please ensure that the shower curtain is inside the bath. (NOTE: Do not confuse with insure.)

entail /ɪnˈteɪl/ verb to involve having or doing something (formal).

entertain /ɪnˈtenər/ verb 1. to amuse ○ He entertained us with stories of his life in the army. ○ We hired a clown to entertain the children. ○ The tourists were entertained by the local dance troupe. 2. to offer meals, accommodation and visits to someone ○ They’re entertaining some Swedish friends this evening. 3. to be ready to consider a proposal (formal) ○ They said they would entertain any suggestions we might like to make.

entertainer /ɪnˈterteɪnər/ noun a person who entertains people. Synonym performer.

entrepreneur /,ɛntərˈprɛənər/ noun 1. a public amusement ○ She sang for their entertainment. ○ There’s not much entertainment in the village – the nearest cinema is 25km away. 2. offering someone accommodation, meals and visits ○ The entertainment of the visiting managing director and his wife cost us a fortune.

enthrall /ɪnˈθrəl/ verb to keep someone’s attention (NOTE: enthralling – entralled. The US spelling is enthrall.)

enthralling /ɪnˈθrəlɪŋ/ adj extremely interesting. Synonym fascinating. Antonym boring.
enthuse 277

enthusiasm /ˌentəˈzɪzəm/ noun great interest and liking

entourage /əˈtrɔːrɪ/ noun a group of people such as secretaries, assistants and advisers surrounding an important person

entread /ɪnˈtret/ verb to ask again

entreaty /ɪnˈtretɪ/ noun a plea

entree /ˈentrɪ/ noun 1. the main dish in a meal 2. You have the choice of three starters and four entrées.

entrench /ɪnˈtrentʃ/ verb firmly established

trench /trentʃ/ noun a right to dig trenches as a protection

entrusted /ˈentrəstɪd/ adj firmly established

trust /trʌst/ verb (informal) or to entrust something to someone

entreat /ɪnˈtrɪt/ verb to ask again

entreaty /ɪnˈtrɪtɪ/ noun a plea

entrelac /ɛnˈtrɛlæs/ noun 1. a garter or stocking which has a pattern 2. a feeling of being entangled or involved

entrap /ɪnˈtræp/ verb to capture or to confuse

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entry visa /ˈentri ˌvɪzə/ noun a pass allowing someone to enter a country
entwine /ɪnˈtwaɪn/ verb to twist two things together
E number /ˈɛ/ noun a classification number for food additives, used in the European Union
enumerate /ɪnˈjʊmərət/ verb to make a list of things one after another (formal)
enunciate /ɪnˈnʌnsɪt/ verb to pronounce words clearly
enunciation /ɪnˌnʌnsɪˈʃɪn/ noun clear pronunciation
envelop /ɪnˈvɛlp/ verb to cover something; to surround something with a covering. Synonym enfold
envelope /ɪnˈvɛloʊp/ noun a folded paper cover for sending letters. She wrote the address on the envelope and sealed it. The shopkeeper wrote down all the information on the back of an envelope. A stamped addressed envelope (s.a.e.) an envelope with your own address written on it and a stamp stuck on it to pay for return postage. Please send a stamped addressed envelope for further details and our latest catalogue.
enviable /ɪnˈviəbəl/ adj which one can envy. Synonym desirable
envious /ˈɛnviəs/ adj feeling or showing envy. Synonym jealous
environment /ɪnˈvɜːrənmənt/ noun 1. the surroundings in which we live. The environment in the office is not good for concentrated work. The working environment the general surroundings in which a person works. 2. the earth, its natural features and resources, seen as the place where humans exist. They are trying to protect the environment. Environment protection the act of protecting the environment against pollution. Environmental /ɪnˌvɜːrərəˈmənt(ə)l/ adj referring to the environment. Measures taken to protect against environmental pollution. She’s joined an environmental group. Synonym ecological Environmental Health Officer (EHO) an official of a local authority who examines the environment and tests for things such as air pollution
environmentalist /ɪnˌvɜːrərənˈmɛntlɪst/ noun a person who is concerned with protecting the environment. Synonym ecologist
environmentally friendly /ɪnˌvɜːrərənlˈfrendɪl/ adj minimising harm to the natural environment
environ /ɪnˈvɜːrən/ plural noun the area around a place. Synonym vicinity
envision /ɪnˈvɜːʃn/ verb to imagine something in your mind which could possibly happen in the future
envision /ɪnˈvɜːʃn/ verb US same as envisage
envoy /ɪnˈvoʊ/ noun a person sent officially by one country to another
envy /ˈɛnvɪ/ noun a feeling that you would like to have something which someone else has. Her beautiful long blonde hair filled us all with envy. Synonym jealousy
epileptic /ˌɛpɪˈleptɪk/ adj referring to epilepsy. He had an epileptic fit. A noun a person who has epilepsy. Many people avoid using this word, as it causes offence, and prefer to say a person with epilepsy
epilogue /ɪˈpɪloʊɡ/ noun a short text at the end of a long book or play. Compare prologue (NOTE: The US spelling is epilog.)
episode /ˈɛpɪsəʊd/ noun 1. a short section of a longer story, especially one part of a TV series. Do you remember the episode where the ghost appears? 2. The hero’s father returns in the third episode.
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equated /ˈɛkwət/ adj which is described in episodes
epistle /ˈɛpɪstl/ noun a long letter
epitaph /ˈɛpɪtɑf/ noun words written on a gravestone. Synonym inscription
epithet /ˈɛpɪθet/ noun a phrase used to describe a person, such as ‘Ivan the Terrible’.
epitome /ɪˈpɪtəmi/ noun a person who shows a particular quality very strongly. Antonym antithesis
epitomise /ɪˈpɪtəməz/ verb to show a quality very strongly. Synonym typify
epoch /ˈɛpəʊk/ noun a major period of time. Synonym era
epoch-making /ˈɛpəʊkmɪk/ adj very important from a historical point of view. Synonym historic. Antonym insignificant
eponymous /ɪˈpənəməs/ adj who has given his or her name to something
epoxy resin /ɪˈpəksɪˌrɛzn/ noun a strong synthetic substance, used especially to make glue
equable /ˈɛkwəb(ə)r/ adj calm, not easily worried. Synonym composed. Antonym jumpy
  1. equal /ˈɛkwəl/ adj with exactly the same amount as. Male and female employees must have equal pay.
  2. all things being equal assuming nothing else has changed. All things being equal, I’d prefer to go on holiday in June.
  3. equal to the task able to carry out the task. He was put in charge of the prison, but was quickly found not to be equal to the task.
  4. equal sign a mathematical or chemical formula showing that one thing is the same as another
  5. equal opportunities /ˈɛkwəl əˈpətʊrɨtɪz/ plural noun equal chances to be employed, regardless of age, race, sex, etc.
equal opportunity /ˈɛkwəl əˈpətʊrɪtɪz/ noun a situation where everyone, regardless of sex, race, class, etc., has the same opportunity to get a job
equals sign /ˈɛkwəlz  sain/ noun a printed or written sign (=) showing that one thing is the same as another
equanimity /ˈekwəˌnɪti/ noun being calm, not getting flustered. Synonym composure (NOTE: no plural)
equate /ˈɛkwət/ verb □ to equate one thing with another to see two things as equal or the same. In his mind, he equates a high salary with a stressful life.
  1. equation /ɪˈkwɛʒən/ noun 1. a mathematical or chemical formula showing that two parts are equal. Let me show you how this equation can be solved.
  2. equal opportunities
  3. equal opportunity
  4. equal chances to be employed, regardless of age, race, sex, etc.
equidistant /ˈɛkwɪdɪstənt/ adjective referring to the equator
episodic /ˈɛpɪsədɪk/ adj which describes an event in more than one place or time.
  1. equally /ˈɛkwəlɪ/ adv in exactly the same way. They are all equally guilty.
  2. equally opportunities
  3. equal opportunity
  4. equal chances to be employed, regardless of age, race, sex, etc.
episodic
  1. equilibrum /ɪˌkwɪlɪˈbrɪəm/ noun 1. the state of being perfectly balanced. The electromagnetic forces are in a state of equilibrium.
  2. equine /ˈɛkwiən/ adj referring to horses
episodic
March 21st and September 22nd (NOTE: The plural is equinoxes.)
equip /ɪ'kwɪp/ verb 1 to equip someone or something with something to provide someone or something with something ○ a holiday flat equipped with a washing machine and dishwasher ○ The course will equip you with all the skills you need to practise scuba-diving.

equity /ɪ'kwɪtɪ/ noun all the things such as tools, arms and machinery which are needed ○ He brought all his camera equipment with him. ○ Do you really need all this fire-fighting equipment on a ship? (NOTE: no plural: for one item say a piece of equipment)
equilable /ɛkwɪtləbl/ adj fair or just (formal). Antonym unfair
equally /ɛkwɪlɪ/ adv in an equitable way
equities /ɛkwɪtiz/ plural noun ordinary shares
equity /ɛkwɪtɪ/ noun a fair system of justice ○ She complained about the lack of equity in the company’s pay structure. ○ in equity being fair

equivalent /ɪ'kwɪvələnt/ noun a thing which has the same value, strength or importance as something else ○ What is the American equivalent of the Chancellor of the Exchequer? ○ I gave him $2000 and he paid me the equivalent in francs. ○ a property with the same value or the same strength as something else ○ Two pints and a litre are roughly equivalent. ○ She handed me the equivalent amount in Swiss francs. Synonym equal. Antonym different ○ to be equivalent to to have the same value as, or to be the same as ○ A litre is roughly equivalent to two pints.
equivocal /ɪ'kwɪvəkəl/ adj ambiguous; which misleads on purpose. Synonym vague. Antonym unambiguous
er /ər/ interj showing that you are hesitating
era /rərə/ noun a long period of history
eradicate /'rædɪkat/ verb to wipe out or to remove completely. Synonym eliminate
eradication /'rædɪkeɪʃən/ noun the complete removal of something. Synonym abolition (NOTE: no plural)
erase /ɪ'rez/ verb to rub out writing to remove recorded material from a tape, or data from a disk ○ I’ve erased your recording of the concert by mistake.
eraser /ɪ'rezər/ noun US a piece of rubber for removing writing in pencil (NOTE: The British term is rubber.)
erection /ɪ'rɛkʃən/ noun 1. the act of putting up (formal) ○ The erection of the tent took about 5 minutes. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 2. a state where the penis becomes stiff and swollen from sexual excitement
ergonomics /ɪ'gərnəməz/ noun 1. the study of how tools or furniture can be best designed to make them easy and comfortable to use
erode /ɪ'roʊd/ verb to wear away gradually. Synonym wear away
erection /ɪ'rɛkʃən/ noun the act of wearing away (NOTE: no plural)
erotic /ɪ'rotɪk/ adj strongly sexual. Synonym sexy
er /ər/ verb to make a mistake; to be at fault (formal) Synonym go wrong ○ to err on the side of something to use more of something than is necessary, as a precaution ○ she erred on the side of caution she was more cautious than she needed to be
erand /'rænd/ noun a short trip out to buy something. Synonym task ○ to run errands for someone to do things such as shopping or taking messages for someone ○ The old lady asked him to run an errand for her.
eratic /ɪ'rætɪk/ adj irregular or wild. Synonym unpredictable. Antonym consistent
eratically /ɪ'rætɪklɪ/ adv in a wild manner
erratum /'ɛrətəm/ noun a mistake in a printed book (NOTE: The plural is errata.)
erroso /ɪ'rəsə/ err /ər/ noun a mistake ○ She made an error in calculating the total. ○ The parcel was sent to our Edinburgh office in error.
erstwhile /'ɜːstwɜːl/ adj former (formal)
erudite /'rʊdɪt/ adj well educated and very knowledgeable (formal)
erudity /'rʊdɪtɪ/ noun great learning. Antonym ignorance
erupt /'ɪrʌpt/ verb 1. (of a volcano) to throw out lava and ash ○ The volcano last erupted in 1968. 2. to start to become violent suddenly ○ A row erupted over the closure of the station walkway. 3. (of a person) to become angry suddenly ○ He listened to the discussion for a while and then erupted angrily.
eruption /ɪrʊpʃən/ noun 1. the throwing out of lava and ash by a volcano ○ Several villages were destroyed in the volcanic eru-
Greenland
tive people living in the north of Canada and
we were almost killed
narrow escape
jail last year.
whales and polar bears.
/L50237
by our local MP.
/L50263
eruption of pimples on his neck
escalated during the year.
escalation /es'keɪləʃən/ noun an in-
case. Synonym reduction
escalator /es'keɪlətər/ noun a moving
tloadcase
capade /es'keɪpəd/ noun an exciting
venture
escape /i'skeɪp/ noun the action of get-
ting away from prison or from a difficult situa-
tion. There were three escapes from this jail last year. 1. A weekend by the sea was a wonderful escape from the office. 2. we had a narrow escape we were almost killed 3. to get away from prison or from a difficult situation 4. He escaped from the prison by sawing through the bars. 5. A panther has escaped from the zoo and is roaming the countryside. 2. to get out of a container 3. the hiss of escaping gas 3. to be difficult to think of or remember 4. the name of the restaurant escapes me I can’t remember the name of the restaurant
ESCAPE key /i'skeɪp/ noun the key which stops what is happening on a computer and returns to the main program. Abbr ESC
escapism /i'skeɪpɪzəm/ noun thinking about something marvellous or fantastic in order to forget about your ordinary daily existence
escapist /i'skeɪpɪst/ adj, noun a person who thinks about something marvellous or fantastic in order to forget about his or her daily existence
escapement /i'skeɪpmənt/ noun a steep slope. Synonym cliff
eschew /i'stʃu/ verb to avoid something
escort noun /i'skəzət/ 1. a person or group of people accompanying someone 2. The president had a police escort to the airport. 2. a person who accompanies someone else to a social event 3. She wore red silk and her escort wore a kit. 4. to accompany someone 5. The police escorted the group into the hotel. 6. I was escorted around by our local MP. 7. The liner entered harbour escorted by a flotilla of yachts.
Eskimo /es'kməʊ/ adj referring to the na-
tive people living in the north of Canada and Greenland 1. He collects Eskimo carvings of whales and polar bears. 2. noun one of a na-
tive people living in the north of Canada and Greenland 3. Eskimos hunt seals and polar bears. (NOTE: The plural is Eskimo or Eski-
tionship with our colleagues. 2. to show something to be true ɔ If only the police could establish where the car was parked that evening. ɔ It’s difficult to establish what her reasons are for resigning.
established /ɪstəbiʃld/ adj which has been shown to be true. Synonym recognised

establishment /ɪstəbiʃmənt/ noun
1. the creation of something ɔ She helped them with the establishment of the local drama society. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 2. a business; an organisation ɔ It’s an establishment which imports radios from China. ɔ He runs an important teaching establishment. 3. the number of people working in a company ɔ to be on the establishment to be a full-time employee

established /ɪstəbiʃld/ adj

estate /ɪstɛt/ noun
1. a large area of land belonging to one owner ɔ He owns a 250-acre estate in Norfolk. 2. property owned by a person at the time of his or her death ɔ The solicitor announced the value of grandfather’s estate. ɔ estate duty tax on property left by a dead person.
estate agency /ɪstɛt ədʒənsi/ noun an office which arranges for the sale of buildings and land

estate car /ɪstɛt ək/ noun a large car with a flat space behind the seats where parcels or suitcases can be stored (NOTE: The US term is station wagon.)
estate duty /ɪstɛt ədʒəti/ noun tax paid on the property left by a dead person (NOTE: The US term is death duty.)
esteam /ɪstiəm/ noun respect ɔ The staff seem to have very little esteem for the directors. Antonym contempt ɔ to hold someone in (high) esteem to respect someone ɔ She is someone whose work we hold in the highest esteem. ɔ verb to admire someone

estimate noun /ɪstɪmeɪt/ 1. a calculation which shows the approximate amount of something, or its worth or cost ɔ I estimate that it will cost £100,000. ɔ He estimated costs at £50,000. 2. to calculate a price before supplying an item or doing a job ɔ to estimate for a job to state in writing the probable costs of carrying out a job

etimation /ɪstɪmeɪʃn/ noun an opinion or judgement (formal) estranged /ɪstremdʒd/ adj no longer living with a husband or wife

estuary /ɪˈstjuəri/ noun a part of a river where it meets the sea, composed of fresh and salt water (NOTE: The plural is estuaries.)
et al. /et əl/ and the others
etch /ɛtʃ/ verb to engrave on metal with acid ɔ the scene at the accident is etched in my mind ɔ I can remember the scene at the accident very clearly
ethics /ɛθɪks/ plural noun 1. the art of engraving on metal with acid ɔ He started with oil colours and has now taken up etching. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 2. a picture made by printing from metal engraved with acid ɔ He has several etchings by Whistler.

ethereal /iˈθɛriəl/ adj very light and un-real (formal)

Ethernet /ˈɛθəbni/ trademark a system for exchanging messages between computers on a local area network

ethic /ˈɛθɪk/ noun a principle of good and moral behaviour ɔ the Christian ethic
ethically /ˈɛθɪkli/ adv morally right

ethnically /ˈɛθnɪkli/ adv referring to ethics

ethnic /ˈɛθnɪk/ noun
plural noun
1. a part of the population which is of different racial origin to the majority

ethos /ˈɛθɔs/ noun beliefs or characteristics, especially those of a group of people
etiquette 283 evisably

etiquette /'etiket/ noun a correct way of behaving in society. Synonym manners  three professional etiquette the rules of behaviour in a profession  passing the details of the client’s will to his brother was a breach of professional etiquette.
etymological /ˌetəməlˈɪdʒɪkl/ adj referring to etymology

etymology /ˌetɪˈmɒlədʒɪ/ noun the study of the ways in which words and their meanings have developed (NOTE: The plural is etymologies.)

3: EU abbr European Union (NOTE: formerly called the Community)  eucalyptus /juˈkælɪp,təs/ noun an Australian hardwood tree with strong-smelling resin

eucharist /juˈkærɪst/ noun a Christian ceremony of taking bread and wine, in memory of Christ’s last supper
eulogy /juˈlɒdʒi/ noun a speech, especially one given at a funeral praising someone. Synonym tribute  (NOTE: The plural is eulogies.)
euphemism /juˈfɪzɪzm/ noun a word or phrase used in place of a more offensive or unpleasant word

euphemistically /ˌjuːfɪˈmɪstɪkli/ adv used as a euphemism

euphoria /juˈfɪəriə/ noun a burst of extreme happiness. Synonym elation. Antonym despair (NOTE: no plural)
euphoric /juːˈfɔːrɪk/ adj very happy. Synonym overjoyed. Antonym despairing

1: euro /jəˈruːoʊ/ noun a monetary unit of the European Union  Many articles are priced in euros.  2: What’s the exchange rate for the euro? (NOTE: written € before numbers: €250: say: ‘two hundred and fifty euros’)

Euro- /jəˈruːoʊ/ prefix referring to Europe or the European Union

1: Europe /jʊərəp/ proper noun 1. the continent of Europe, the part of the world to the west of Asia, from Russia to Ireland  2: Most of the countries of Western Europe are members of the EU.  3: Poland is in eastern Europe, and Greece, Spain and Portugal are in southern Europe.  4. the same area, but not including the UK  5: Holidays in Europe are popular for the winter sun.  6: Most of the countries of Western Europe are members of the EU.

2: European /juˈrɪskən/ adj referring to Europe

3: European Union /juˈrɪspjuːn/ noun an organisation which links several European countries together based on the four freedoms of movement: movement of goods, of capital, of people and of services through the four freedoms of movement: movement of goods, of capital, of people and of services

the European Union

euthanasia /juˈθənæziə/ noun mercy killing, the killing of a sick person in order to put an end to his or her suffering (NOTE: no plural)

evacuate /ɪˈvɛkjuːt/ verb to make people leave a dangerous place

evacuation /ɪˈvɛkjuːʃən/ noun the removal of people from a dangerous place. Antonym influx

evacuee /ɪˈvɛkjuːi/ noun a person who has been evacuated. Synonym refugee

evade /vɛd/ verb to avoid or escape something  to evade tax to try illegally to avoid paying tax

evaluate /vəˈleɪt/ verb to calculate the value of something

evaluation /vəˈleɪʃən/ noun the act of calculating a value (NOTE: no plural)

evangelical /ˌɪvəndʒəˈlɪkl/ adj referring to certain Protestant churches and their teaching of the Bible

evangelism /vəˈvæŋɡəliзəm/ noun 1. the act of spreading the teachings of Christ  2. the enthusiastic promotion of something

evangelist /vəˈvæŋɡəlist/ noun 1. one of the four men who wrote the Christian Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke or John  2. someone who tries to persuade people to become Christians  3. The American evangelist is coming to England as part of his world tour.

evaporate /vəˈpəreɪt/ verb 1. (of liquid) to be converted into vapour by heat  2. Water gradually evaporates from the soil  3. to disappear  4. As soon as he saw the light at the end of the tunnel, all his fears evaporated

evaporated milk /vəˈpəpərətɪd/ noun milk reduced by evaporation

evaporation /vəˈpəpərəʃən/ noun the process of liquid turning into vapour. Synonym vapourisation (NOTE: no plural)

evasion /əˈveɪʒən/ noun the act of avoiding something  1. he was accused of tax evasion he was accused of illegally trying not to pay tax

evasive /əˈvɛrsɪv/ adj which tries to avoid something  to give evasive answers to try to avoid answering questions directly. Antonym direct

evasively /əˈvɛrsɪvli/ adv in a way that tries to avoid a direct answer
even number /ɪˈvɪrnʌmbə/ noun a number which can be divided by 2

even /ˈɛvən/ adj in an equal way  

evening /ˈɛvnɪŋ/ noun the late part of the day, when it is getting dark  

even-handed /ˈɛvnətɛd/ adj without any bias

even out /ˈɛvnəut/ verb to make something even or regular

even-tempered /ˈɛvənˈtɛmpərd/ adj calm; never becoming angry. Synonym calm

event /ˈɛvənt/ noun 1. a thing which happens  

eventful /ˈɛvəntʃəl/ adj with a lot of events taking place

even so they decided to go ahead with the village fête.

eventful /ˈɛvəntʃəl/ adj with a lot of events taking place

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eventful /ˈɛvəntʃəl/ adj with a lot of events taking place

even so they decided to go ahead with the village fête.

eventual /ˈɛvəntjuəl/ adj in the end. Synonym ultimate

eventually /ˈɛvəntʃuəli/ adv a thing which might happen (informal). Synonym possibility

every /ˈɛvər/ adv 1. at any time  

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He hoped to get a reduced sentence by turning Queen's evidence. 2. in evidence very visible 3. Queen's evidence. You evidently care more about the football team than me. 2. presumably 3. His mobile phone is switched off. 4. very wicked 5. She's considered to be an evil woman. 2. His evil intentions were evident as soon as he locked the door. 3. great wickedness 4. The struggle between the government and the rebels was seen as a fight between good and evil. 2. a bad thing 3. We are committed to fighting social evils such as juvenile delinquency. 4. lesser evil spirit 5. 'spirit/ noun a wicked devil which harms people evocative 6. /vəkətiv/ adj which calls up a sensation in the mind. Synonym reminiscent evoke 7. /vəuk/ verb to try to see something in your memory (formal) evolution /ˌiːvəˈljuːʃən/ noun a gradual development. Antonym regression evolutionary /ˌiːvəˈljuːʃənər/ adj referring to evolution evolve 8. /ˈiːvəlv/ verb 1. to work out gradually a scientific theory or a way of working 2. The research team has evolved its own methods of testing. 2. to develop gradually 3. Modern dance evolved from classical ballet. 4. Birds originally evolved from reptiles. ewe /iː/ noun a female sheep (NOTE: Do not confuse with yew, you. The male sheep is a ram.) ex 9. /eks/ noun a former boyfriend or girlfriend, or husband or wife (informal) She won't talk to her ex about money. 2. How do you get on with your ex? ex-/eks/ prefix former, who used to be 10. an ex-police officer 11. Tom's my ex-boyfriend. exacerbate /ˈekzəbət/ verb to make something worse or more painful. Antonym soothe exacerbation /ˌekzəˈbreɪʃən/ noun the act of making something worse 12. exact /əkst/ adj completely accurate 13. What is the exact time of arrival? 2. Could you repeat the exact words she used? 3. The salesgirl asked me if I had the exact sum, since she had no change. 4. verb 5. to exact something from someone to force someone to give you something (formal) 6. They stopped all the cars on the road and exacted payment from the drivers.
thing is examined

examiner

exacting /ɪɡˈzæktɪŋ/ adj which demands a lot of effort. Synonym demanding. Antonym easy

1. exactly /ɪɡˈzæktli/ adv 1. not more, not less; not differing at all. 2. That comes to exactly ten dollars and fifty cents. 3. The time is exactly 16:24. 2. completely. He looks exactly like his father. 3. quite right; I agree (used as an answer). 4. It's a pity the buses don't run more frequently. – Exactly!

exaggerate /ɪɡˈzædʒəreɪt/ verb to make things seem worse, better, bigger, etc. than they really are. The wide black belt exaggerates her small waist. She exaggerated the importance of my contribution. Antonym underestimate

exaggerated /ɪɡˈzædʒəreɪtɪd/ adj bigger or more important than normal. Antonym understated

exaggeration /ɪɡˈzædʒəreɪʃən/ noun 1. a statement making things seem larger, worse, better, etc. than they really are. Antonym understatement 2. without exaggeration quite truthfully. It was, without any exaggeration, the most perfect summer's day.

exalted /ɪɡˈzæltɪd/ adj 1. in a high position in authority. She passed all her exams. 2. very happy in your mind. She came away from the religious meeting in an exalted frame of mind.

exam /ɪɡˈzæm/ noun same as examination

examination /ɪɡˌzæmɪˈneɪʃən/ noun 1. the act of looking at something to see if it works properly. 2. the act of looking at something to see if it works properly, etc. "The doctor examined her throat. "We will have to examine the shop's scales to see if they show the correct weight."

examine /ɪɡˈzæmín/ verb 1. to inspect something to see if it is correct or healthy, that it works properly, etc. "The doctor examined her throat. "We will have to examine the shop's scales to see if they show the correct weight."

exemplar /ɪɡˈzæmplər/ noun 1. something chosen to show something. 2. An example of what is taken to be a good example of French architecture of the eleventh century. 3. to set an example to do things yourself, so that other people can copy you. "He sets everyone a good example by getting into the office before 8.00 every morning."

exemplify /ɪɡˈzæmplaɪ/ verb to make someone an example of something, to make someone a good example. 2. for example. "to make an example of someone when they do something wrong."

exemplary /ɪɡˈzæmplərɪ/ adj 1. or. He did badly in his English exam. 2. She passed all her exams. 3. He had to have an X-ray examination.

excavate /ɪksˈkeɪvət/ verb 1. to dig a hole in the ground. 2. to carry out an archaeological investigation of a place. "Howard Carter excavated the tomb of Tutankhamun."

excavation /ɪksˈkeɪvəʃən/ noun 1. the process of digging a hole in the ground. 2. an investigation made by archaeologists (NOTE: often simply called a dig)

excavator /ɪksˈkeɪvətə/ noun a machine for making holes in the ground

1. exceed /ɪkˈsید/ verb 1. to go beyond something. "The car was exceeding the speed limit."

exceedingly /ɪkˈsیدɪŋli/ adv very (for example). Antonym slightly

excel /ɪkˈsɛl/ verb 1. to be very good at something. 2. She excelled in mathematics. (NOTE: excelling — excelled)

excellence /ɪkˈsɛlsəns/ noun very good quality

excellency /ɪkˈsɛlənsi/ noun used as a form of address to an ambassador (NOTE: The plural excellencies is used to refer to several ambassadors, or to an ambassador and his wife. Their Excellencies, Count and Countess Bismarck.)

excellent /ɪkˈsɛlənt/ adj very good. "We had an excellent meal in a Chinese res-
except /ɪkˈsɛpt/ prep other than ○ She’s allowed to eat anything except milk products.
○ Everyone was sick on the boat, except (for) me. ○ VAT is levied on all goods except books, newspapers, and children’s clothes. (NOTE: Do not confuse with accept.)
○ to take exception to something to be annoyed by something ○ He took exception to what she said.
exceptional /ɪkˈsɛpʃən(ə)l/ adj. 1. outstanding; very good ○ She’s an exceptional athlete. ○ His debating skills are really exceptional. 2. being an exception ○ In exceptional cases, the fee may be waived.
exceptionally /ɪkˈsɛpʃən(ə)li/ adv extremely. Synonym very. Antonym slightly.

exchange /ɪkˈsɛntʃər/ noun the act of giving one thing for another ○ The exchange of rings during the wedding ceremony. verb
1. to give something and get something back ○ During the meeting we exchanged ideas on new developments in international law. ○ they exchanged addresses they each gave the other their address. 2. to exchange something for something else to give one thing and get something else in return ○ If the trousers are too small you can take them back and exchange them for a larger pair. ○ Goods can be exchanged only on production of the sales slip. 3. to change money of one country for money of another ○ to exchange euros for pounds
○ exchange rate /ɪkˈsɛntʃər reɪt/ noun the rate at which the money of one country can be changed for another
○ The surgeon decided to excise the growth.
excise /ɪkˈsaɪz/ verb to cut something out ○ The surgeon decided to excise the growth.
excise duty /ɪkˈsaɪzd ˈdjuːtɪ/ noun a tax on certain goods such as cigarettes or alcohol, produced in a particular country
excitable /ɪkˈsaɪtəb(ə)l/ adj. easily excited ○ to make someone lively and happy ○ His speech excited the crowd. 2. to cause a particular feeling ○ The thought of going to work in Kuala Lumpur excited her imagination. ○ The case has excited a lot of interest in the press.
excitement /ɪkˈsaɪtəmənt/ noun a particular feeling ○ What’s everyone so excited about? ○ He drinks to excess.
excitement /ɪkˈsaɪtəmənt/ noun the feeling of being excited ○ What’s all the excitement about? ○ The children are always in a state of excitement before the holidays.
excitement /ɪkˈsaɪtəmənt/ noun a particular feeling ○ I couldn’t sleep after watching an exciting film on TV. ○ The news about the house is really exciting.

extra /ɪkˈstər/ adjective ○ The children are excited by someone out ○ to say something loudly and suddenly. Antonym whisper.
extravagant /ɪkˈstrævəgɑːnt/ adjective ○ She was hurt at her exclusion from the guest list.
extravagant /ɪkˈstrævəɡænt/ adjective ○ He had an excess of alcohol in his bloodstream. ○ He drinks to excess. ○ He drinks to excess. ○ The factory has excess capacity and may sell off some of its machines.
extravagant /ɪkˈstrævəɡænt/ adjective ○ He had an excess of alcohol in his bloodstream. ○ He drinks to excess.
extravagant /ɪkˈstrævəɡænt/ adjective ○ He had an excess of alcohol in his bloodstream.

exclusion /ɪkˈskluːʒən/ noun the act of shutting someone or something out ○ The act of shutting someone or something out ○ She was hurt at her exclusion from the guest list.
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exclusive 288

liar, 2, the act of being sent away from school ○ The school only considers exclusion as a last resort. ■ exclude

exclusive /ɪkˈskluːzɪv/ adj 1. not open to everyone ○ an exclusive Caribbean holiday resort ○ The new health club is very exclusive. 2. ■ exclusive of not including ○ The bill was exclusive of service. ■ exclusive of tax not including tax

excommunicate /ɪksˈkɒmjuːnɪkeɪt/ verb to refuse communion to a member of a church

excommunication /ɪksˌkɒmjuːnɛkeɪʃn/ noun the act of excommunicating someone

excrement /ɪksˈkrɛmənt/ noun solid waste matter produced by the body (technical) ○ urine; waste matter produced by the body (formal)

execute /ɪksˈkjuːt/ verb 1. to kill someone who has been condemned to death ○ Murderers are no longer executed in this country. 2. to do something (formal) ○ As part of the test, drivers are asked to execute an emergency stop. 3. to carry out instructions or wishes ○ Press ENTER to execute the program. ○ They did their best to execute his wishes.

execution /ɪkˈskjuːʃn/ noun 1. the legal killing of person sentenced to death ○ In the 19th century there were still public executions. 2. the carrying out of an order ○ The execution of the order was more complicated than we imagined. ■ to put a plan into execution to carry out a plan ○ The new government wants its financial strategy to be put into execution as soon as possible.

executioner /ɪksˈkjuːʃnər/ noun a public official who executes people

exempt /ɪkˈzempt/ adj not forced to obey certain laws or rules ○ exempt from tax ○ exempt from VAT ○ exempt from paying tax, or not requiring tax to be paid ○ Children’s clothes are exempt from VAT. ○ exempt someone from something ○ exempt someone from doing something to say that someone does not have to do something ○ Pensioners are exempted from paying for medical prescriptions.

exemption /ɪkˈzempʃn/ noun the act of exempting someone from something. Synonym demonstrate

exempt /ɪkˈzempt/ adj not forced to obey certain laws or rules ○ exempt from tax ○ exempt from VAT ○ exempt from paying tax, or not requiring tax to be paid ○ Children’s clothes are exempt from VAT. ○ exempt someone from something ○ exempt someone from doing something to say that someone does not have to do something ○ Pensioners are exempted from paying for medical prescriptions.

exercise /ɪksˈsɜːz/ noun practice in using physical or mental powers ○ She does her piano exercises every morning. ○ to take exercise to do physical things, like walking or jogging, to keep fit ○ You should take some exercise every day if you want to lose weight. ○ exercise 1. to use a power or right ○ The United Kingdom exercised the right of veto. 2. to give an animal, person or part of the body exercise ○ She exercised her pony on the race track. ○ Do some sit-ups to exercise your stomach muscles.

exercise bike /ɪkˈsɜːzbike/ noun a machine like a bicycle, but which does not move, which you can pedal on as exercise

exercise book /ɪkˈsɜːzbook/ noun a notebook which you can write school exercises in

exert /ɪkˈzɜːt/ verb to use force or pressure
exhale /ɪk/ - verb to breathe out. Antonym inhale.

exhaust /ɪk/ - verb 1. to wear someone out. 2. to finish a supply of something. We’ve exhausted our supplies of food.

exhausted /ɪk/ - adj, very tired. I’m exhausted after running three miles.

exhausting /ɪk/ - adj, extremely tiring.

exhaustion /ɪk/ - noun the state of being very tired.

exhaustive /ɪk/ - adj, very thorough.

exhaust pipe /ɪk/ - noun the tube at the back of a motor vehicle from which gases produced by the engine are sent out into the air. (NOTE: The US term is tailpipe.)

exhibit /ɪk/ - exhibit an object displayed in court or at an exhibition. A is the murder weapon.

exhibition /ɪk/ - exhibition a display of things such as works of art or flowers. The exhibition is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. We stood in line for half an hour waiting to get into the Picasso exhibition.

exhibition hall /ɪk/ - exhibition hall a place where goods which may be bought are shown.

exhibitionist /ɪk/ - exhibitionist a person who acts in a strange or extravagant way so that people will look at him or her.

exhibitor /ɪk/ - exhibitor a person or company that displays something at an exhibition.

exhilarate /ɪk/ - exhilarate extremely excited and happy. Synonym elated.

exhilaration /ɪk/ - exhilaration extreme excitement and pleasure.

exhale /ɪk/ - exhale to breathe out. Antonym inhale.
exonerate /g/əʊnərət/ verb to state that someone who was previously blamed for something was not responsible for it. Synonym clear. Antonym blame
exoneration /əʊnərəʃən/ noun a statement declaring that no blame is attached to someone
exorbitant /ɪkˈzɔːrɪtənt/ adj (of prices) very high. Synonym excessive
exorcise /ɪksərəs/ verb to say prayers to force evil spirits to leave someone’s body, or ghosts to leave a haunted house
exorcism /ɪksərɪzɪm/ noun the act of forcing an evil spirit or a ghost to leave a place
exorcist /ɪksərɪst/ noun a person who drives away evil spirits or ghosts
exotic /ɪkˈzɒtɪk/ adj unusual; referring to a strange, or foreign place
expand /ɪkˈspænd/ verb 1. to make something increase in size. We have had to expand our sales force. 2. to become larger. Water expands when it freezes. 3. Heat caused the metal rods to expand. 4. His waistline is expanding fast.
expansion /ɪkˈspænʃən/ noun 1. an increase in size. Synonym growth. (NOTE: no plural)
expanstonist noun a person who supports a policy of expanding a country's economy or territory
expansive /ɪkˈspænsiv/ adj 1. (of a person) who wants to talk freely about things
2. She was in a very expansive mood when she met the TV reporters. 3. You would expect someone who works in public relations to be a bit more expansive than she is. 4. She lived up to all our expectations. 5. She was pregnant with twins.
expect /ɪkˈspekt/ verb 1. to think or hope that something is going to happen. I expect you are tired after your long train journey. 2. He expects me to do all the housework. 3. I can’t talk for long, we’re expecting visitors. 4. We expect him to arrive at any moment or he is expected at any moment. 5. to be pregnant with 6. My sister’s expecting twins.
expectancy /ɪkˈspektənsi/ noun the feeling that something exciting is going to happen. There was an air of expectancy in the crowd as the procession approached. (NOTE: no plural)
expectant /ɪkˈspektənt/ adj expecting; hopeful
expectation /ɪkˈspektəʃən/ noun 1. a hope; a feeling that something will happen. She was expecting all our expectations. 2. a policy of expanding a country's economy or territory
expectant mother /ɪkˈspektənt məˈðər/ noun a pregnant woman
expedient /ɪkˈspɪdɪənt/ noun a convenient way of doing something. Registering as a student was a simple expedient to avoid military service. (NOTE: often shortened to expedite) expedite /ɪkˈspɪdɪt/ verb to make something happen faster (formal). Antonym impede
expedition /ɪkˈspɪdɪʃən/ noun 1. a journey to explore a place. He set off on an expedition to the South Pole. 2. a short trip. They went on a shopping expedition in the West End.
expeditionary force /ɪkˈspɪdɪʃənərɪ foʊr/ noun an army which travels to another country to fight
expel /ɪkˈspel/ verb 1. to throw someone out. As soon as the generals came to power they expelled all their former allies. 2. to send a child away from school. He was expelled for taking drugs. (NOTE: expelling – expelled)
expensive /ɪkˈspensiv/ adj to spend time or energy doing something (formal).
expensive /ɪkˈspensv/ noun 1. an amount of money spent. Synonym spending. 2. at the expense of something in preference to something; giving something up. She brought up her three children at the expense of her career in the bank.
expense account /ɛkˈspens/ əˈkaʊnt/ noun money which a businessperson is allowed to spend on entertainment, paid for by his or her company.

expenses /ɪˈkspɛnsɪz/ plural noun money spent doing something. Antonym income □ the salary offered is £25,000 plus expenses the company offers a salary of £25,000 and will repay any money spent by the employee in the course of his or her work □ all expenses paid with all costs paid by the company □ The company sent him to San Francisco all expenses paid or He went on an all-expenses-paid trip to San Francisco. □ we can’t afford the legal expenses we don’t have the money to spend on fees paid to lawyers □ you must account for overhead expenses or general expenses or running expenses you must account for money spent on the day-to-day cost of a business.

expensive /ɪˈkspensv/ adj, adv which costs a lot of money □ Fresh vegetables are more expensive in winter. □ Send your furniture to Australia by sea – it would be much too expensive by air.

experience /ɪˈkspɛriəns/ noun 1. knowledge got by working or living in various situations □ I have no experience of travelling in the desert. □ You must write down the full details of your past experience in your CV. □ Some experience of selling is required for this job. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 2. an event that happens to someone □ Going to the top of the Eiffel Tower was a wonderful experience. □ He wrote a book about his experiences in the desert. □ verb to live through something □ I’m surprised she’s so cheerful after all she experienced in hospital. □ I have experienced a great deal of pleasure and frustration in my career. □ He is experiencing sharp pains in his tooth.

experienced /ɪˈkspɛriənst/ adj wise from plenty of practice □ She’s a very experienced doctor. □ He’s the most experienced member of our staff. □ The police are experienced in crowd control. Synonym knowledgeable, Antonym inexperienced □ experiment noun a scientific test □ to carry out experiments in genetic engineering □ We’re offering our customers free samples as an experiment. □ verb to carry out a scientific test □ They are experimenting with a new treatment for asthma. □ The laboratory does not experiment on live animals.

experimental /ɪˈkspɛrɪməntəl/ adj 1. used in experiments. Antonym proven 2. still being tested, still on trial □ The experimental fighter plane crashed.

experimentally /ɪˈkspɛrɪməntəli/ adv 1. by carrying out experiments □ The new process has been tested experimentally. 2. as an experiment □ The system has been introduced experimentally into a few schools.

experimentation /ɪˌkspɛrɪməˈtenʃən/ noun the process of carrying out experiments. Synonym testing (NOTE: no plural) □ expert /ɪkˈspɛrkt/ adj 1. knowing a lot about a subject □ They can give you expert advice on DIY. 2. expert at doing something good at doing something □ I’m not very expert at making pastry. □ noun 1. a person who knows a great deal about a subject □ a leading expert in tropical medicine or on tropical diseases □ A rose expert was the judge at the flower show. 2. a person who is very good at doing something □ an expert plumber □ He’s an expert at getting the children to go to bed.

expertise /ɪkˈspɛrtɪz/ noun special knowledge. Synonym skill (NOTE: no plural) □ expertly /ɪkˈspɛrktli/ adv in an expert way.

expert system /ɪkˈspɛrkt sɪstəm/ noun a computer program which has been created for a particular purpose.

expire /ɪkˈspraɪ/ verb 1. to come to an end □ The lease expires next year. □ my passport has expired my passport needs to be renewed 2. to die (formal) □ After a brief illness, he expired on 28th September.

expiry /ɪkˈspraɪ/ noun the fact of coming to an end.

expiry date /ɪkˈspraɪ ə dɛt/ noun the last date on which something can be used.

explain /ɪkˈsplɛn/ verb 1. to give reasons for something □ Can you explain why the weather is cold in winter and warm in summer? 2. to make something clear □ He tried to explain the new pension scheme to the staff. □ She explained what had happened, but the manager still thought she had tried to steal the watch.

explain away /ɪkˈspɛln əˈweɪ/ verb to give excuses for something.

explanation /ɪkˈplɛnʃən/ noun a reason for something □ The police officer asked him for an explanation of why the stolen car was in his garage. □ The company has given no explanation for the change of plan.

explanatory /ɪkˈsplɛnətəri/ adj which explains, which makes clear. □ self-explanatory

expletive /ɪkˈsplɪtɪv/ noun a swear word.

explicit /ɪkˈsplɪkt/ adj 1. straightforward and clear □ Could you please be more explicit? □ Their intention to sell the shop was not explicit in the letter. 2. showing sex or violence very clearly □ The film contains explicit sex scenes.

explicitly /ɪkˈsplɪktli/ adv clearly

explode /ɪkˈsplɔd/ verb 1. (of bombs, etc.) to blow up □ A bomb exploded in a
exploit noun /ɪkˈsploʊt/ a great or daring achievement o He told us of his exploits during the war. Synonym feat • verb /ɪkˈsploʊt/ 1. to take commercial advantage of something o We are hoping to exploit the mineral resources of the North Sea. 2. to make unfair use of someone, usually by paying them very low wages o The company was accused of exploiting children by employing them in its shoe factories.

destruction /dɪˈstrʌkʃən/ noun 1. the process of taking commercial advantage of something o There are plans for the exploitation of the mineral resources of the region. 2. an unfair use of certain groups of people to get work done cheaply o The company was accused of the exploitation of children in its shoe factories.

exploration /ɪkˈsploʊrəʃən/ noun 1. the act of travelling and discovering unknown parts of the world o the exploration of Antarctica in the early 20th century o He is famous for his exploration of the Himalayas. 2. a careful investigation o We recommend further exploration of possible alternative solutions to the problem.

exploratory /ɪkˈsploʊrət(ə)rɪ/ adj forming part of an exploration of something. Synonym investigative

explore /ɪkˈsploʊr/ verb 1. to travel and discover, especially places you have not visited before o It is a part of the jungle which has never been explored before. 2. to investigate something carefully o We are exploring the possibility of moving the office to London. o The minister has set up a group to explore this and other issues.

export /ɪkˈspɔrt/ noun 1. a person who sells goods to foreign countries o The country’s major export is tea. o Exports to Africa have increased by 25%. • verb /ɪkˈspɔrt/ to send goods to a foreign country for sale o The company exports half of what it produces.

expose /ɪkˈspəʊz/ verb 1. to show something which was hidden o He pulled off his shirt, exposing a huge scar across his chest. o The plastic coating had rubbed off to expose the metal beneath. 2. to let light go onto a photographic film o You didn’t expose the film for long enough. 3. to reveal a shocking fact o He was exposed as the person who wrote the letters. o The newspaper has exposed several government scandals. 4. to expose something or someone to something o He exposed himself to the sun. o They exposed him to a lethal dose of radiation. o He had inadvertently exposed his children to serious danger.

exposé /ɪkˈspəʊz/ noun a report which exposes something wrong

exposed /ɪkˈspəʊzd/ adj open and not protected. Synonym unprotected. Antonym covered o a very exposed position a position which is not protected from the wind

exposition /ɪkˈspəʊzəʃən/ noun 1. US a display, e.g. of works of art or goods for sale o The exposition is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. o We stood in line for half an hour waiting to get into the book exposition. (NOTE: The British term is exhibition.) 2. a detailed explanation o She gave a clear exposition of the artist’s use of light and shade.

expostulate /ɪkˈspəʊstələt/ verb to protest to someone

exposure /ɪkˈspəʊs/ noun 1. the act of putting someone under the influence of something o the exposure of young children to violence on television o the exposure of some workers to radiation 2. the state of not being protected, e.g. from cold o The survivors of the crash were all suffering from exposure after spending a night in the snow. 3. the time and amount of light needed for a picture to be taken on film o You need a short exposure to photograph a racing car. 4. the act of revealing something, e.g. corruption o the newspaper’s exposure of the actor’s involvement in the scandal o The council was embarrassed by a string of exposures of irregular financial transactions.
thing to someone (formal) ○ I want to extend a warm welcome to our guests from China.

**extended** /ɪkˈstendt/ adj longer than usual. Synonym **lengthy**

extended family /ɪkˈstendt ˈfæməli/ noun a family in which relatives outside the central family group, such as aunts and uncles, are included. Compare **nuclear family**

**extension** /ɪkˈstɛnʃən/ noun 1. the act of extending something ○ My visa has expired, so I have applied for an extension. 2. something which is added on ○ We added an extension at the back of the house. ○ I need an extension cable for the electric mower. ○ They are planning a further extension of the underground railway. 3. a telephone in an office which is connected to the company’s main line ○ Can you get me extension 21? ○ The manager is on extension 23.

**extensive** /ɪkˈstɛnsɪv/ adj covering a large area or amount ○ The grounds of the house are very extensive. ○ The church roof needs extensive repair work.

**extensively** /ɪkˈstɛnsɪvli/ adv to a large degree

**extent** /ɪkˈstɛnt/ noun 1. the degree, size or area of something ○ The extent of the earthquake damage was only revealed later. ○ He opened up the map to its full extent. ○ to some extent, to a certain extent partly; in some way ○ To some extent, the weather was the cause of the failure of the village fair.

**extermination** /ɪkˈstɛrnɪteɪʃən/ noun 1. the act of killing large numbers of living things. Antonym **preservation** (NOTE: no plural) 2. external /ɪkˈstɛrnəl/ adj outside ○ The external walls of the house are quite solid. ○ Her injuries were all external. Synonym **outside**. Antonym **internal** 3. medicine for external use only medicine which is used on the skin and must not be drunk or eaten

**external line** /ɪkˈstɛrnəl lɪn/ noun an office phone directly connected to an outside telephone line

**externally** /ɪkˈstɛrnəli/ adv outside. Synonym **outwardly**. Antonym **internally**

**extinct** /ɪkˈstɪŋkt/ adj 1. which has died out ○ Three species of butterfly have become...
extinct in the last year. ○ Several species of birds have become extinct since rats were introduced to the island. 2. (of a volcano) which no longer erupts ○ The mountain is an extinct volcano. Compare dormant. ○ extinction /ik'stræktʃən/ noun 1. (of a species) the process of dying out ○ The last remaining pairs of birds were taken to a zoo for breeding purposes, so as to save the species from extinction. ○ to face extinction. to be threatened with extinction to be likely to die out ○ The tiger is facing extinction unless measures are taken to protect it. 2. the act of putting out a fire ○ The firefighters will stand by until the complete extinction of the blaze. (NOTE: no plural) extinguish /ɪkˈstrɪŋgwɪʃ/ verb to put out a fire extinguishe /ɪkˈstrɪŋgwɪʃ/ noun same as fire extinguisher extol /ɪkˈstəʊl/ verb to praise someone or something very highly (literary) (NOTE: extolled — extolled) extortion /ɪkˈstərʃən/ noun 1. something more than usual; addi- tional ○ We need an extra four teachers or four extra teachers for this course. ○ The charge for delivery is extra. ○ Staff get extra pay for working on Sundays. Synonym additional. ■ adv more than normal; in addition ○ I need some extra strong string to tie the parcel. ○ They charge extra for bulky items. ○ If you pay £50 extra you can travel first class. ■ noun 1. something more than usual ○ The price covers the hotels and transport but not extras like drinks and special trips. ○ Air-conditioning is an extra on this car. 2. an actor or actress who appears in a crowd scene in a film or play, but is not a star ○ The studio hired thousands of extras to make ‘Cleopatra’. extract noun /ɪkˈstrækt/ 1. a thing reduced from something larger ○ He will be reading extracts from his latest novel. 2. something which is reduced to a concentrated form ○ soup made from meat extract ○ Add a drop of vanilla extract to the custard. ■ verb /ɪk-ˈstrækt/ 1. to pull something out ○ The dentist extracted two teeth. ○ We managed to extract £10 from him. ○ The police extracted a confession from the accused. 2. to produce something from something else ○ It is no longer viable to extract tin from Cornish mines. ○ The oil is extracted from lavender flowers. extraction /ɪkˈstræktʃən/ noun 1. the act of pulling out a tooth ○ An extraction will cost you £40. 2. the production of something from something else ○ The extraction of iron ore from this mine is becoming too costly. 3. ○ she is of German extraction her family originally came from Germany extractor fan /ɪkˈstræktər fæn/ noun a fan which sucks air out of a room extracurricular /ˌekstrəˈkɜːrɪklər/ adj outside the normal course of study extradite /ˌekstrəˈdeɪt/ verb to bring an arrested person back from another country to stand trial for a crime committed in his or her home country. Synonym deport extradition /ˌekstrəˈdɪʃən/ noun the act of bringing a person back to his or her home country for trial extramartial /ˌekstrəˈmeɪrəl/ adj referring to sexual relations outside marriage extraneous /ɪkˈstrɪniəs/ adj 1. not directly connected ○ He introduced some extraneous details into his argument. 2. coming from outside ○ Excessive material in the bloom sample made the test invalid. extraordinarily /ɪkˈstrədɪərnli/ adv 1. extremely ○ Her action was extraordinarily brave. 2. in a strange way ○ He behaved quite extraordinarily at the party. extraordinariness /ˌekstrəˈdɪnərɪs/ noun 1. marvellous; strange and unusual ○ Seeing her again gave him an extraordinary thrill. ○ A peacock’s feathers are quite extraordinary. ○ It’s extraordinary weather for June. 2. completely different from everything else (formal) ○ These are extraordinary costs which will not be charged again. ○ They called an extraordinary meeting of the club. extrapolate /ˌekstrəˈpleɪt/ verb to calculate something unknown on the basis of available information extrapolation /ˌekstrəˈpleɪʃən/ noun the act of calculating something unknown on the basis of available information extraterrestrial adj from a planet other than Earth ○ noun a creature from a planet other than Earth extra time /ˌekstrə ˈtɜːm/ noun more time added at the end of a match in which the scores are level, so that the sides have time to try to score extravagance /ɪkˈstrævəɡəns/ noun unnecessary expense extravagant /ɪkˈstrævəɡənt/ adj 1. who spends a lot of money ○ They are extra-
extravagant when it comes to buying presents for their children. 2. expensive and not necessary. 3. unusual and wild. The company has made some extravagant claims for its new soap powder.

extravagantly /ɪkˈstrævæɡəntli/ adv in an extravagant way

extravaganza /ɪkˈstrævəɡənざ/ noun an expensive and luxurious party, show, film or event

extreme /ɪkˈstrɪm/ adj 1. very great. The anorak is made to withstand extreme cold.
2. very unusual or serious. Considered unreasonable by some people. He holds extreme views.
3. to get extremes of temperature here — very hot summers and very cold winters. One to extremes of everything in an excessive way.
4. to go from one extreme to the other — from being happy and excited to being gloomy and depressed.

extremely /ɪkˈstrɪmli/ adv to a great degree. It was extremely hot in August.

extremist /ɪkˈstrɪmɪst/ noun a person who has extreme views, usually about politics. Left-wing extremists having extreme views, usually about politics.

extremities /ɪkˈstrɛmɪtiz/ plural noun the fingers, toes, nose and ears.

extremity /ɪkˈstrɛmiti/ noun an end point. We set up our camp at the northern extremity of the island. (Note: The plural is extremities.)

extricate /ɪkstrɪkət/ verb 1. to get someone out of a difficult situation. She asked her father to help extricate her from the awkward situation she found herself in.
2. to remove something with difficulty. The surgeon extricated the bullet which had lodged itself behind her eye.

extravagantly /ɪkˈstrævæɡəntli/ adv in

extravaganza /ɪkˈstrævəɡənざ/ noun an expensive and luxurious party, show, film or event

extravagantly /ɪkˈstrævæɡəntli/ adv in an extravagant way

eyeball /ˈaɪbɔːl/ noun 1. a part of the eye.
2. the round ball of tissue through which light passes and which is controlled by various
The retina is a light-sensitive membrane at the back of the eyeball. He had an eyeball-to-eyeball confrontation with the referee. The security guard eyeballed us as we came near the gate.

He raised his eyebrows he looked surprised.

The security guard eyeballed us as we came near the gate.

eye-catching /'aɪ kɛtʃɪŋ/ adj very noticeable and attracting attention.

eye level /'aɪ lev(ə)l/ noun the height above the floor of the average person’s eyes.
F

f /feɪʃ/ F noun the sixth letter of the alphabet, between E and G
F² abbr Fahrenheit
fable /ˈfeɪbəl/ adj fabulous (informal) a moral story, usually about animals, making them seem like human beings. Synonym tale
fable /ˈfeɪbəl/ adj well-known in stories
fabric /ˈfeɪbrɪk/ noun 1. cloth or material ○ The curtains are made of some expensive fabric. ○ We need a fireproof fabric for the chairs. 2. the basic structure of society or an organisation ○ During the revolution, the basic fabric of society collapsed.
facilitate /ˈfæsɪlɪteɪt/ verb to invent an untrue story
fabrication /ˌfæbrɪˈkeɪʃ(ə)n/ noun an invented story that is not true
fabricator /ˌfæbrɪˈkeɪtər/ noun a substance which makes clothes softer after washing or cleaning
fabric conditioner /ˌfæbrɪˈkɒnsɪdərəˈʃən/ noun 1. imaginary, as in fairy stories ○ unicorns and other fabulous animals 2. marvellous or wonderful ○ It was a fabulous party.
fact /fækt/ noun 1. the front part of your head ○ Don’t forget to wash your face before you go to the party. 2. to lose face to be embarrassed by being shown to be wrong or weak ○ She can’t bear being told off in front of the class – it makes her lose face. 3. to make a face to make a strange expression ○ He made funny faces and all the children laughed. ○ to try to keep a straight face to try not to laugh 4. to show your face to come to a place ○ After what he said about my mother he doesn’t dare show his face here. 2. the front part of something ○ a clock face ○ She put the photograph face down on the desk. ○ to vanish from the face of the earth to disappear completely 5. verb 1. to have the face or front towards ○ The house faces north. ○ Can everyone please face the camera? 2. to meet someone in an unpleasant situation ○ The thought of facing all those journalists frightens me. ○ She didn’t want to face the committee yet again. 3. to face or to be faced with something to be likely to have to deal with an unpleasant situation ○ She faces a life of poverty. ○ Will they be able to cope with the problems they are faced with? ○ not to be able to face something not to want to experience something which you expect will be unpleasant ○ I couldn’t face another meeting. ○ to face the facts to look at things in a realistic way ○ You really ought to face the facts: you’ll never get a job if you don’t have any qualifications. ○ let’s face it we must accept it ○ Let’s face it, I’ve failed my test five times and will probably never pass.
facelift /ˈfæsəlɪft/ noun 1. an operation to make your face look younger 2. the fact of working to make something appear newer ○ Our website needs a facelift.
facet /ˈfæsɛt/ noun 1. a diamond with forty-four facets. 2. one of many aspects of something, e.g. a problem ○ The problem presents many different facets. 3. one of the flat sides ○ She made a diamond with forty-four facets.
facets /ˈfæsɪz/ noun plural of facet
facial /ˈfæsjuəl/ adj anonymous and threatening
face powder /ˈfæspəudə/ noun powder for putting on your face to improve the appearance of your skin
facial /ˈfæsjuəl/ adj funny or joking in an offensive way
facetiousness /ˈfæsitʃəns/ noun the fact of being funny or joking
face to face /ˈfæstəˈfes/ verb looking at each other ○ He turned a corner and came face to face with a police officer. ○ I don’t like doing business on the phone – I prefer to make deals face to face.
facile /ˈfæsəl/ adj obvious and easy to do
face up to /ˈfæstʌp/ verb to accept an unpleasant situation and try to deal with it. Antonym deny
which can be used to take something at its face value to believe that what something appears to mean is true. When we booked our holiday we took what the tour company said about the hotel at face value – but it turned out not to be true.

facial /ˈfeɪʃəl/ adj referring to a face. Her facial expression reflected her feeling of happiness. noun a beauty treatment in which your face is cleaned and massaged. She’s having a facial.

facile /ˈfaɪsəl/ adj 1. done very easily. He writes in a facile way which is easy to read, but isn’t great literature. 2. done without thinking carefully. The solution proposed by the town council is simply too facile.

facilitate /ˈfæsilɪteɪt/ verb to make something easy. Antonym impede

facilities /ˈfæsɪlɪtɪz/ plural noun equipment which can be used. The museum has facilities for the disabled or handicapped.

facility /ˈfæsɪlɪti/ noun 1. an ability to do something easily. She has a facility for languages. (NOTE: no plural) 2. a large commercial building. We have opened our new warehouse facility. (NOTE: The plural is facilities.)

facilitating /ˈfæsɪlɪteɪtɪŋ/ adj referring to facilities

facsimile /ˈfæskɪml/ noun 1. a perfect copy. This is not the real Magna Carta – it is a facsimile. They have published a facsimile edition of one of the earliest printed books. 2. a fax; a copy of a document or picture sent by telephone. Can you confirm the booking by facsimile?

fact /fækt/ noun 1. a thing that is true. He faced up to the fact that he wasn’t fit enough for the race. 2. in fact really. He told the police he had seen a man steal a car but in fact he made the whole story up. It rained a lot last month — in fact it rained all month.

fact-finding /fækt fændɪŋ/ adj which is searching for information.

facet /fæsɛt/ noun a facet of a problem. They went on a fact-finding mission to Eastern Europe.

faction /ˈfækʃn/ noun a group of people linked together in opposition to a leader or to a government.

factional /ˈfækʃnəl/ adj referring to factions

factor /fæktər/ noun 1. a thing which has influence or importance. The key factor is the price. The crucial factor for the success of the village fete is the weather. 2. the deciding factor the most important factor which influences a decision. One of the numbers which produce a certain other number when multiplied by 2 and 3 are factors of 6.

factory /ˈfæktəri/ noun a building where things are made. She works in a shoe factory. He owns a furniture factory. The factory makes computer terminals. (NOTE: The plural is factories.)

factory farm /ˈfæktəri fərm/ noun a farm where large numbers of animals are kept in small spaces, using modern methods to produce food quickly.

factory hand /ˈfæktəri hænd/ noun a person who works in a factory.

factory ship /ˈfæktəri ʃɪp/ noun a ship which freezes or cans fish which are caught by smaller fishing boats.

facutal /ˈfæktʃul/ adj referring to facts

faculties /ˈfæktʃiiz/ plural noun The teaching staff of a school, university or college.

fad /fæd/ noun a strange temporary craze for something. Synonym fashion

fad /fæd/ verb 1. to lose colour. The more you wash your jeans, the more they’ll fade. This T-shirt has faded. 2. to become less bright or light. As the light faded, bats came out in the garden. 3. to become less noisy. The sound of the music faded away.

faded /ˈfædɪd/ adj which has lost its colour.

faecal /ˈfaɪk(ə)l/ referring to faeces

faeces /ˈfɛsɪz/ plural noun solid waste matter passed from the body. The patient’s faeces are not solid. (NOTE: The US spelling is feces.)

faff /fæf/ verb 1 to faff about or around to work in a disorganised way, without achieving any results. We’d get more done if the sales people spent less time faffing around and actually sold something.
can't do anything else

velopes.

2. a bundle of sticks for lighting a fire.

2. She brought in faggots from the wood shed.

We had faggots in brown gravy.

Fahrenheit /'faɪərholnt/ noun a scale of temperatures where the freezing and boiling points of water are 32° and 212°. Abbr F. Compare Celsius (NOTE: used in the USA, but less common in the UK and not usually used in other countries. It is usually written as F after the degree sign: 32°F: say: 'thirty-two degrees Fahrenheit'.)

fail (feit/ verb 1. not to do something which you were trying to do 

The examination was very difficult – half the students failed. 

He passed in maths, but failed his English exam. 

She failed in her attempt to become an MP. 2. to decide that someone has not passed an examination.

She was failed twice in her driving test.

3. not to do something 

The car failed to stop at the red light.

O She failed to notify the tax office of her change of address.

4. not to be able to do something 

I fail to see why she can't come to the meeting when everyone else can.

5. not to work properly 

The brakes failed and he couldn't stop the car.

if all else fails if you can't do anything else 

If all else fails you can always borrow my car.

6. to become weaker 

Her eyesight is beginning to fail.

noun 1. without fail definitely (formal) 

I will be there without fail tomorrow morning.

failed /feitld/ adj not having succeeded in something

failing /feitln/ noun a weakness; bad point

O She has only one failing – she goes to sleep in front of the TV every night.

In spite of his failings, we still think he is a wonderful father.

Antonym forte a prep a failing that if that does not work 

Try some tape to seal the joint or, failing that, call a plumber.

faint (feə / vertstrokesuperiorfeə / vertstrokesuperiorheəd noun 1. a breakdown or stopping

The accident was caused by brake failure.

2. the failure of the plane's engine caused the crash.

2. a person or thing that does not work well 

His attempts to juggle were a complete failure. 

O I'm no good at anything – I'm a failure.

3. failure to do something the fact of not having done something 

His failure to reach the final disappointed his fans. 

Failure to pay the bill will mean we will have to take legal action.

faint (feə / vertstrokesuperiorfeə / vertstrokesuperiorheəd) adj difficult to see or hear

We could just see the faint outline of a man in the fog.

The rescuers could hear a faint tapping in the ruins. (NOTE: fainter – faintest)
fairytale /ˈfɛəritl/ noun a children’s story about fairies, princes, princesses and giants

fairytale wedding a romantic wedding like that of a prince and princess

faith /fɛθ/ noun 1. belief or trust 2. to have faith in someone or something to believe that someone or something is good and strong or will protect you

lieve that someone or something is good and

Antonym /ˈfɪərɪtəl/ noun 1. belief or trust 2. to have faith in someone or something to believe that someone or something is good and strong or will protect you

Asleep after dinner. People who believe in a certain religion

also after dinner. People who believe in a certain political party

2. wishes.

3. else

Synonym /ˈfɪərɪtəl/ noun 1. belief or trust 2. to have faith in someone or something to believe that someone or something is good and strong or will protect you

have blind faith in someone complete trust in someone, however wicked they may be to see other people 2. a religious belief 3. We must respect people of other faiths. In good faith, honestly, even though perhaps wrongly I sold him the car in good faith – I didn’t know it would break down the next day.

faithful /ˈfɛθfəl/ adj 1. (of a person or an animal) trusting or loyal 2. (of husband or wife) not to have love affairs with someone else 3. completely correct 4. a faithful copy of a document 5. the party faithful the people who believe in a certain political party in an unreasonable way the faithful the people who believe in a certain religion

faithfully /ˈfɛθfəli/ adv loyally, in a trusting way Her maid had worked faithfully for her for years. He faithfully did what the instructor told him to do.

faith healer /ˈfɛθ hɛlər/ noun a person who heals by the power of prayer

faith healing /ˈfɛθ hɛlɪŋ/ noun healing by the power of prayer

fake /fɛk/ noun an imitation or forgery, as opposed to the real thing Picture isn’t Picasso, it’s a fake. Antonym original adj not real She was wearing a fake fur coat. Synonym false. Antonym genuine verb to make an imitation of something, or to imitate something He faked mental illness to avoid appearing in court. They think the laboratory faked the results of the test.

fallopian /ˈfæləpiən/ noun a small bird of prey, sometimes trained to catch other birds as a sport

fall /fɔ/ verb 1. to drop to a lower level Snow fell all night. The pound has fallen against the dollar. She fell down the stairs. He fell off the ladder. Did he fall into the river or did someone push him? 2. her face fell she looked sad and disappointed
to fall asleep to go to sleep We all fell asleep after dinner. (NOTE: falling – fell /fɔ/ – has fallen /fɔlən/)

noun 1. an amount of something which has come down

There was a heavy fall of snow during the night. 2. the process of going to a lower level

fall a welcome fall in the price of oil the fall in the exchange rate 3. the act of losing your balance He had a fall and hurt his back. She had a bad fall while skiing.

fall US the season of the year between summer and winter

fallacies /ˌfɔləsi/ noun plural of fallacy

fallacy /ˌfɔləsi/ noun a false argument

(Note: The plural is fallacies.)

fall apart /fɔl əˈpɑːrt/ verb 1. to come to pieces My shoes are falling apart. The porcelain dish just fell apart in my hands. 2. to come to an end (in its present form) When they showed him the letters, his life simply fell apart. When our German partners withdrew, the deal fell apart.

fall away /fɔl əˈweɪ/ verb to become less

fall back on /fɔl əˈbæk nm/ verb to use something which you were planning to use only if you had to

fall behind /fɔl əˈbɛhnd/ verb to be late in doing something

fall down /fɔl əˈdʌn/ verb 1. to drop to the ground She fell down and hurt her knee. 2. to become a ruin The place has been deserted for so long it’s falling down.

fallen /ˈfɔlən/ adj

fall for /fɔl əˌfɔr/ verb 1. to fall in love with someone She always falls for intelligent men. 2. to be tricked by something Don’t fall for his sales talk.

fall guy /fɔl ɡaʊ/ noun a person who is made to take the blame for a crime committed by someone else (informal)

fallible /ˈfɔlibl/ adj capable of being wrong

falling-off /fɔl ɪŋ ˈɒf/ noun the act of coming less

falling-out /fɔl ɪŋ ˈɔut/ noun the act of having an argument with someone

fall off /fɔl əˌfɔ/ verb to become fewer.

Synonym decline

Fallopian tube /ˈfæləpiən tʃʌb/ noun one of two tubes in a woman, which connect the ovaries to the uterus

fall out /fɔl əˌut/ verb to have an argument They fell out over the bill for drinks.

Synonym quarrel

fallout /fɔl ʌt/ noun an unfortunate result the fallout from the arrest of the party treasurer

fall over /fɔl əˌvər/ verb to fall down from being upright

fallow /ˈfɔləʊ/ adj (of land) which is not used for growing crops for a time so that the soil can build up its strength again

fallow deer /ˈfɔləʊ dɛr/ noun a type of deer, slightly smaller than the red deer and with flat antlers
false /fɔls/ adj 1. not true. The story he told was quite false. 2. not real. false modesty the act of pretending to be modest, when really you are proud.

false alarm /fɔls ˈɑːlrm/ noun a signal for an emergency when there isn’t one.

falsehood /fɔlsˈhʊd/ noun a lie; something which is not true.

false start /fɔlsˈstɑːt/ noun a start of a race which is not allowed by the judge.

false teeth /fɔlsˈtiːθ/ plural noun dentures, artificial plastic teeth which fit inside the mouth and take the place of teeth which have been taken out.

falsification /fɔlsɪˈfɪkeɪʃn/ noun the act of falsifying something. Synonym fabrication. Antonym correction.

falsify /fɔlsˈɪfaɪ/ verb to change something to make it wrong or not real. Synonym fabricate.

falter /fɔltər/ verb 1. to stop moving. The engine faltered and then stopped. 2. to speak nervously. She said ‘yes’ in a faltering voice.

fame /feɪm/ noun the fact of being famous or well-known. Synonym renown. Antonym obscurity.


familiar /fəˈmɪliər/ adj 1. heard or seen before. The dog wagged its tail as it heard its master’s familiar voice at the door. 2. having a couple of familiar faces. Are you familiar with that type of engine? Do you know that type of engine well? 2. too informal or friendly in a way that suggests a lack of respect. Don’t try to get familiar with me! She is getting too familiar with the customers.

familiarise /fəˈmɪliəraɪz/ verb to familiarise yourself with something to get to know something well. Before starting to work the machine, you will need to familiarise yourself with the control system.

familiarity /fəˈmɪliərɪti/ noun 1. familiarity with someone or something a good knowledge of someone or something. His familiarity with London makes him an excellent guide. 2. a very informal way of speaking to someone. The manager told him off for familiarity with the customers.

family /ˈfæməli/ noun 1. a group of people who are related to each other, especially mother, father and children. The Jones family are going on holiday to Spain.

fall through 301

They have a big family – three sons and two daughters. 2. a group of animals or plants which are closely related. Lions and tigers are members of the cat family. (NOTE: The plural is families. When family is used to mean a group of people it can take a singular or plural verb: The family were out.)

family doctor /ˈfæməliˈdɔktr/ noun a general doctor, especially one who looks after all the members of a family.

family name /ˈfæməliˈneɪm/ noun the name of someone’s family, shared by all people in the family. Synonym surname.

family planning /ˈfæməliˈplænɪŋ/ noun the practice of controlling the number of children in a family by preventing unwanted pregnancies.

family room /ˈfæməliˈruːm/ noun a hotel room for a family, with a main bed for the parents and small beds or bunk beds for the children.

family tree /ˈfæməliˈtriː/ noun a table showing a family going back over many generations. Synonym ancestry.

famish /ˈfæmɪʃ/ verb to almost stop moving in order to have put the telescope to his blind eye and famished he stood there.

famine /ˈfæmɪn/ noun a very serious lack of food. Antonym abundance.

famous /ˈfɛməs/ adj known to a lot of people. He is a famous footballer. This tea shop is famous for its cakes. Synonym well-known. Antonym unknown.

famously /ˈfɛməslɪ/ adv 1. as well-known. Nelson is famously supposed to have put the telescope to his blind eye and said ‘I see no signal.’ 2. very well. They got on together famously.

fan /fæn/ noun 1. a device for moving air to make things cooler. We put electric fans in the office to try to keep cool. 2. an enthusiastic supporter of something or someone, e.g. a team or a band. There was a crowd of fans waiting for him outside the theatre. A Liverpool or Arsenal fan a supporter of Liverpool or Arsenal football team.

fan belt /fæn bɛlt/ noun a loop of rubber which turns a fan to cool the engine of a car.

fancier /ˈfænsɪər/ noun a person who has an interest in a certain type of animal.
**fantastic** /fæntæstık/ adj 1. strange; like a dream ☺ His stories are full of fantastic creatures. 2. wonderful or amazing ☺ A holiday surfing in Australia – that’s fantastic! ☺ It’s fantastic working in TF!

**fantasy** /fæntæzı/ noun 1. an invented story ☺ Her story of meeting a rich man in Paris was pure fantasy. 2. something you hope for but which cannot come true ☺ He’s living in a fantasy world – one day he’ll wake up in the real world and it will be a shock. (NOTE: The plural is fantasies.)

**fanzine** /fæntəzızn/ noun a magazine for a fan club

**FAQ** abbr for the attention of

**far** /fər/ adv 1. a certain distance away ☺ The railway station lies not far from here. ☺ How far away is Paris from London? ☺ The road was blocked by cars as far as we could see. ☺ as far as I know or can tell I think, but I am not completely sure ☺ As far as I know, the train is on time. ☺ As far as I can tell, the engine is working normally. ☺ far out a long way away 2. a long time ago ☺ As far back as 1993, he was making a lot of money. 3. much ☺ It is far cheaper to go by bus than by train. ☺ Restaurant food is far nicer than the food at college. ☺ which is a long way away ☺ The shop is at the far end of the High Street. (NOTE: The plural is farther or further) ☺ near (NOTE: far – farther or further /fər/əb, /fər]-fərthər or furthest /fɜːðəst, /fɜːðəst/) ☺ faraway /farəwεı/ adj which is a long way away. (NOTE: Do not confuse with fair)

**farm** /fərm/ noun 1. land used for growing crops and raising animals ☺ He runs a pig farm. ☺ We’re going to work on a farm during the holidays. ☺ You can buy eggs and vegetables at the farm shop. ☺ which is a long way away ☺ The shop is at the far end of the High Street. (NOTE: The plural is farmers) ☺ a person who makes or owns a farm ☺ a market where local farmers sell goods such as farm products ☺ a person who makes or owns a farm ☺ a market where local farmers sell goods such as farm products
farmhouse

as fruit, vegetables and meat from their farms direct to the public

farmhouse /ˈfɑːrmhaʊs/ noun the house where a farmer and his or her family live

farming /ˈfɑːrnɪŋ/ noun the work of managing a farm, e.g. growing crops or keeping animals for sale

farmland /ˈfɑːrmˈlənd/ noun land which is used for growing crops or raising animals for food.

far /ˈfɑːr/ adv 1. to hand over to another person to do. Synonym delegate 2. to hand over to a child for someone else to look after ○ The children were farmed out to their grandparents for a week.

farmyard /ˈfɑːrmjɑːrd/ noun an area around farm buildings, where tractors are sometimes kept

far off /ˈfɑːr ǒf/ adj 1. a long way away ○ We could see the house far off beside the lake. 2. not far off almost correct ○ You weren’t far off in your estimate.

fasten /ˈfɑːstən/ verb to fasten something such as a piece of clothing on to a device which has wide effects or results.

Antonym limited

fast-sighted /ˈfɑːst-tɪd/ adj 1. having the ability to make wise plans for the future ○ They were far-sighted enough to save money for their children’s tuition fees. 2. US unable to see clearly things that are a short distance away

fast /ˈfɑːst/ (vulgar) noun 1. the noise made when passing wind from the intestines through the anus ○ He said that the board was just a group of old farts. 2. verb to pass wind from the intestines through the anus ○ to fart around to work badly and waste time (informal) ○ Stop farting around and come and help me move this crate.

farther /ˈfɑːtər/ adv at or to a longer way away ○ adj which is a longer way away

farthest /ˈfɑːrthest/ adv at or to the longest way away ○ adj which is the longest way away

fascinate /ˈfæsɪneɪt/ verb to interest someone or to charm someone greatly.

Antonym uninterested

fascinating /ˈfæsɪnɪnt/ adj very interesting ○ A microscope gives you a fascinating glimpse of life in a drop of water. ○ The book gives a fascinating description of London in the 1930s. ○ It was fascinating to hear her talk about her travels in India.

Antonym repellent

fascination /ˈfæsɪnəʃən/ noun great interest or attraction

fascism /ˈfæsɪzəm/ noun an extreme right-wing political movement

fascist /ˈfæsɪst/ adj referring to fascism ○ Fascist gangs tried to break up the demonstration. ○ The military took power and set up a fascist dictatorship.

Antonym uninterested

fashion /ˈfɑːʃən/ noun 1. the most admired style at a particular moment ○ It was the fashion then to wear your hair very short. ○ She always follows the dictates of fashion. ○ in fashion popular; following the current style ○ High heels are in fashion this year. ○ out of fashion unpopular; not the current style ○ Red cars are out of fashion at the moment.

2. a manner or way 3. after a fashion not very well ○ He can speak French after a fashion. ○ verb to make something ○ He fashioned a raft out of old boxes.

fashionable /ˈfɑːʃənləb(ə)l/ adj in fashion ○ She lives in the fashionable West End of London. ○ It’s a fashionable restaurant for film stars and journalists.

Antonym chic

fashion show /ˈfɑːʃən ʃəʊ/ noun a display of new clothes by models

fashion victim /ˈfɑːʃən ˈvɪktəm/ noun a person who follows the current fashion whether or not it suits him or her (informal)

fast /ˈfɑːst/ adj 1. quick ○ This is the fast train to London. ○ She was driving in the fast lane of the motorway. 2. [of a clock] to show a time which is later than the correct time ○ Your clock is fast. ○ my watch is five minutes fast ○ my watch is showing a time which is five minutes later than it really is, e.g. 6.15 instead of 6.10 3. tightly fixed ○ fast colours colours in clothing which do not run when washed ○ You will have to wash this shirt by hand as the colour isn’t fast. ○ adv 1. quickly ○ Walk faster if you want to catch up with the children in front. ○ Don’t go so fast – you almost hit that man on the zebra crossing.

2. fast asleep sleeping so that it is difficult to wake up ○ She must have been tired – she’s fast asleep already. 3. tight fixed ○ The window was stuck fast and I couldn’t open it. ○ to make something fast to attach something tightly ○ We made the boat fast to the quay.

Antonym a period during which you stop eating for religious or health reasons ○ He fasted for 24-hour fast. ○ verb to eat nothing for religious or health reasons ○ Many people fast during Lent. ○ He fasted for a week.

fasten /ˈfɑːstən/ verb to close or attach something tightly ○ Please fasten your seatbelts. ○ These shoes fasten with a buckle.

Antonym uninterested

fastener /ˈfɑːstənər/ noun a device which fastens something such as a piece of clothing
fat

fat /fæt/ adj 1. having too much flesh or weighing too much ○ Two fat men got out of the little white car. ○ You'll have to eat less – you're getting too fat. ○ He's fatter than me. 2. thick ○ He pulled a fat wad of notes out of his pocket. 3. a fat lot of no amount (informal) ○ He's a fat lot of use on a farm – he can't even drive a tractor! ○ She wrote complaining letters to the past office, but a fat lot of good it did her! (NOTE: fatter – fattest) ■ noun 1. a part of meat which is yellowish-white ○ If you don't like the fat, cut it off. 2. fat obtained from plants, e.g. peanuts or sunflowers, which is used for cooking ○ Use vegetable fat.

fatty /'fæti/ adj 1. having too much flesh or weighing too much ○ They have started a fast-track application scheme.

fatigues /'fætɪdʒes/ noun a rich person (informal)
fault /fɔːlt/ noun 1. the fact of making a mistake; the fact of being to blame for something going wrong ○ It isn't my fault if there's nothing in the fridge. ○ It's all your fault – if you hadn't stayed in bed all morning we would be at the seaside by now. ○ at fault having made a mistake. The shop is at fault if they sent you the wrong table. 2. to find fault with something to criticise something; to find something wrong ○ She's always finding fault with my work. 3. the fact that something is not working properly ○ The invoice was wrong because of a computer fault. ○ The engineers are trying to mend an electrical fault. 4. a mistake in serving in tennis ○ He served two double faults. 5. the line of a crack in the earth's crust along which movements can take place that lead to major earthquakes. ○ San Francisco is built near the San Andreas Fault. ■ verb to find something wrong with someone or something ○ You can’t fault her work. Antonym praise faultless /fɔːltliːs/ adj perfect. Synonym flawless. Antonym imperfect

faulty /fɔːtli/ adj with mistakes; with something which does not work

fauna /ˈfɔːnə/ noun wild animals, or all the wild animals of a specific area. Compare flora (NOTE: The plural is fauna.)

faux pas /fɔːz pɔː/ noun a piece of embarrassing behaviour (literary). Synonym gaffe

fémi /ˈfeɪmi/ noun 1. a friendly act or an act of kindness ○ Can I ask a favour – will you look after my bike while I'm in the post office? ○ to do someone a favour to do something to help someone ○ He won’t charge for it – he did it as a favour. ○ Will you do me a favour and look after my cat when I'm away? 2. approval or popularity ○ She tried to win the favour of the committee. ○ out of favour disliked ■ verb 1. to like or prefer something ○ The managers favour moving to a bigger office. 2. to make things easier for someone ○ The conditions favour Australian bowlers. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is favor.)

favourable /ˈfeɪvərəbl/ adj good (NOTE: The US spelling is favorably.)

favourably /ˈfeɪvərəbli/ adv well (NOTE: The US spelling is favorably.)

favoured /ˈfeɪvərd/ adj which is preferred (NOTE: The US spelling is favored.)

favourite /ˈfeɪvərət/ adj which you like best ○ Which is your favourite TV programme? ■ noun 1. the thing or person which you like best ○ Which ice cream is your favourite? ○ This chocolate is a favourite with the children. 2. a person or an animal that most people think is likely to win ○ He’s the favourite to win the election. ○ That horse is the favourite in the three o’clock race. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is favorite.)

favouritism /ˈfeɪvərɪtɪzm/ noun the practice of showing support for one group or one person at the expense of others (NOTE: The US spelling is favoritism.)

fawn /fɔːn/ noun 1. a young deer ○ a female deer with two little fawns 2. a brownish-cream colour ○ They painted the kitchen a pale fawn. ■ adj of a brownish-cream colour ○ She was wearing a fawn coat and dark gloves. ■ verb to fawn on someone to try to get someone's favour by doing everything he or she wants ○ I can't stand all these young people fawning on him all the time. Synonym flatter

favo /fəʊ/ noun a copy of a document or picture sent by telephone ○ Post it to me, or send a fax. ○ Can you confirm the booking by fax? ■ verb to send a document or picture by telephone ○ I will fax the design to you or I will fax you the design as soon as it is ready. Synonym fax machine

fez /fɛz/ noun a hat

fez /fɛz/ noun a hat

Fez /fɛz/ noun an old city in north Africa where a hat is made

feedback /ˈfiːbɪk/ noun 1. reactions to something being done ○ The department has produced a feasibility report on the proposed town centre development scheme. ○ The shop is at fault if they sent you the wrong table.

feedback /ˈfiːbɪk/ noun 1. reactions to something being done ○ The department has produced a feasibility report on the proposed town centre development scheme. ○ The shop is at fault if they sent you the wrong table.

fear /fɪər/ noun 1. the feeling of being afraid ○ Fear of the dark is common in small children. ○ She has no fear of heights. 2. no fear! certainly not! (informal) ○ Go on, stroke that tiger! – No fear! ■ verb 1. to be afraid of something ○ What do you fear most? 2. to be afraid that something bad will happen ○ When the little girl had not come back home three days later, everyone began to fear the worst. ○ to fear for someone or something to worry that something might happen ○ Most parents fear for their children’s safety. ■ fearful /ˈfɪərəl/ adj 1. ■ fearful of afraid of (formal) 2. terrible

fearless /ˈfɪərliːs/ adj with no feeling of fear. Synonym courageous. Antonym cowardly

feast /feɪst/ noun 1. a special religious day ○ Today is the Feast of St Nicholas. 2. a very large meal ○ That wasn’t an ordinary meal – it was a feast! ■ verb to eat expensive food or a very large meal ○ You should be
feat 306 feel
ashamed of yourself – feasting like that when there are so many starving children in the world. Antonym fast
feat /fiːt/ noun an unusually difficult act. Synonym achievement  ▶ no mean feat a great achievement  ▶ Getting the job done in record time was no mean feat.
▶ feather /ˈfeəθər/ noun one of many light soft parts which cover a bird’s body ▶ as light as a feather very light
featherweight /ˌfeɪθərˈweit/ noun a weight in boxing between bantamweight and lightweight
featherly /ˈfeɪθərli/ adj light and delicate like a feather
▶ feature /ˈfiːtʃər/ noun 1. a part of the face such as the nose or mouth  ▶ His distinctive features mean that we should find him quite quickly. 2. an important part or aspect  ▶ The main feature of the castle is its huge tower. 3. an important story in a TV news programme ▶ Did you see the feature on St Petersburg? 4. an important article on a special subject in a newspaper ▶ a feature on nuclear power
▶ verb 1. to have someone as the main performer of a film, a TV programme or a play ▶ The film featured Charlie Chaplin as the tramp. 2. to show as the most important item ▶ The tour features a visit to the Valley of the Kings. 3. to appear as the main actor in, or as the subject of a film or a TV programme ▶ She has featured in many TV series.
feature film /ˈfiːtʃər fɪlm/ noun a full-length film
▶ February /ˈfiːbruəri/ noun the second month of the year, between January and March  ▶ My birthday is in February.  ▶ He died on February 17th.  ▶ We are moving to new offices next February. (NOTE: February 17th: say ‘the seventeenth of February’ or ‘February the seventeenth’, or in US English ‘February seventeenth’)
feckless /ˈfɛksləs/ adj having no determination or strength of character
 fecund /ˈfɛkʌnd/ adj lively and full of ideas (informal)
▶ fed /fɛd/ verb 1. to have someone as the main performer of a film, a TV programme or a play ▶ The film featured Charlie Chaplin as the tramp. 2. to show as the most important item ▶ The tour features a visit to the Valley of the Kings. 3. to appear as the main actor in, or as the subject of a film or a TV programme ▶ She has featured in many TV series.
feedback /ˈfiːdbæk/ noun 1. information or comments about something which has been done ▶ I don’t know what the sales are like because we haven’t had any feedback from our sales people. 2. the return of a signal in an electronic circuit, causing a high-pitched noise
feeder /ˈfiːdər/ noun 1. a container for farm animals’ food  ▶ Put the grain in the feeder for the pigs. 2. a baby’s bib (dated)
feel /fɛl/ verb 1. to touch something, usually with your fingers ▶ Feel how soft the bed is. 2. to seem soft, cold, etc., when touched ▶ The bed feels hard.  ▶ The stone floor felt cold. 3. to sense something with your body or mind ▶ Did you feel the table move?  ▶ I felt the lift go down suddenly.  ▶ Do you feel
very well

lost all feeling in my fingers.

of fellow at Oxford or Cambridge University

feeling

ship with the other hostages.

(NOTE: the plural is felonies.)

felt /felt/ noun a thick material made of wool fibres pressed together ■ verb /feel felt-tip /felt tip/ noun 1. the tip of a pen which is made from felt 2. a pen which has a tip made from felt

female /fɪ'feməl/ adj 1. referring to women or girls 2. a female athlete 2. referring to the sex of an animal, insect or bird which gives birth to young or lays eggs 3. referring to a flower which produces seeds 1. a woman or girl 2. Three females went into the bar, 2. an animal, insect or bird which gives birth to young or lays eggs 3. The female of the species is larger than the male. Antonym male

feminine /fɪ'femɪn(ə)l/ adj 1. like a woman or suitable for a woman 2. Her long white silk dress was very feminine. 2. (in grammar) referring to words which have a particular form or behave in a different way, to show the female gender O 'Actress' is the feminine form of 'actor'. O Is the French word for 'table' masculine or feminine? Antonym masculine femininity /fɪ'femɪnɪtɪ/ noun female qualities. Antonym masculinity

feminism /fɪ'femɪnz(ə)m/ noun the fact of being a feminist

feminist /fɪ'femɪnɪst/ noun a person who supports the right of women to equal status with men

femur /'fɛmər/ noun the thigh bone, the long bone which goes from the hip to the knee (NOTE: The plural is femurs or femora /'fɛmərə/)

fen /fɛn/ noun a large area of marsh. Synonym marsh

fence /fens/ noun 1. a barrier of wood or wire, used to keep people or animals in or out of a place 2. The builders put up a fence round the construction site. 2. to sit on the fence to avoid giving a definite answer to a question or giving support to one particular side O He never takes sides – he just sits on the fence. 2. a person who takes stolen goods to sell them (informal) ■ verb 1. to put a fence round something O The police fenced off the accident site. 2. to fight with swords as a sport

fencing /fensɪŋ/ noun 1. material which makes a fence 2. The crowd surged forward and flattened the fencing around the football ground. 2. the sport of fighting with swords

He got a first, and was immediately offered a fellowship.
look after yourself

fend /fend/ verb 1. to fend for yourself to look after yourself 2. We went to Spain and left the children to fend for themselves.
3. fend /fend/ noun 1. something such as a rope mat or rubber tyre hung against the side of a boat to protect it from bumps 2. The fender scraped along the side of the quay. 3. US a guard over the wheels of a car or bicycle, to prevent mud splashing 4. She ran into a tree and bent a fender. (NOTE: The British term is a wing for a car and a mudguard for a bicycle.)

fend off /fend 'of/ verb to push someone away 1. He spent the morning fend ing off newspaper reporters.
2. Fencing is one of the sports in the Olympic Games.

feng shui /fงสไว/ noun 1. a way of arranging buildings and the furniture in them to bring happiness and good luck, according to the principles of a Chinese system based on energy flow 2. fennel /'fenl/ noun a herb with a smell like aniseed

fereal /'feərəl/ adj (of an animal) which has become wild again, after once being tame (tamed)

ferment /fɜːrment/ noun 1. a disturbance or upset 2. The university was in a ferment. Synonym uproar 3. verb 1. to change into alcohol by the effect of yeast on sugar 2. Cider has to ferment for at least ten weeks before it is ready to drink.

fermentation /fɜːrmenˈteɪʃn/ noun 1. a chemical change brought about in liquids, usually leading to the production of alcohol 2. fermented /fɜːrˈmentɪd/ adj which has been changed to alcohol

fern /fɜːrn/ noun a green plant with feathery leaves which does not have flowers or seeds

ferocity /fərəˈsɒti/ noun the fact of being fierce

ferret /fɜːrɪt/ noun a small animal similar to a weasel, which is half-tamed and used to drive rabbits or rats from holes 1. As boys we used to go rat-catching with ferrets. 2. verb 1. to look for something 2. The police spent two hours ferreting around the office. Synonym hunt 3. to ferret something out to find something out by thorough searching 4. He ferreted out some surprising facts about the murderer’s family.

Ferris wheel /fɜːrɪs wiː/ noun a large vertical wheel in a funfair, with seats hanging from it

ferrous /fəˈrɔs/ adj containing iron

ferry /fɜːri/ noun 1. a boat which carries cars and trucks or people to and fro across a stretch of water 2. We are going to take the night ferry to Belgium. 3. There’s a ferry across the Rhine here. (NOTE: The plural is ferries.)
4. verb to take someone or something across by boat 5. Small boats ferried the refugees across the lake. Synonym transport

ferroequinologist /fəˈroʊkwɪnəˌlɒdʒɪst/ noun a railway expert

ferocity /fəˈrɒsɪtɪ/ noun fierce and angry

fertile /fɜːtrɪl/ adj 1. rich enough to produce crops 2. The farm has rich black fertile soil. 2. (of a female or an egg) able to produce young 3. The zoo hopes the female panda is fertile, so that she can have cubs. Synonym fertile

fermentation /fɜːrmenˈteɪʃn/ noun the act of joining male and female cells together

fertilise /fɜːˈtɪzlɪz/ , fertilize verb 1. to spread fertiliser on land 2. The soil is poor and needs to be heavily fertilised. 2. to join male and female cells together, so that a new animal or plant will be made 3. The sheep was fertilised in the laboratory.

fertiliser /fɜːˈtɪzlɪzər/ , fertiliser noun a chemical or organic material spread over the soil to make it richer and more able to produce crops

fertility /fɜːtrɪˈlɪtɪ/ noun the fact of being fertile, or of being able to produce crops or young. Antonym sterility

fervour /fɜːvər/ noun a strong enthusiasm (NOTE: The US spelling is fervor.)

fester /fɛstər/ verb 1. (of a wound) to become infected 2. His legs were covered with festering sores. 2. to become worse and more bitter 3. The resentment of the staff continued to fester.

festival /fɛstəvl/ noun 1. a religious celebration which comes at the same time each year and usually is a public holiday 2. The tour will visit Hong Kong for the Lantern Festival. 2. an artistic celebration or entertainment which is put on at regular intervals 3. We saw some excellent plays at the Edinburgh Festival this year.

festive /fɛstɪv/ adj referring to a celebration 1. the festive season the period of Christmas and the New Year.

festivity /fɛstɪvəti/ noun a celebration (NOTE: The plural is festivities.)

festoon /fɛstʊn/ noun a long chain of hanging decorations 1. Girls put festoons of flowers round the necks of the visitors. Synonym garland
2. verb to hang a place with decorations 3. The streets were festooned with banners.

fetch /fɛtʃ/ verb 1. to go and bring someone or something 2. It’s your turn to fetch the
fetish /fetʃ/ noun 1. an object which is believed by some people to be magical. 2. a strong sexual interest in a certain object or material. 3. a rubber fetish.

fetlock /‘fetlk/ noun the wide part of a horse’s leg.

feud /fju:d/ noun a bitter quarrel. 1. I don’t want to get involved in their family feud.

fever /’fɛvər/ noun 1. a state where the body’s temperature is higher than normal. 2. an excited state.

feverish /’fɛvərɪʃ/ adj referring to the feudal system.

feudal /’fjuːdəl/ system noun a medieval system by which land was granted by a king to his nobles and by the nobles to the peasants, on condition that each paid a service to his superior and fought for him.

fibre /’fɪbər/ noun 1. a small thread of material. 2. From the pieces of fibre left at the scene of the murder, the police could work out what the murderer had been wearing. 2. thin threads in food, which cannot be digested. 3. to eat a high-fibre diet.

fibreglass /’fɪbroʊgʌls/ noun 1. a material made from glass fibres, used to make boats and car bodies. 2. glass fibre wool used to prevent heat escaping from a room or building. 3. They pack layers of fibreglass under the roof.

fibrous /’fɪbros/ adj made of fibres.

fiddle /’fɪdl/ noun 1. a violin.
2. He fiddled with the radio.
3. He played the fiddle at country dances.
4. He fiddled away at an Irish dance.
5. He always plays second fiddle to someone to be in a weaker position than someone else. 6. His account of the accident was pure fiction.
7. He was fiddling with his bracelet during the whole interview.
8. He fiddled with the radio and managed to get it to work.
9. The company caught him fibbing away at an Irish dance.
10. She tried to fiddle her tax return.
11. The book is the product of a fevered imagination.
12. The nurse wiped his fevered brow.
13. He felt feverish and took an aspirin.
14. The crowd waited at fever pitch for the band to arrive.
15. The action in a fever of anticipation.
16. We go to quite a few concerts these days.
17. He’s over eighty and still as fit as a fiddle.
18. I wonder why few of the staff stay with us more than six months.
19. I only took a few photographs because it rained all the time.
20. I’ll call you in a few minutes.
21. A few of the wedding guests were sitting playing cards.
22. Quite a few several, or many.
23. Quite a few people on the boat were sick.
24. He fiddled with his bracelet during the whole interview.
25. He fiddled with the radio and managed to get it to work.
26. To play the fiddle.
27. He was fiddling away at an Irish dance.
28. To keep information about money in a dishonest way.
29. The company caught him fibbing away at an Irish dance.
30. To tell a lie about something unimportant.
31. To fib, (informal) to tell a lie about something unimportant.
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120. To fib, (informal) to tell a lie about something unimportant.
fiddledsticks /'fɪsdəˈlɪstɪks/ noun nonsense (old)
fiddly /ˈfɪdlɪ/ adj small and awkward to use (informal)
fidelity /ˈfɪdəlɪti/ noun 1. the fact of being faithful 2. He was rewarded for his fidelity to the president
field /fiːld/ noun 1. a piece of ground for playing a game 2. The two teams ran onto the field
field day /fiːld deɪ/ noun a busy and exciting time
fielder /ˈfɪldər/ noun a member of a cricket side which is not batting
field event /fiːld ɪˈvent/ noun a sport involving throwing or jumping, e.g. the high jump or the javelin
field glasses /ˈfiːld ˈɡlɑːsiz/ plural noun same as binoculars (NOTE: field glasses has no singular. If you want to indicate one item, say 'a pair of field glasses'.)
field hockey /ˈfiːld ˈhɒki/ noun US a team game played on grass. In which you try to hit a small ball into a goal with a curved stick (NOTE: simply called hockey in British English)
field marshal /ˈfiːld ˈmɑːʃəl/ noun an officer of the highest rank in the army (NOTE: can be used as a title with a name: Field Marshal Haig)
fieldmouse /ˈfiːldmɔːs/ noun a small type of country mouse with a long tail (NOTE: The plural is fieldmice.)
field of vision /ˈfiːld əˈvɪʒ(ə)n/ noun an area which you can see over clearly

fifth Amendment

field sports /ˈfiːld spɔːts/ plural noun outdoor sports such as hunting and fishing
field test /ˈfiːld test/ noun a test of a new piece of equipment in a real environment
field trip /ˈfiːld ˈtɹɪp/ noun a trip taken in order to study a subject
fieldwork /ˈfiːldwɜːk/ noun the practice of doing some work in a real environment as part of a course of study
fiend /fiːnd/ noun 1. an evil person 2. the friend who attacked the old lady
fiendish /ˈfiːndɪʃ/ adj 1. very unpleasant 2. very difficult 3. you have to pass a fiendish exam to become an accountant
fiendishly /ˈfiːndɪʃli/ adv terribly;
fierece /ˈfɪəri/ adj 1. very angry and likely to attack 2. Watch out – that dog looks fierce
fierce or angry
fiery /ˈfɜəri/ adj 1. burning 2. a fiery character 3. fierce or angry 4. She has a fiery temper.
fiesta /ˈfɪɛstə/ noun Spanish festival
fifteen /ˈfɪf(t)ɪn/ noun 1. the number 15 2. There are fifteen players in a rugby side 3. She’s fifteen (years old) 4. Come and see me in fifteen minutes 5. The train leaves at nine fifteen (9.15) 6. The fifteen hundreds (the 1500s) the years from 1500 to 1599 7. a group of fifteen people forming a rugby team 8. the England XV (say the England fifteen) 15. fifteen (9.15) a classification of films considered not suitable for people under 15 unless they are with an adult 16. fifteenth /ˈfɪf(t)ɪnth/ adj, noun referring to 15 17. the fifteenth of July or July the fifteenth (July 15th) 18. That’s the fifteenth phone call I’ve made this morning 19. It will be her fifteenth birthday next week 20. the fifteenth century the years from 1400 to 1499 21. fifth /fɪfθ/ adj referring to 5 22. the fifth of May or May the fifth (May 5th) 23. It’s his fifth birthday tomorrow 24. noun one part of five equal parts
Fifth Amendment /ˈfɪfθ əˈmendmənt/ noun the part of the US constitution which allows someone not to give evidence which might be used against themselves
fifty

fifty /ˈfɪfti/ noun one of fifty equal parts of something

fiftieth /ˈfɪftiθ/ noun one of fifty equal parts of something

fifty /ˈfɪfti/ noun the number 50 ○ My mother made fifty pots of jam. ○ He’s fifty (years old). ○ she’s in her fifties she’s between 50 and 59 years old ○ the (nineteen-) fifties (1950s) the period from 1950 to 1959

fifty-fifty /ˈfɪfti-ˈfɪfti/ adv divided into two equal amounts ○ to go fifty-fifty with each paying half of the cost ○ We’ll go fifty-fifty on the bill.

fig /fɪg/ noun 1. same as fig tree 2. the juicy sweet fruit of the fig tree ○ We sat under the tree and ate figs and goat’s cheese:

fight /fæt/ noun 1. a struggle against someone or something ○ He got into a fight with boys who were bigger than him. ○ Fights broke out between the demonstrators and the police. ○ to pick a fight with someone to start a fight with someone 2. a boxing match ○ The fight only lasted three rounds.

verb 1. to struggle against someone or something using force ○ The two boys were fighting over a comic. ○ Rival gangs fought in the street. ○ We are committed to fighting crime.

2. ○ Doctors are fighting to control the disease.

3. ○ to fight for something to struggle in defence of something ○ They are fighting for the right to vote. (NOTE: fighting – fought /fæt/)

fighter /ˈfaɪtə/ noun 1. a person who fights ○ The referee stopped the fight when one of the fighters had cut a eye. 2. a person who is strong ○ She’s a real fighter – she’ll pull through this illness. 3. a fast attacking aircraft ○ Two fighters went up to attack the enemy.

fighting /ˈfaɪtɪŋ/ noun the action of struggling.

Synonym combat

fight off /ˈfaɪt əd/ verb to get rid of an attacker or an illness

figure /ˈfɪgər/ noun ○ a figure of someone’s imagination something which a person has imagined but which is not real ○ real ○ fig tree /ˈfɪg tri/ noun a fruit tree which grows in warm countries ○ fig tree (of art) which shows something as it really is ○ He’s a well-known figurative artist. Antonym abstract 2. which is not the literal meaning of a word ○ Calling him a ’lump of jelly’ was a figurative use of the phrase. ○ You didn’t mean that literally, did you? – No, I was speaking in a figurative sense.

verb 1. ○ to figure something out to try to think of an answer or to understand something ○ Try to figure out the answer yourself, instead of asking someone else. 2. ○ especially US to consider or think something ○ I figure the costs will be high. ○ We figured you’d be late because of the show. ○ Had you figured on being there before two o’clock? ○ that figures that makes sense (informal) 3. to appear in something, e.g. a novel or a painting ○ Fair-haired girls figure in many of his paintings.

file server /ˈfaɪl ˈsɛrvər/ noun a computer connected to a network, providing information which people using other computers on the same network can use

verb 1. ○ to file something to keep or send something to a file ○ My file.

verb 2. ○ file a piece of paper ○ to file away to keep a piece of paper ○ put files away

file extension /ˈfaɪl ɪkˈstenʃən/ noun the second part of a computer file name e.g. ‘.doc’, which shows what type of file it is.

filename /ˈfaɪlmēn/ noun the name given to a computer file

filibuster /ˈfɪlbəstər/ noun an attempt to prevent a law being passed by speaking for a very long time in the debate

filigree /ˈfɪlɪgrɪ/ noun a pattern made with very thin pieces of metals such as gold or silver and used, e.g., in jewellery

filing /ˈfeɪlɪŋ/ noun 1. the action of putting documents away in the right place ○ Filing invoices is a job I detest. 2. documents which have to be put in order ○ There is a lot of filing waiting to be done at the end of the week.

filing cabinet /ˈfeɪlɪŋ ˈkeɪbrənt/ noun a piece of office furniture, a tall box with drawers for putting files in

filings /ˈfeɪlɪŋz/ plural noun small pieces of metal removed by using a file ○ You can demonstrate magnetic fields with iron filings and a magnet.

filing system /ˈfeɪlɪŋ ˌsɪstəm/ noun a way of putting documents in order for easy reference

Filipino /ˈfilɪpinoʊ/ noun, adj (a person) from the Philippines (NOTE: The plural is Filipinos.)

fillet /ˈfıl/ verb 1. to make something full; to become full ○ The bucket filled slowly. ○ He filled the bottle with water. ○ She was filling the buses with presents. 2. to fill a tooth to put metal into a hole in a tooth to stop it going bad ○ I hate having my teeth filled but it has to be done.

filter /ˈfɪltaɪ/ verb 1. to fill holes and cracks in walls and in wood ○ They used plastic filler to repair the cracks in the ceiling. 2. to fill a space ○ The filters in the swimming pool have to be cleaned regularly.

fillet /ˈfıl/ noun 1. a piece of good-quality meat, with no bones ○ She bought a fillet of lamb. 2. a piece of fish from which the bones have been taken out ○ We ordered fried fillet of sole. ○ I used an orange filter to give a warm colour to the picture. 3. material at the end of a cigarette, used to remove nicotine ○ I use an orange filter to give a warm colour to the picture.

filter /ˈfɪltər/ noun 1. a piece of equipment or material through which liquids or air can pass in order to remove any substances which are not wanted ○ The filters in the swimming pool have to be cleaned regularly. 2. a piece of glass on a camera which allows only certain colours or levels of light to pass through ○ The filters in the swimming pool have to be cleaned regularly. 2. a piece of glass on a camera which allows only certain colours or levels of light to pass through ○ I use an orange filter to give a warm colour to the picture. 3. material at the end of a cigarette, used to remove nicotine ○ I use an orange filter to give a warm colour to the picture.

film /fɪlm/ noun 1. moving pictures shown at a cinema or on TV ○ Have you seen this old Laurel and Hardy film? ○ We've seen the film already on TV. 2. a roll of material which you put into a camera to take photographs or moving pictures ○ I must buy another film before the wedding. ○ Do you want a colour film or a black and white one? 3. a thin layer of something ○ A film of moisture formed on the cold metal surface. ○ Everywhere was covered with a film of dust. ○ Verb to take pictures of something or someone with a camera ○ Security cameras filmed him robbing the bank. ○ 'Star Wars' was filmed in 1977.

fill /fɪl/ verb 1. to write in all the empty spaces on a form ○ (of a person) to become less thin ○ He filled the bottle up with fresh water. ○ Fill her or it up please fill the car with petrol 2. to write in all the empty spaces on a form ○ Fill up the form and send it back to this address.

filt /ˈfɪlt/ noun a young female horse. Compare colt (NOTE: The plural is fillies.)

fill out /ˈfɪlt ˈaut/ verb 1. to write in all the empty spaces on a form 2. (of a person) to become less thin

fill up /ˈfɪlt ˈʌp/ verb 1. to make something completely full ○ He filled the bottle up with fresh water. ○ Fill her or it up please fill the car with petrol 2. to write in all the empty spaces on a form ○ Fill up the form and send it back to this address.

filler /ˈfɪltər/ noun 1. material used to fill holes and cracks in walls and in wood ○ They used plastic filler to repair the cracks in the ceiling. 2. a thing used to fill a space ○ I used plastic filler to repair the cracks in the ceiling. 2. a thing used to fill a space ○ They used plastic filler to repair the cracks in the ceiling.

fill in /ˈfɪlt ɪn/ verb 1. to fill up a hole ○ He dug a hole in the garden, put the box inside, and then filled it in. 2. to write in the empty spaces on a form ○ To win the prize you have to fill in the missing words. ○ Just fill in your name and address. 3. to fill in for someone to do something which someone else normally does but cannot do ○ I'm filling in for the manager who is on holiday.

filling /ˈfeɪlɪŋ/ adj which fills ○ A meal of salad and a glass of water is not very filling. Synonym satisfying ○ noun 1. metal put into a hole in your tooth by a dentist ○ I had to go to the dentist because one of my fillings came out. 2. food used to put into something such as a sandwich or cake ○ a cake with a jam filling

filling station /ˈfeɪlɪŋ ˈstreɪʃən/ noun a place where you can buy petrol

filthy /ˈfɪlti/ adjective 1. very dirty ○ Where have you been playing — you're filthy! ○ Don't touch that filthy old carpet. ○ Filthy beggars followed the tourists wherever they went. 2. very unpleasant and angry (informal) ○ Watch out — the boss is in a filthy temper. 3. offensive, usually because of dealing with sex in an unpleasant way (informal) ○ He
fin

tried to sell us some filthy postcards. (NOTE: filthy – filthier – filthiest)

fin /fɪn/ noun 1. a thin part on the body of a fish which helps it to swim. 2. From the beach they could see a shark's fin in the sea.

2. a similar piece on an aircraft. 3. The tail fin broke off when the plane crashed.

final /ˈfaɪnl/ adj 1. last, coming at the end. 2. This is your final warning – if your work doesn’t improve you will be sacked. 3. The competition is in its final stages. 4. My decision is final. 5. I will not change my decision. 6. final date for payment. 7. the last date by which payment should be made.

finalist /faɪnəlɪst/ noun the last piece of a piece of music or of a show.

finalise /ˈfaɪnəlɪsaɪz/, finalize verb to finish making plans for something.

financial /fasˈɪnəl/ adj noun 1. a person taking part in the final of a competition. 2. The police finally cleared up the mystery. 3. The little boy finally turned up in Edinburgh.

financier /ˈfaɪnəsɪər/ noun 1. money, especially money which belongs to the public or to a company. 2. How are you going to raise the finance for the project? 3. My finances are in a poor state at the moment. 4. Minister of Finance the government minister in charge of a country’s finances. 5. verb to provide money for. 6. Are you going to finance your course at university if you don’t have a grant? 7. The redevelopment of the city centre is being financed locally.

financial /fasˈɪnər/ adj noun 1. What is our financial position? 2. The company has got into financial difficulties. Synonym monetary.

financial institution /fasˈɪnərɪʃən ɪnˌstrɪˈʃuːʃn/ noun a bank or trust whose work involves lending or investing large amounts of money.

financially /fasˈɪnərəli/ adv referring to money; with money.

financial year /fasˈɪnərɪˌjɪər/ the 12-month period for which accounts are calculated.

financier /fasˈɪnəriə/ noun a person who deals with money on a large scale. Synonym banker.

finch /fɪntʃ/ noun a small seed-eating bird. (NOTE: The plural is finches.)

fine /faɪn/ verb 1. to discover something which has been hidden or lost. 2. I found a £2 coin behind the sofa. 3. Did she find the book she was looking for?

finely /faɪnli/ adv. 1. in very small pieces. 2. Cook some finely chopped onions in a little butter.

fine print /faɪn ˈprɪnt/ noun the conditions on a contract, usually printed in very small letters.

finesses /faɪnəs/ noun skill in dealing with awkward situations.

fine-tune /faɪn ˈtjuːn/ verb 1. to make changes to the way an engine works, in order
fingertip

to improve its performance 2. to get something just right

definition: one of the parts at the end of your hand, but usually not including the thumb  ○ He wears a ring on his little finger.  ○ He pressed the button with his finger.

to keep your fingers crossed to hope that something will happen as you want it to happen  ○ Have you heard the exam results yet?  — No, but I'm keeping my fingers crossed.

to point something out correctly  ○ The number of times she's offered to buy me a drink can be counted on the fingers of one hand.

to pull your finger out to work harder (informal)  ○ I told him to pull his finger out.

to work harder  ○ It's unfair to expect her to do all the housework while her sisters don't.

to touch with your fingers  ○ Gloves without fingers are called 'mittens'.  ○ One hand  five or fewer fingers  ○ 1. to touch with your fingers  ○ 2. to point out a criminal to the police (informal)  ○ He was fingered by someone else in the gang.

to have information at your fingertips to know all about something

fingernail

fingerprint

finicky

finishing line

finishes

finishing

finishes

finish

finishes

finish

fired-up

fire escape

fire engine

fire drill

fire escape
fire exit /ˈfaɪər ˌɛkˈzɪt/ noun a door used if there is a fire.

fire extinguisher /ˈfaɪər ɪkˈstɪŋgwɪʃər/ noun a large metal container, usually painted red, containing chemicals which can be sprayed onto a fire to put it out.

firefighter /ˈfaɪər ˈfɪgər/ noun someone whose job is to put out fires and save people from dangerous situations.

firefly /ˈfaɪərflaɪ/ noun a type of little insect which glows in the dark.

fire hydrant /ˈfaɪər hɪˈdrænt/ noun a large pipe in a street which provides water for fighting fires.

firelight /ˈfaɪərлɪt/ noun the light which a fire makes.

fireman /ˈfaɪərˌmэn/ noun a man who tries to put out fires (NOTE: The plural is firemen.)

fireplace /ˈfaɪərpleɪs/ noun a hole in the wall of a room where you can light a fire for heating. Synonym hearth.

fireproof /ˈfaɪərprɔоф/ adj which will not burn.

fire service /ˈfaɪərˌsɛrvɪs/ noun the organisation that deals with fires and other emergency situations.

fireside /ˈfaɪərˌsaɪd/ noun the area around a fireplace in a room. Synonym hearth.

fire station /ˈfaɪərˌsteɪʃən/ noun a centre where fire engines are based.

firewall /ˈfaɪərwɔːl/ noun 1. a piece of software that prevents unauthorised people from gaining access to a computer system. 2. a special type of wall that prevents a fire from spreading to another area. 3. a legal barrier set up between sections of a company to prevent them from sharing information when this might cause problems.

firewood /ˈfaɪərwʊd/ noun wood for making fires (NOTE: no plural).

firework /ˈfaɪərwɜːk/ noun a small tube holding chemicals which will shine brightly or explode when lit.

firing squad /ˈfɜːrɪŋ skwɔːd/ noun a group of soldiers who kill someone by shooting.

firm /fɜːm/ adj 1. solid or fixed. ○ Make sure that the ladder is firm before you climb up. ○ My back hurts – I think I need a firmer mattress. 2. not going to change. ○ There is no firm evidence that he stole the money. ○ She is a firm believer in hard work. ○ to stand firm not to give in. ○ In spite of the offers from the motorway construction company he stood firm and refused to leave his house. 3. which cannot be changed. ○ to place a firm order for two lorries. ○ They are quoting a firm price of £12.22 per unit. 4. determined to show that you are in control. ○ He’s not firm enough with his children.

firmly /ˈfɜːmli/ adv in a firm way.

first /fɜːst/ adj referring to the thing that comes before all other things (as a number can be written 1st). ○ My birthday is on the first of July or the first (July 1st). ○ King Charles the First (Charles I). ○ It’s our baby’s first birthday on Tuesday. ○ The bank is the first building on the left past the post office. ○ the first century the period from the year 1 to 99 AD. ○ at first, at the beginning. ○ She came first in the exam. ○ at first at the beginning. ○ At first he didn’t like the work, but later he got used to it. ○ first class, first served dealing with things such as requests in the order in which they are received. ○ Applications will be dealt with on a first come, first served basis. (NOTE: as an adjective, usually written first-class).

first aid /ˈfɜːst ˈeɪd/ noun the help given to a person who is hurt before a doctor or ambulance arrives.

first aid kit /ˈfɜːst ˈeɪd kɪt/ noun a box with bandages and dressings kept to be used in an emergency.

first class /ˈfɜːst ˈklæs/ adj 1. very good quality. ○ You can get a first-class meal in that hotel. 2. using the most expensive seats on a plane or train. ○ Can I have a first-class return to Paris, please? 3. sent using the most expensive and quickest mail service. ○ A first-class letter should arrive the next day. ○ A first-class letter should arrive the next day. (NOTE: as an adjective, usually written first-class).

first day /ˈfɜːst deɪ/ noun the day after the beginning.

first cousin /ˈfɜːst kʌzn/ noun someone who is the child of your uncle or aunt.

first-degree murder /ˈfɜːst dɪˈgriː mɜːdər/ noun the least serious type of murder.

first gear /ˈfaʊst ˈɡeər/ noun the lowest gear, used when going slowly, or when climbing hills

first generation /ˈfaʊst ˈdʒenərəʃən/ adj relating to or being the children of parents who have left one country to settle in another

first half /ˈfaʊst hatred/ noun 1. the first of two parts, as of a football match ○ They scored three goals in the first half. 2. the first part of a financial year, usually from January to June. ○ The figures for the first half are up on those for the second part of last year.

first-hand /ˈfaʊstˈhænd/ adj which comes directly from someone who has experienced something. ○ We have some first-hand reports of the coup from our reporter in the capital. ■ adv directly ○ I heard the news of the accident first-hand from his widow.

First Lady /ˈfaʊst ˈleɪdi/ noun the wife of a president, especially the wife of the President of the USA

first language /ˈfaʊst ˈleɪŋgwɪdʒ/ noun 1. the first language that you learn to speak. 2. a country’s main language

firstly /ˈfaʊstli/ adv to start with. Antonym lastly

first mate /ˈfaʊst ˈmeɪt/ noun the main officer, next in rank to the captain, on a ship that is not part of the navy

first name /ˈfaʊst ˈnɛm/ noun someone’s personal name, as opposed to their surname or family name. Synonym given name, Christian name ○ They are on first name terms they call each other by their first names.

first night /ˈfaʊst ˈnæt/ noun the first official performance of a play

first offender /ˈfaʊst ˈɔː fendər/ noun someone who commits an offence for the first time

first person /ˈfaʊst ˈpɜːrsən/ noun in English, the words ‘I’ or ‘we’ which refer to the speaker

first-rate /ˈfaʊst rɛt/ adj excellent

fiscal /ˈfɪskəl/ adj referring to tax or to government revenues

fiscal year /ˈfɪskəl ˈjɪər/ noun a 12-month period used for tax purposes. In Britain it is from 6th April of one year to 5th April of the next year.

fish /fɪʃ/ noun an animal with fins and no legs, which lives in water and which you can usually eat. ○ I sat by the river all day and only caught two little fish. ■ there are plenty more fish in the sea there are lots of other people you could be friends with (informal) ○ I’ve got other fish to fry I have other more important business to deal with. ■ verb 1. to try to catch a fish. ○ We often go fishing in the lake. ○ They fished all day but didn’t catch anything. 2. to try to find something. ○ He fished around in his suitcase and after some delay produced his passport.

fish out ○ to fish out taken out. ○ He fished out a dirty handkerchief from his pocket.

fish and chips /ˈfɪʃ ənd ˈtʃɪps/ plural noun a traditional British food, obtained from special shops, where portions of fish fried in batter are sold with chips

fish-and-chip shop /ˈfɪʃ ənd ˈtʃɪp ʃɒp/ noun a shop selling cooked fish and chips, and usually other food, such as pies. (NOTE: can also be called a chip shop or, informally, a chippy)

fishcake /ˈfɪʃkeɪk/ noun a round cake of fish and potato mixed together, then cooked

Fisherman /ˈfɪʃəmən/ noun a man who catches fish, either as his job or for sport. (NOTE: The plural is fishermen.)

Fishery /ˈfɪʃəri/ noun a part of the sea where fish are usually found. (NOTE: The plural is fisheries.)

fish finger /ˈfɪʃ ˈfɪŋər/ noun a frozen finger-shaped piece of fish covered in breadcrumbs. (NOTE: The US term is fish stick.)

fish-hook /ˈfɪʃ ˈhʊk/ noun a metal hook at the end of a line which catches in the mouth of the fish

fishing /ˈfɪʃɪŋ/ noun the sport or business where you try to catch fish. Synonym angling

fishing line /ˈfɪʃɪŋ lайн/ noun a long string used with a hook to catch fish

fishing net /ˈfɪʃɪŋ net/ noun a large piece of material with holes, used for catching fish

fishing rod /ˈfɪʃɪŋ rɒd/ noun a long stick with a line attached, used for fishing. (NOTE: The US term is fishing pole.)

fishmonger /ˈfɪʃmʌŋɡər/ noun a person who sells fish in a shop

fishy /ˈfɪʃɪ/ adj 1. like a fish ○ These eggs have a fishy taste. 2. strange or unusual ○ There’s something fishy about the whole business. ○ What was she doing there at 2 o’clock in the morning? – It’s very fishy if you ask me. (NOTE: fishier – fishiest)

fission /ˈfɪʃon/ noun splitting into parts

nuclear fission splitting a hydrogen atom to create energy. Compare fusion

fissure /ˈfɪʃər/ noun a crack or split, especially in a rock or in the ground

fist /fɪst/ noun a tightly closed hand.

clench

fit /fɪt/ noun a sudden sharp attack of illness, or of an emotion such as anger ○ She had a coughing fit or a fit of coughing. ○ In a fit of anger he threw the plate across the kitchen. ○ She’s having one of her periodic fits of efficiency. ○ by fits and starts at odd moments, with continual stoppages ○ Something has gone wrong with the printer – it
fizzy

only prints out by fits and starts. 1. adj. healthy. 2. adj. fit enough to go back to work. 3. adj. fit is he fit to drive? 4. adj. fit to be driven – its brakes don’t work and the tyres are worn. 5. adj. suit 6. adj. fit person 7. adj. fit to see after small children? 8. adj. fitness expresses about her fitness for the job. 9. adj. fitful 10. adj. fizzy 11. adj. fizzy – . Drinks which are not fizzy are still.

fitting room /'fɪtɪŋ ruːm/ noun a small room in a shop where you can try on clothes before you buy them. 1. adj. five /fɪv/ noun the number 5 2. adj. She drank five cups of tea. 3. adj. He’s five (years old) next week. 4. adj. The meeting has been arranged for five (oclock). 5. five o’clock shadow /fɪv ə klok 'ʃeɪdəʊ/ noun the dark appearance of a man’s chin, because the small hairs which grow there have not been cut

fitter /'fɪtər/ noun a small room in a shop where you can try on clothes before you buy them.

five-star /'fɪv ə striː/ adj of the highest quality

five years ago but has never really fitted in.

five o’clock shadow /fɪv ə klok 'ʃeɪdəʊ/ noun the dark appearance of a man’s chin, because the small hairs which grow there have not been cut

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fit in 1. verb to find room or time for someone or something 2. verb We can’t fit a holiday in this year as we have too much work. 3. verb How can you fit six people into that little car? 4. verb Fitting the furniture into the new house was quite a problem. 5. verb to be able to go into a space 6. verb How will the bed fit into that room? 7. verb to be comfortable as part of a group 8. verb He joined the firm two years ago but has never really fitted in.

fit to be able to go into a space

fit to drive

fit person

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fitness /'fɪtnəs/ noun 1. being physically fit 2. she does fitness exercises every morning. 3. adj. Physical fitness is important in the ma"ines. 4. adj. being suitable 5. adj. Doubts were expressed about her fitness for the job.

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flak /flæk/ noun 1. the firing of guns against aircraft ○ We ran into a lot of flak as we approached the enemy stronghold. 2. a sharp criticism ○ He's taken a lot of flak from the reviewers. ○ The programme came in for a lot of flak from the TV critics. (NOTE: no plural)
flame /flɛm/ noun a brightly burning part of a fire or candle ○ Flames could be seen coming out of the upstairs windows. ○ in flames burning ○ The building was already in flames when the fire engine arrived.
flamenco /flə'mɛŋkəʊ/ noun a fast Spanish dance, to guitar music
flameproof /'flɛmprʊft/ noun a special substance so that it will not catch fire or melt
flaming /'flɛmɪŋ/ adj 1. in flames ○ Flames could be seen coming out of the upstairs windows. 2. in a flaming temper extremely angry
flamingo /flɛmɪŋkəʊ/ noun a tropical water bird with long legs and neck, often with pink feathers (NOTE: The plural is flamingos)
flamboyant /'flɛmə'boʊnt/ adj 1. brightly coloured ○ She wore a flamboyant red cape. 2. very impressive ○ In a flamboyant gesture, he ordered all the trees in the park to be covered with little lights.
flap /flæp/ noun 1. a small piece of snow which falls from the sky ○ Snow fell in large soft flakes all night. 2. The paint came off in little flakes. 3. The paint is beginning to flake off and needs redoing.
flabby /'flæbi/ adj soft and fat (informal) (NOTE: flabbier – flabbiest)
flag /flæg/ noun 1. a piece of brightly material with the symbol of a country or an organisation such as a club on it ○ The French flag has blue, red and white stripes. ○ The ship was flying the British flag. ○ The flags were blowing in the wind. 2. a small paper badge sold to raise money for a charity ○ Pin the flag to your coat to show that you have given something. 3. a large flat stone, e.g. used in making a path at the side of a road ○ The terrace is being laid with stone flags. 4. the iris, a plant which grows in wet ground (NOTE: the plural is flags)
flagpole /'flægpɔʊl/ noun a tall pole on which large flags are flown
flagrant /'flægrənt/ adj clear, obvious and shocking. Synonym blatant. Antonym covert
flagship /'flægfɪʃ/ noun 1. the ship on which the most important officer of a navy sails, and which therefore flies his special flag 2. the most important part of a group of businesses ○ the company's flagship store in Regent Street
flagstone /'flægstɔʊn/ noun a large flat stone used for making paths or floors. Synonym paving stone
flail /flɛıl/ noun a hand tool for removing the hard outside part of plants such as wheat ○ verb to wave your arms about ○ He lay on his back flailing with his arms at his opponent
flair /flɛə/ noun 1. a flair for something a natural ability to do something ○ She has a distinct flair for dress design. ○ He has a flair for languages.
flannel /'flɛnəl/ noun 1. a warm material made of wool ○ trousers made of grey flannel or grey flannel trousers 2. a small square of soft material for washing the face or body
flashes from photographers' cameras.

trance to the film première was lit up with poured petrol on it.

2. the burning oil refinery flared in the dis-

2. the lifeboat sent up flares.

(twilight mark sig) Flash /flash/ noun 1. a sudden beginning or a sudden return or a sudden beginning (informal). Synonym outbreak
3. Flash /flash/ noun 1. a short sudden burst of light ○ Flashes of lightning lit up the sky.

2. with no electric charge left ○ I can't pay the rent - I'm flat broke.

3. the champion flashed past to win in record time.

flanells
○ He put his flannel under the hot tap and wiped his face.

flannel /ˈflæn(ə)l/ plural noun flannel trousers

flap /flæp/ noun 1. a flat part which is attached to an object and has a special type of fastening allowing it to move up and down ○ The pilot tested the wing flaps before taking off, 2. a state of worried excitement (informal) ○ They got into a flap about the new neighbours' dog, 3. a movement of a bird's wing ○ With a flap of its wings, the eagle flew off, 4. verb to move up and down like a bird's wing ○ Flags were flapping in the breeze, ○ The swans stood by the edge of the water, flapping their wings. (NOTE: flapping – flapped)

flapjack /ˈflæpˌdʒæk/ noun 1. a flat cake made of oats, butter and honey or syrup 2. US a pancake

flare /flɛər/ noun an object which gives a sudden burst of light, especially as a signal ○ The lifeboat sent up flares. ○ We knew the ship was in distress when we saw the flares.

verb 1. to burn brightly ○ The flames from the burning oil refinery flared in the distance, 2. (of a skirt or trousers) to become gradually wider at the bottom ○ She wore a long straight skirt which flared from the knees down. (NOTE: Do not confuse with flap.)

flared /flɛəd/ adj with a shape that becomes wider at one end

flares /flɛəz/ plural noun trousers which are wider at the bottom

flare up /flɛəp ˈʌp/ verb 1. to suddenly start burning ○ The bonfire flared up when he poured petrol on it, ○ The flames died down and then flared up again, 2. to get angry suddenly ○ She flared up when he suggested it was her fault.

flare-up /flɛəp ˈʌp/ noun a sudden return or a sudden beginning (informal). Synonym outbreak

flat /flæt/ adj 1. level, not sloping or curved ○ a house with a flat roof ○ as flat as a pancake very flat (informal) ○ My lemonade's gone flat, 2. (of drink) no longer fizzy ○ He ran the mile in four minutes flat. ○ 1 noun 1. a set of rooms on one floor, usually in a building with several similar sets of rooms ○ They live in the block of flats next to the underground station, ○ Their flat is on the ground floor. (NOTE: The US term is apartment.) 2. US a tyre which has lost its air ○ He asked the garage to fix the flat. (NOTE: The British term is flat tyre or puncture.) 3. (in music) a pitch which is one semitone lower ○ They played a Sonata in E flat. ○ He played D sharp instead of D flat.

flatbed scanner /ˈflætbɛd ˈskɛnər/ noun a large scanner, where images are placed flat on a surface in order to be scanned

flatly /ˈflætlɪ/ adv in a firm way

flat-mate /ˈflæt mɛt/ noun a person who shares a flat with you

flat out /flæt ˈaut/ adv 1. at full speed ○ They drove flat out to get to the airport in time, 2. very hard ○ He worked flat out to finish his work on time.
flaw /flɔ/ lengthmark

flawed /flɔd/ adj with mistakes. Synonym faulty

flawless /flɔls/ adj perfect. Antonym flawed

flax /flaks/ noun a variety of linseed plant, of which the fibres are used for making into linen

flax /flɔks/ noun which is sold as a set of pieces packed flat for the customer to put it together

flat /flæt/ noun a fixed charge which never changes

flatten /flætn/ verb to make flat

flatter /flætə/ verb 1. to praise someone although you do not really mean what you say ○ Just flatter the boss a bit, tell him how good his golf is, and he’ll give you a rise. 2. □ to flatter yourself to persuade yourself that something is true, when it is not ○ He’s flattering himself if he thinks everyone is going to do what he wants.

flattered /flətrəd/ adj feeling honoured

flattening /flætərɪŋ/ adj which makes you look good or praises you

flattery /flətri/ noun praising someone too much

flautist /flɔʊtist/ noun a person who plays the flute (NOTE: Another US spelling is flutist.)

flavour /fləvər/ noun a particular taste ○ The tomato soup had an unusual flavour. ○ What flavour of ice cream do you want?

flavoured /fləvərd/ adj which tastes of something (NOTE: The US spelling is flavored.)

flavouring /fləvərɪŋ/ noun a substance added to food to give a particular taste (NOTE: The US spelling is flavoring.)

flay /flæ/ lengthmark noun 1. a fault in something which makes it appear less attractive or causes a problem ○ The expert examined the Chinese vase, looking for flaws. ○ There must be a flaw in the computer program. 2. a mistake in an argument ○ There’s a flaw in your reasoning. ○ There was a fundamental flaw in their calculations. □ verb to spoil ○ Her performance was flayed by her inability to hold the high notes.

flawed /flɔd/ adj with mistakes. Synonym faulty

flax /flaks/ noun a variety of linseed plant, of which the fibres are used for making into linen

flay /flæ/ lengthmark /flæ/ noun and verb to strip someone of their skin

flee /flɪ/ verb 1. to run away from something ○ As the fighting spread, the village people fled into the jungle. ○ She tried to flee but her foot was caught in the rope. (NOTE: fleeing – fled /flɛd/)

fleece /flɪs/ noun 1. a coat of wool covering a sheep ○ After shearing, the fleeces are taken away to market. □ verb to cheat someone and take their money (informal) ○ The bars round the harbour are waiting to fleece the tourists. ○ He was fleeced by two girls he met in a bar. Synonym swindle

fleecy /flɪsɪ/ adj 1. made of fleece ○ My overcoat has a fleecy lining. 2. looking like fleece ○ The blue sky was dotted with fleecy clouds.

fleeting /flɛtɪŋ/ adj short and very fast. Synonym brief

Fleet Street /flɪstrɪt/ noun a street in London where many British newspapers formerly had their offices

flesh /flɛʃ/ noun 1. a soft part of the body covering the bones ○ in the flesh in person, not on TV or in photographs ○ It was strange to see the TV newsreader in the flesh. ○ his own flesh and blood his relations; his family ○ Even his own flesh and blood refused to meet him. 2. a soft part of fruit ○ a melon with pink flesh ○ Some grapefruit have pink flesh. (NOTE: no plural)

flesh wound /flɛʃ wʊnd/ noun a wound which is not very deep

fleshy /flɛʃɪ/ adj fat or soft and thick

flew /flju/ fly (NOTE: Do not confuse with flu, flue.)
flex /flɛks/ noun a plastic covered wire that bends easily, used for carrying electricity. • verb to bend. • to flex your muscles. 1. to practise bending and straightening your muscles as exercise. 2. The union is flexing its muscles for a fight with the government. • adjective easy to bend. • flexible (NOTE: no plural) flexible /ˈflɛksəb(ə)/ adj 1. easy to bend. • Soft rubber soles are very flexible. 2. able to change easily – we can meet whenever you want. • click /flɪk/ noun a little sharp blow or movement (informal) • He shook off the wasp with a flick of his hand. • verb to hit or move something gently, with a short quick movement. • The horse flicked its tail to get rid of the flies. • flicker /ˈflɪkər/ noun 1. a movement of something such as a light which seems to shake or to burn for only a short time. • They saw the flicker of a light in the forest. 2. a small amount • There is still a flicker of hope that someone may still be alive under the ruins. • verb to shake; to burn unsteadily. • The candles flickered in the draught. • We could see the flickering lights of the old harbour in the distance. • flick knife /ˈflɪk nɛf/ noun a knife with a blade which fits inside the handle and which shoots out when a button is pressed (NOTE: The plural is flick knives.) • flick through /ˈflɪk ðruː/ verb to look quickly at the pages of a newspaper or book. • flier /ˈflaɪər/ noun 1. travel in a plane. • Go to gate 25 for flight AB198. • All flights to Paris have been cancelled. • She sat next to me on a flight to Montreal. 2. the process of flying; travel through the air. • The Wright brothers are important in the history of flight. • Young birds stay in the nest until they are ready for flight. 3. flight of stairs a set of stairs going in one direction. • flight attendant /ˈflaɪt əˈtɛndənt/ noun a person whose job is to look after passengers on a plane. • flight deck /ˈflaɪt dɛk/ noun 1. a section at the front of an aircraft where the pilots sit. 2. a long flat deck on an aircraft carrier on which planes land and take off. • flight path /ˈflaɪt pɑːθ/ noun a route along which an aircraft flies. • flight recorder /ˈflaɪt rɪˌkɔːdər/ noun a piece of equipment carried in an aircraft which records what happens during a flight, including conversations between pilots and the control tower. Also called black box. • flight simulator /ˈflaɪt ˈsɪmjʊleɪtə/ noun a computer program which allows a user to practise flying a plane, with controls which seem real and moving scenes. • flimsy /ˈflɪmzɪ/ adj 1. (of material) light and thin • He wore only a flimsy cotton jacket. 2. not strong • Their house was a flimsy construction of bamboo and leaves. 3. (of an excuse) poor • She could only offer the flimsiest of excuses. (NOTE: flimsier – flimsiest) • flinch /flɪŋk/ noun 1. to move back in pain or fear. • The reporters flinched at the sight of the corpses. 2. not to flinch from to do something, even though it is extremely difficult or painful. • He didn’t flinch from his duty. • flying /ˈflɪŋ/ noun 1. a wild dance. 2. to have a fling to relax, letting off your high spirits. • The boys were having a last fling before joining the army the following morning. 3. to have a fling with someone to have a short sexual relationship with someone (informal) • She had a brief fling with one of the managers. • verb 1. to throw something carelessly and with a lot of force. • He flung the empty bottle into the sea. 2. to move yourself or a part of your body quickly and with a lot of force. • She flung herself into an armchair. • Synonym throw (NOTE: flinging – flung) • flint /flɪnt/ noun 1. a very hard type of rock which was used to make tools in the past. • Flints are found in chalky soil. • Prehistoric people used flints to make knives. 2. a small piece of metal which lights the flame on a cigarette lighter. • I need a new flint for my lighter. • fling /flɪŋ/ noun the act of turning over. • a flip of a coin. • verb 1. to hit something such as a control on a machine without using a lot of force. • She flipped a switch and the lights went off. 2. to flip a coin to throw a coin so that it turns over in the air. • to flip over to turn over quickly. • Before he could do anything the canoe flipped over. 2. to get very angry (informal) • He flipped when they told him how much the bill came to. (NOTE: flapping – flipped) • flip chart /ˈflɪptʃɑːt/ noun a stand with large sheets of paper fixed together at the top, used for showing pictures or writing when speaking to a group of people. • flip flops /ˈflɪp flɒps/ plural noun flat rubber shoes held on by a strap between the toes. • flippantly /ˈflɪpəntli/ adv not taking seriously things which should be taken seriously. • Synonym facetiously.
flipper /ˈflɪpə/ noun 1. a long flat piece of rubber which you can attach to your foot to help you swim faster. 2. you need flippers and a snorkel to go scuba diving.

flood side /ˈflʌd saɪd/ noun 1. the disadvantages of a particular idea or situation. 2. the side of a record which has the less popular piece of music on it.

floodlight /ˈflɔːdlɪt/ adj lit by floodlights. Synonym illuminated

floodgates /ˈflɔːdɡeɪts/ plural noun 1. open the floodgates to make it possible for something to suddenly start happening. 2. floodgates to let the pound float.

floating voter /ˈflɔːtɪŋ ˈvɔrət/ noun a person who is not sure which party to vote for in an election.

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flit /flɪt/ noun to do a moonlight flit to escape quietly at night without paying your bills. verb to move quickly and quietly. A thought flitted through my mind.

flying match /ˈflajɪŋ ˈmætʃ/ noun 1. a strong electric light used to light an area in the open air. 2. They switched on the floodlights for the evening matches. verb to light with floodlights. The castle is floodlit at night. (NOTE: floodlighting – floodlight)

flood /flɔːd/ noun 1. a large amount of water over land which is usually dry. 2. The floods were caused by heavy rain. 3. a large amount of something. 4. to flood something with water. 5. I flooded my car to my brother. 6. floodlight – floodlighted

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flirt with /flɜːt wɪð/ verb to behave in a way that shows sexual interest towards another person. 1. His new secretary is a bit of a flirt. 2. She flirted with all the boys at the party. 3. to consider a course of action in a way that is not serious. 4. We’ve been flirting with the idea of going to live in the States.

flit /flɪt/ noun to do a moonlight flit to escape quietly at night without paying your bills. verb to move quickly and quietly. A thought flitted through my mind.

flying match /ˈflajɪŋ ˈmætʃ/ noun 1. a strong electric light used to light an area in the open air. 2. They switched on the floodlights for the evening matches. verb to light with floodlights. The castle is floodlit at night. (NOTE: floodlighting – floodlight)

flood /flɔːd/ noun 1. a large amount of water over land which is usually dry. 2. The floods were caused by heavy rain. 3. a large amount of something. 4. to flood something with water. 5. I flooded my car to my brother. 6. floodlight – floodlighted

floodgates /ˈflɔːdɡeɪts/ plural noun 1. open the floodgates to make it possible for something to suddenly start happening. 2. floodgates to let the pound float.
floor

1. The part of a room on which you walk. If there are no empty chairs left, you’ll have to sit on the floor.

2. To take the floor to start speaking in a discussion.

3. To floor to not be able to answer something. He was floored by one of the questions in the exam paper.

4. The floors in American buildings are numbered differently from those in Britain: the ‘ground floor’ in Britain is the ‘first floor’ in the USA. The ‘first floor’ in Britain is the ‘second floor’ in the USA, and so on.

floors

5. Many details by performers in a nightclub

6. Floppy – floppiest

floppy disk

7. The plural is floppies.

floppy disk

8. A floppy disk which can be put into a computer and removed.

floppy

9. Adj which hangs down loosely a floppy red hat o a white rabbit with long floppy ears. Synonym limp (NOTE: floppier — floppiest)

floppy disk

10. A small disk which can be put into a computer and removed.

flora

11. The wild plants that grow in a particular area. Compare fauna (NOTE: The plural is flora.)

floral

12. Referring to flowers. Synonym flowery

florid

13. Adj 1. Reddish in colour o His florid complexion suggested he drank a lot. 2. With a complicated pattern or with too many details o I don’t like the florid style of Baroque architecture. o He writes in an unpleasantly florid style.

florist

14. A person who sells flowers o A florist’s shop which sells flowers

flower

15. A thin thread of silk

flocculation

16. An act of selling shares in a company on the stock exchange for the first time.

flotilla

17. A group of small boats. Synonym fleet

flotsam

18. Rubbish floating in the water. Synonym debris (NOTE: no plural)

flounce

19. A border of cloth which has many small folds and is attached to the edge of something such as a piece of clothing or a curtain.

flounder

20. A type of small flat fish

flour

21. Wheat grain crushed to powder, used for making food such as bread or cakes

flourish

22. A wide movement of the arm in the air o The conductor ended the concert with a flourish. 2. A large curve in handwriting. o She signed her name with a flourish. (NOTE: The plural is flourishes.)

flout

23. To pay no attention to something such as a rule. Synonym disobey

Antonym obey

flow

24. The movement of things such as liquid or air, or of people. o She tried to stop the flow of blood with a tight bandage. o There was a steady flow of visitors to the exhibition. (NOTE: Do not confuse with floe.)

flow chart

25. A drawing which shows all the different operations in a process.

flower

26. The colourful part of a plant, which attracts insects and then produces fruit or seeds o A plant with bright yellow flowers o In flower covered with flowers o Go to Japan when the cherry trees are in
flowerbed /ˈflɔːəbɛd/ noun a piece of ground where flowers grow
flowering /ˈflɔːərɪŋ/ adj which is grown for flowers rather than fruit
flowerpot /ˈflɔːəpɔt/ noun a container to grow plants in
flowery /ˈfləʊəri/ adj decorated with a pattern of flowers or a flowery dress
flowing /ˈfləʊərɪŋ/ adj which is grown for flowers rather than fruit
fluoride /ˈfljuərəd/ noun a chemical substance which is sometimes added to water or to toothpaste because it can protect your teeth
fluoride /ˈfljuərəd/ noun a chemical substance which is sometimes added to water or to toothpaste because it can protect your teeth
fluorescent /ˈfljuərəs(ə)nt/ adj 1. giving off light when electric current is applied. 2. We have fluorescent lighting in the office.
fluoride /ˈfljuərəd/ noun a chemical substance which is sometimes added to water or to toothpaste because it can protect your teeth
flurry /ˈflərɪ/ noun 1. hurried excitement. 2. In his flurry to leave he forgot to take his keys. 2. a sudden small fall of snow when there is a strong wind blowing. There will be snow flurries during the morning. (NOTE: The plural is flurries.)
fluid /ˈfljuɪld/ noun 1. a common illness like a bad cold, often with a high temperature. (NOTE: Do not confuse with fly.)
fluid /ˈfljuɪld/ noun 1. a common illness like a bad cold, often with a high temperature. (NOTE: Do not confuse with fly.)
fluctuate /ˈflʌk.tʃuət/ verb to rise and fall
fluctuation /ˌflʌk.tʃuˈeɪ.ʃən/ noun a movement backwards and forwards or up and down.
fluent /ˈfljuənt/ adj able to speak easily; spoken easily
flurry /ˈflərɪ/ noun 1. a sudden small fall of snow when there is a strong wind blowing. There will be snow flurries during the morning. (NOTE: The plural is flurries.)
flush /flʌʃ/ noun 1. a red colour on the face or a flush of anger. 2. a quick flow of water (at cards) a hand in which all the cards are of the same suit. 3. She is holding a flush. (NOTE: The plural is flushes.)
flush /flʌʃ/ verb 1. to go red in the face. 2. She flushed with pleasure when she heard the results. 2. to flush out to drive out of hiding. 3. The army brought in helicopters to flush the guerrillas out of their mountain bases.
fluency /ˈfljuənsi/ noun the fact of being fluent
fuzz /ˈflʌz/ noun like fluff; covered with fuzz
fluid /ˈfljuɪld/ noun a liquid. You need to drink plenty of fluids in hot weather. adj which is not fixed or settled. The situation is still fluid. (noun) - nothing has been agreed yet.
fluid ounce /ˈfljuɪd ˈɔʊns/ noun 1. a US unit of liquid measurement equal to 1/16 of a US pint or 29.57 ml 2. A UK unit of liquid measurement equal to 1/20 of an imperial pint or 28.41 ml
fluke /ˈflʌk/ noun 1. a chance; lucky event. 2. It was a pure fluke that I happened to be there when the phone rang. 2. a type of flat worm which lives in the liver of some animals and cause illness. 3. Their sheep were attacked by liver fluke.
flush /flʌʃ/ verb 1. to fail an examination or to make someone fail an examination (informal)
fly /flai/ verb US to move through the air using wings or to travel in a plane. 2. When the cut came into the garden, the birds flew
fly-drive holiday 325 foe

flypast /flPɪpst/ noun a flight of aircraft over a certain spot to celebrate something

flyweight /fl'weit/ noun the lightest weight in boxing, below bantamweight

FM abbr frequency modulation

radio 4 is on 93.5 FM

foal /fɔl/ noun a young horse

The mare gently nudge her foal.

verb to give birth to a foal

The mare foaled last night.

foam /fɔm/ noun a mass of small bubbles

This detergent makes a huge amount of foam.

verb to make a mass of small bubbles

The waitress was carrying mugs of foaming beer.

The horse was foaming at the mouth after the race.

verb to be foaming (at the mouth) of (a person) to be extremely angry

The MD was foaming (at the mouth) when he read the report in the paper.

foam rubber /foʊm 'rəbə/ noun rubber in blocks with many little holes in it, e.g. used for the seat of a chair

fib /fɪb/ verb to fib someone off with something to persuade someone to accept something which they do not really want

Synonym adversary

Antonym peripheral

focus /fəʊkəs/ noun a point which everything is focused on.

Antonym periphery

focal point /fəʊkəl pɔnt/ noun a point which is the centre of attention

focus group /fəʊkəs ˈɡruːp/ noun a group of people who are questioned about their opinions as part of political or market research

fodder /ˈfɒdər/ noun plants such as grass which are grown and given to animals as food

fear of flying.

He has a fear of flying.

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fear of flying.

He has a fear of flying.
foliage /foli/ noun leaves on a tree or plant.

folder /fould/ noun 1. an envelope made of thin card or plastic and used for holding papers. 2. a group of computer files stored together under the same name.

folding /fould/ adj which can be folded.

folded /fould/ verb to bend something over to make it take up a smaller area than before.

follage /foli/ noun leaves on a tree or plant.

folk /fɔk/ noun people. (NOTE: Folk takes a plural verb. The plural form folks is also used.)

folk dance /fɔk dæns/ noun a traditional dance.

folk dancing /fɔk dæns/ noun dancing traditional dances.

folklore /fɔklɔr/ noun traditional stories and beliefs.

folk music /fɔk mju/ noun the traditional music of a people.

folks /fɔks/ noun people □ my folks my family □ My folks come from Dorset. □ Wait till I tell my folks about it!

folk song /fɔk sɒŋ/ noun a traditional country song.

folk tale /fɔk tɛl/ noun a traditional story passed down from one generation to the next.

follicle /fəυlklɛl/ noun a small hole in the skin out of which a hair grows. Synonym: sac.

follow /fɔl/ verb 1. to come after or behind. □ The group followed the guide round the town. □ What follows B in the alphabet? □ The dog followed the man across the field. □ I had the impression I was being followed. □ She followed the instructions on the tin of paint. □ He made the cake following a recipe in the newspaper. □ follow suit to do what everyone else does. □ She jumped into the pool and everyone else followed suit.

fold /fould/ noun 1. a bend or line in something such as paper or cloth, when two parts are pressed together. 2. a part of a piece of paper which has been folded. □ The picture is printed on the inside fold. 3. a piece of something such as cloth or skin which hangs down loosely. □ She wanted the surgeon to remove the folds of skin under her chin. □ verb 1. to bend something so that one part is on top of another. □ Fold the piece of paper in half. □ He folded the newspaper and put it into his briefcase. □ to fold your arms to cross your arms in front of your body. □ He sat on the stage with his arms folded, looking furious. □ (of a business) to fail and have to close down. □ His business folded last December. □ The company folded with debts of over £1m.

-fourfold

-fourth

fold /fould/ suffix times fourfold.
follow up /ˈfɒlu ʌp/ verb to find out more about something or to research something further. ○ The police followed up their enquiries by interviewing the woman’s husband. ○ That’s an interesting idea – it might be worth following it up.

folly /ˈfɒli/ noun 1. silly behaviour ○ It was utter folly to go out in a small boat in a storm like that. 2. a strange building, built to create an effect and with no practical use ○ A folly is a strange building, built to create an effect and with no practical use.

fond /fɒnd/ 1. liking someone or something very much 2. in the fond hope hoping very much that something will happen, although you do not think it will

fondle /ˈfɒndli/ verb to stroke in a loving way. Synonym massage

fondly /ˈfɒndli/ adv in a way which shows you are fond of someone or something

font /fɒnt/ noun 1. a bowl holding holy water for the ceremony of baptism in a church ○ The church has an 11th century font. 2. (in print) a set of characters all of the same size and appearance

food /fʃuːd/ noun things which you eat ○ This hotel is famous for its food. ○ Do you like German food? ○ to give someone food for thought to make someone think carefully

food chain /fʃuːd tʃeɪn/ noun a series of living things which pass energy from one to another as each is eaten by the next. For example, grass is eaten by small animals, which are then eaten by larger animals, and so on

food poisoning /fʃuːd pʊəzɪnɪng/ noun an illness caused by eating food which is contaminated with bacteria

food processor /ˈfʃuːd prəʊsesə/ noun a machine used in preparing food, e.g. for cutting or mixing it

foodstuff /ˈfʃuːdstʃf/ noun something which can be used as food

fool /fʊl/ noun 1. a stupid person ○ You fool! Why didn’t you put the brakes on? ○ I was a fool to think that I could make her change her mind. ○ to make a fool of yourself to behave in a silly way 2. a type of sweet food made from fruit and cream ○ She made some gooseberry fool. ○ verb 1. to fool about or around to play around in a silly way ○ Stop fooling around with that knife – you’re going to have an accident. 2. to trick someone ○ They fooled the old lady into letting them into her house. ○ You can’t fool me – I know you’re not really ill. ○ you could have fooled me I find it hard to believe ○ She says she did her best – well, you could have fooled me!

football /ˈfʊtbɔːl/ noun 1. a ball used for kicking; the ball used in the various games of football ○ They were kicking a football around in the street. 2. a game played between two teams of eleven players with a round ball which can be kicked or headed, but not carried ○ They went to a football match. ○ The children were playing football in the street. ○ Let’s have a game of football. ○ He spends all his time watching football on TV. ○ He’s got a new pair of football boots. Also called soccer

foot /fʊt/ noun 1. the end part of your leg ○ She has very small feet. ○ to put your foot in it to say something embarrassing ○ He really put his foot in it when he said that the mayor’s wife was fat. ○ to put your feet up to rest; to retire from work.

footage /ˈfʊtɪdʒ/ noun a piece of film showing an event (NOTE: no plural)

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footprint /ˈfʊtprɪnt/ noun a mark left on the ground by the sole of a person's or animal's foot

footstool /ˈfʊtstʊl/ noun a low seat or table on which you stand

footwear /ˈfʊtfɔːr/ noun the shoes that you wear ○ We bought new footwear for the ceremony of baptism in a church ○ The church has an 11th century font.

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footwork /ˈfʊtwɜːrk/ noun the way you move your feet when you are dancing or playing a sport ○ The dancer is very adept at footwork.

footy /ˈfʊti/ noun Australian football ○ I’m a footy fan.

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footbridge /ˈfʊtbrɪdʒ/ noun a small bridge for people to walk across, and not for vehicles

footfall /ˈfʊtfɔl/ plural noun the lower slopes of a group of mountains 

footpath /ˈfʊtpɑθ/ noun a path, and fell fifty feet into the sea.

footprint /ˈfʊtprɪnt/ noun a mark left by the foot on the ground. They followed the footprints in the snow to the cave. An area covered by something. The computer has a relatively small footprint. A warehouse with a footprint of over 50,000 square feet.

footrest /ˈfʊtrest/ noun a low bar on which you can rest your feet

footstep /ˈfʊtstɛp/ noun 1. a sound made by a foot touching the ground. 
2. to follow in someone's footsteps to do what someone did before. He's following in his father's footsteps and going in for a legal career.

footwear /ˈfʊtwɔr/ noun articles of clothing worn on your feet, such as boots or shoes (NOTE: no plural)

footwork /ˈfʊtwɜrk/ noun a way of using your feet, especially in sports (NOTE: no plural)

footfall /ˈfʊtfɔl/ plural noun words or page numbers printed at the bottom of a page. Compare header

footlights /ˈfʊtlɪts/ plural noun the lower lights along the front of the stage in a theatre

footman /ˈfʊtmən/ noun a male servant (NOTE: the plural is footmen.)

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Footstock /ˈfʊtsku/ noun a small piece of furniture in the shape of a box on which you can rest your feet. Synonym footrest

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forbidding /fɔrbɪdɪŋ/ adj which looks frightening or dangerous

force /fɔrs/ noun 1. strength or power ○ The force of the wind blew some tiles off the roof. ○ The police had to use force to restrain the crowd. 2. an organised group of people ○ He served in the police force for twenty years. 3. □ to have the force of law to be required legally ■ verb to make someone do something ○ He was forced to stop smoking ○ You can’t force me to go if I don’t want to.

forced /fɔrst/ adj, adv strongly or with a lot of force

forcefully /fɔrsfl/ adv strongly or with a lot of force

forced /fɔst/ noun a part of a river where you can walk or drive across through the water because it is not deep ○ We drove slowly and carefully across the ford, as the water flow was quite strong. Synonym shallows ■ verb to cross a river at a ford ○ The army forded the river and advanced on the capital.

fore /fɔr/ noun 1. □ to come to the fore to become important ○ He first came to the fore during the student riots of 1968. 2. the front part of a ship or plane □ adj, adv in the front part of a ship or plane ○ fore and aft the front and back of a plane or ship ○ The toilets are located fore and aft. □ pref in front; before ○ forewarned

forearm /fɔ:rərm/ the part of the arm between the hand and the elbow ○ The dog put his paw on her forearm. ■ verb /fɔrərm/ □ to be forearmed to be prepared before a difficult situation happens. ○ forewarned

forebears /fɔrbɪz/ plural noun all the people in your family who have lived before you (formal) ○ His forebears came from Russia in the 18th century.

foreboding /fɔ:boʊdnɪŋ/ noun a feeling that something bad will happen. Synonym premonition

forecast /fɔrkɑːst/ noun a description of what you think will happen in the future ○ His forecast of sales turned out to be completely accurate. Synonym prediction

to say what will happen in the future ○ They are forecasting storms for the south coast. ○ They forecast a rise in the number of tourists. Synonym predict (NOTE: forecasting – forecast)

forecaster /fɔrkɑːstər/ noun a person who says what will happen in the future, especially what sort of weather there will be

foreclose /fɔrklaʊz/ verb to take away property because the owner cannot pay back money which he or she has borrowed to buy it (formal)

forecourt /fɔrkɔːt/ noun an open area in front of a building

forefather /fɔrfeθər/ noun an ancestor

forefinger /fɔrfɪŋɡər/ noun the index finger; the first finger next to the thumb

forefoot /fɔrfʊt/ noun the front foot of an animal

forefront /fɔfrɒnt/ noun the most advanced position □ to be in the forefront of a campaign to be a leader of a campaign ○ They are in the forefront of the campaign to save whales.

forego /fɔrgoʊ/ verb to do without (formal) (NOTE: forewent – has foregone)

foregone conclusion /fɔrgən kənˈklʌʒən/ noun something which will definitely happen as a result of something else

foreground /fɔrgrəʊnd/ noun a part of a picture which seems nearest the front. Synonym foreground

forehead /fɔrheʊd/ noun the part of the front of the head facing forwards, in sports such as tennis. Antonym backhand

forehead /fɔrˈhɛd/ noun the part of the front of the head between the eyes and the hair ○ foreign /fɔrɪn/ adj, not from your own country ○ There are lots of foreign medical students at our college. 2. something which you are not used to or cannot understand ○ The concept of punctuation and grammar is completely foreign to her.

foreign body /fɔrɪn ‘bɒdi/ noun something which should not be there, such as a piece of dust in your eye

foreigner /fɔrɪnər/ noun a person who does not come from the same country as you

foreign exchange /fɔrɪn ɪks’tʃeɪndʒ/ noun the process or practice of changing the money of one country for money of another

foreign language /fɔrɪn ‘laŋgwɪdʒ/ noun a language spoken by people in or from another country

Foreign Office /fɔrɪn ˈɒfɪs/ noun the British government department dealing with relations with other countries (NOTE: In other countries this is the Foreign Ministry, and in the USA the State Department.)
most we need to get the costs under control.

thing coming before another more important

ing that something will happen in the future

covering the tip of the penis

certainly stay here for the foreseeable future.

Synonym

what someone may do and try to stop them.

methods used for solving crimes

referring to the scientific solving of crimes

scientific terms used for solving crimes

a person or thing coming before another more important or advanced one

to have a strong feeling that something will happen in the future although you cannot be sure that it will. Synonym anticipate (NOTE: foreseeing – foresaw – has foresen)

which can be seen for the foreseeable future as far in the future as you can imagine. Synonym foresee (NOTE: forewarn – warned)

verb to be a warning or sign of something that may happen

the ability to see what will probably happen in the future, the ability to plan for emergencies

the fold of skin covering the tip of the penis

a large area covered with trees

The country is covered with a large area covered with trees

In dry weather there's a danger of forest fires.

a person who copies

to copy something illegally

He was sent to prison for forgery.

a place where metal objects are made by heating the metal until it is soft and then forming it into a shape, e.g. with a hammer

a person who copies something illegally

the action of making an illegal copy

He's forgotten the name of the restaurant.

I've forgotten how to play chess.

She forgot all about her doctor's appointment.

Don't forget we're having lunch tomorrow.

Great scenes at home – I forgot my wife's birthday!

to leave something behind

He was sent to prison for forgery.

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Great scenes at home – I forgot my wife's birthday!

to leave something behind

He was sent to prison for forgery.
forgetful /fɔrˈɡɪfl/ adj often unable to remember
forgetfulness /fɔrˈɡɪfləns/ noun the characteristic of being forgetful
forget-me-not /fɔrˈget miː nt/ noun a small blue flower
forgive /fɔrɡv/ verb to stop being angry with someone ○ Don’t worry about it – I forgive you! ○ Will she ever forgive me for forgetting her birthday? Antonym: blame (NOTE: forgiving – forgave /fɔrˌgev/ – has forgiven)
for goodness /fɔr ˈɡʊdəs/ adv for ever
forgotten /fɔrˈɡɑtən/ adj / for get
fork /fɔrk/ noun 1. an object with a handle at one end and several sharp points at the other, used for picking things up, especially when eating ○ Don’t try to eat Chinese food with a knife and fork. ○ It’s polite to use a fork to eat cake – don’t use your fingers. 2. a Y-shaped road junction, or one of the roads leading from it ○ Take the left fork towards the castle and our house is on the right. 3. a place where a branch joins a tree trunk. ■ verb 1. to turn off a road ○ Fork left at the next crossroads. 2. to split into two parts ○ The railway line forks at Crewe and one branch goes to the coast. 3. to fork out to pay for something, usually unwillingly (informal) ○ She didn’t bring any money, so I had to fork out for the whole meal.
forked /fɔrkId/ adj divided, particularly into two branches
fork-lift truck /fɔ:k lɪtˈtрак/ noun a type of small tractor with two metal arms in front, used in warehouses to lift and move pallets
forlorn /fɔrˈlɔrn/ adj 1. left alone and feeling sad ○ She stood all forlorn on the platform, very slight hope ○ We’ll try searching again, but I think it’s a forlorn hope. ○ form /fɔrm/ noun 1. a shape ○ a decoration in the form of a ring. 2. a paper with blank spaces which you have to write in. 3. a state or condition ○ Their team wasn’t in top form and lost. ○ in good form in a good mood; very amusing ○ She’s in good form today. ○ off form or out of form not performing very well ○ He’s off form at the moment – he needs more practice. 4. a class, usually in a secondary school ○ She’s in the top form. ■ verb 1. to make ○ The children formed a circle. 2. ○ formed of made of ○ The team is formed of ex-students. 3. to organise or start something ○ The factory decided to form a football team. ○ They got together and formed a club. 4. to start to exist ○ Ice formed on the car windows.
formal /fɔrməl/ adj 1. done according to certain rules ○ The formal opening ceremony was performed by the mayor. 2. using correct or official ways of doing things ○ We made a formal offer for the house yesterday. 3. serious and conventional in style, suitable for special or official occasions. Antonym informal
formalise /fɔrməlaɪz, fɔrˈmalaɪz/ verb to make a situation official ○ formation /fɔrməʃən/ noun 1. a shape or size that something is made in ○ What format do you want your invitations printed in? 2. the measurements of a page or book ○ Printers can handle all sorts of book formats. 3. the style of a computer disk ○ My computer can’t read that disk – it’s the wrong format. ■ verb 1. to format a document to arrange text on a computer, so that it is ready for final printing ○ Style sheets are used to format documents. 2. to prepare a computer disk so that it is ready to receive data ○ You have to format the disk before you can save data on it. (NOTE: formatting – formatted)
formation /fɔrˈmeɪʃən/ noun 1. the forming of something ○ The formation of ice occurs at temperatures below zero. 2. a shape ○ a beautiful cloud formation ○ in formation in a set pattern ○ The geese were flying in a V formation.
formative /fɔrˈmətɪv/ adj important for the or development of something ○ former /fɔrˈmɝr/ adj referring to a person’s or thing’s identity or role at an earlier time ○ a former army officer ○ The former champion came last in the race. Synonym: previous ■ noun ○ the former the first person or thing mentioned of (two) ○ Mr Smith and Mr Jones are both directors, but the former has been with the company longer. ○ formerly /fɔrˈməlɪ/ adv at an earlier time.
formula /fɔrˈmjuːlə/ noun 1. a statement of a scientific fact, often shown by means of...
formulaic /ˈfɔrməliək/ adj 1. a formula for disaster something which will certainly lead to problems ♦ The management’s approach is a formula for disaster. 2. a series of set words to express something ♦ the formula to start a letter to the Queen (NOTE: [all senses] The plural is formulae /ˈfɔrməliəui/) formulated /ˈfɔrməlated/ verb 1. expressed as, or having the nature of, a formula 2. created according to existing models or ideas, and therefore not very original or exciting. 3. put into a series of set words to express something. 

formulation /ˈfɔrməljuəʃən/ noun the process of devising something, or expressing something clearly.

forsake /fɔr’seik/ verb to leave someone or something behind. 1. god-forsaken. Synonym abandon. Antonym support (NOTE: forsok /fɔr’suk/ — has forsaken) 

fort /fɔrt/ noun 1. a strong army building which can be defended against enemy attacks ♦ The soldiers rode out of the fort. 2. to hold the fort to be in charge while someone is away ♦ They went away on holiday and left me holding the fort.

forte /fɔrti/ noun a particular ability, or the subject you are best in. 1. History is not my forte. Synonym strong point. Antonym failing (of music) played loudly.

forth /fɔrθ/ adv 1. forwards 2. back and forth backwards and forwards ♦ I’m fed up with commuting back and forth across town every day. 2. to go forth or to set forth to go out and onwards ♦ The expedition set forth in May. 3. to hold forth about something to talk without stopping about something ♦ My father was holding forth about the government.

forthcoming /fɔrθˈkʌmɪŋ/ adj 1. soon to come ♦ His forthcoming novel will be about London. 2. talkative; full of information ♦ She wasn’t very forthcoming about her plans.

forthright /fɔrθrɪt/ adj direct and blunt. Antonym timid.

forthwith /fɔrθˈwɪð/ adv immediately.

fortify /fɔrtɪfai/ verb 1. to make a place strong, so that it can be defended against attack. 2. to fortify yourself with something to eat or drink something to make you able to continue.

fortnight /ˈfɔrtnət/ noun two weeks (NOTE: not used in American English) 

fortnightly /fɔrtnəltli/ adj, adv once every two weeks ♦ a fortnightly visit to the doctor.

fortress /ˈfɔrstrəs/ noun a strong castle (NOTE: The plural is fortresses.) fortuitous /fɔrtjuˈtjuəs/ adj happening by chance and having a good result.

fortunately /fɔrtjʊnətli/ adv by good luck ♦ Fortunately, he had remembered to take an umbrella. ♦ He was late getting to the airport, but fortunately the flight had been delayed.

fortune /fɔrtʃən/ noun 1. a large amount of money ♦ He won a fortune on the lottery. ♦ She made a fortune on the stock market. ♦ She left her fortune to her three children. 2. to cost a fortune to cost a lot of money ♦ That shop has shoes that cost a fortune. ♦ to tell someone’s fortune to say what will happen to someone in the future ♦ She tells fortunes from cards. 3. luck, chance ♦ She had the good fortune to be picked for the England team.

fortune-teller /ˈfɔrtʃənˌtelər/ noun a person who says what will happen in the future, e.g. by looking at cards or lines on your hand. Synonym clairvoyant.

fortune-telling /ˈfɔrtʃənˌtelɪŋ/ noun the activity of telling people what will happen in the future, e.g. by looking at cards, tea leaves or lines on the hand.

forty (years old). ♦ He has more than forty pairs of shoes. 2. he’s in his forties he is between 40 and 49 years old ♦ She’s forty (years old). ♦ He has more than forty years old. ♦ He has more than forty forties (1940s) the period from 1940 to 1949.

forty winks /fɔrti ’wɪŋks/ noun a very short sleep (informal). Synonym nap.

forum /ˈfɔrəm/ noun an occasion when matters of general interest can be discussed.

forward /fərˈwɔrd/ adv moving in the direction that someone or something is facing ♦ She made a forward pass across the field to the winger. 1. in the direction that someone or something is facing ♦ She bent forward to hear what he had to say. ♦ He took two steps forward. 2. advanced ♦ Unfortunately, we’re no further forward with our project. 3.
towards the future 2 to look forward to something to think happily about something which is going to happen 3 I'm looking forward to my holidays 4 He isn't looking forward to his exams 4 I'm looking forward to seeing you 4 from that time on 4 to send a letter on to another address 4 The bank forwarded the cheque to his house in the country 4 a player in a team whose job is to attack the other side 4 The England defence came under attack from the Brazilian forwards 4

forwarding address /fəˈswɔːdɪŋ əˈdres/ noun an address to which mail can be sent 4

forward-looking /fəˈswɔːdɪŋ ˈlʊkɪŋ/ adj planning for or thinking about the future 4

forward slash /fəˈswɔːd/ adv in a forward direction (NOTE: The US term is forward.) 4

forward slash /fəˈswɔːd/ noun an ordinary slash used in printing or writing text

fossil /ˈfɒsəl/ noun the remains of a prehistoric animal or plant left in a rock

fossil fuel /ˈfɒsəl fjuːl/ noun a fuel made of fossilised plants or animals 4

fossilised /ˈfɒsəlɪzaɪd/, fossilized adj referring to something which has become a fossil

foster /ˈfɒstər/ verb 1, to bring up a child who is not your own, without adopting it 2 They have fostered several children 2, to encourage an idea, etc. 3 Tourism fosters interest in other countries 4 We are trying to foster the children's interest in the history of the village 4

foster-child /ˈfɒstər ˈʃaɪld/ noun a child brought up by parents who are not his or her own (NOTE: The plural is foster-children.) 4

foster home /ˈfɒstər həʊm/ noun a family where a foster-child is brought up

foster parent /ˈfɒstər ˈpɛrənt/ noun a parent who fosters a child 4

fought /fɔst/ 5 fight

foul /fauəl/ adj 1, smelling or tasting unpleasant, or making an unpleasant impression 2 What foul weather we're having! 2 The boss has been in a foul temper all day 2 A foul-smelling drain run down the centre of the street 2 to fall foul of to get into trouble with a person or group of people 2 The boys fell foul of the police 2 She fell foul of the income tax inspectors 4 noun an action which is against the rules of a game 4 The referee gave a free kick for a foul on the goalkeeper 5 Look at the action replay to see if it really was a foul (NOTE: Do not confuse with foul) 4 verb 1, to do something to another player which is against the rules of a game 2 He was fouled inside the penalty box so the ref gave a penalty 2, to foul something up to do something badly, make a mess of something, or create problems (informal) 4 Don't ask John about it - he's sure to foul it up 3, to make something dirty, particularly by leaving excrement there 4 Make sure that your dog does not foul the pavements

foul play /fauəl ˈpleɪ/ noun unfair or illegal behaviour

foul-up /fauəl ʌp/ noun a bad situation which has happened because of a mistake someone has made

found /faund/ verb 1, to establish, to begin something 2 The business was founded in 1900 2, to be founded on something to be based on something 3 The accusations against her are not founded on any definite facts 3, a find

foundation /ˈfəʊndəʃən/ noun 1, establishing; setting up 2 Ever since its foundation in 1892, the company has been a great success 2, a charitable organisation which provides money for certain projects 4 a foundation for educational research 3, same as foundation course 4

foundation course /ˈfəʊndəʃən kɔːs/ noun a basic course at a university, which allows you to go on to a more advanced course

foundation cream /ˈfəʊndəʃən krɛm/ noun a skin-coloured cream which is put on the face under powder

foundations /ˈfaʊndəʃənz/ plural noun a stone or concrete base below the ground on which a building is built

founder /faundər/ noun a person who establishes or sets up something 4 He was one of the founders of the National Trust 4

foundation course /ˈfəʊndər ˈmembə/ noun one of the first to establish a club, etc. 4

founding /ˈfəʊndɪŋ/ noun the action of setting up

founding father /ˈfəʊndɪŋ ˈfɑːðər/ noun a person who founded a state, especially one of those who signed the American Constitution of 1787

foundry /ˈfaʊndri/ noun a place for melting and moulding metal or glass 4

fountain /ˈfaʊntən/ noun an ornamental jet of water in a street or garden 4

fountain pen /ˈfaʊntən pen/ noun a pen which can be filled with ink 4

four /fɔːr/ noun 1, the number 4 2 a square has four corners 4 He's four (years old) 4 I have an appointment with the doctor at four (o'clock) 4 on all fours on hands and knees 4 He was creeping around under the desk on all fours 2, a crew of four rowers in a boat 4 Our college four won the race 3, (in cricket) a score of four runs for sending the
four-by-four
ball over the boundary. ○ He scored a century, including seven fours and two sixes.

four-leaved clover/noun a four-wheel-drive vehicle. Abbreviation 4x4

four-leaved clover /ˈfɔːrˌliːvd ˈklɒvər/ noun a lucky rare type of clover with four leaves instead of three

four-poster /ˈfɔːrpəstər/ noun an old-fashioned bed with a post at each corner, that can be used to support a canopy or curtains

foursome /ˈfɔːrˌsʌm/ noun 1. a golf match played by four people, i.e. two pairs. ○ They won the foursomes. 2. a group of four people ○ The foursome stole a car and drove to Las Vegas.

fourteen /ˈfɔːrtiːn/ noun the number 14 ○ There are fourteen houses in our street. ○ He’s fourteen (years old) next week. ○ The fourteenth century the period from 1300 to 1499

fourteenth /ˈfɔːrtiːnθ/ adj. noun referring to 14 ○ She came fourteenth in the race. ○ The fourteenth of July or July the fourteenth (July 14th). ○ It was her fourteenth birthday yesterday. ○ The fourteenth of October the fourteenth (October 14th) the fourteenth century the period from 1300 to 1499

four /ˈfɔːr/ adj referring to 4 ○ This is the fourth time he’s had to go to hospital this year. ○ It’s her fourth birthday tomorrow. ○ the fourth of October or October the fourth (October 4th) the fourth century the period from 300 to 299

four-hundred /ˈfɔːrˌhʌndrd/ noun one part of four equal parts. Also called quarter

Fourth of July /ˈfɔːrθ əv ˈdʒuːˈlaɪ/ noun the national day in the United States ○ We’re having a Fourth of July party.

four-wheel drive /ˈfɔːrˌwiːld ˈdraɪv/ noun 1. a system in which engine power drives all four wheels of a vehicle. 2. a vehicle working by this system. Abbreviation 4WD

fowl /ˈfəʊlv/ noun a domestic bird which is kept for its eggs or to be killed for food, such as a chicken, duck, turkey or goose ○ fox /fɒks/ noun a wild animal with redish fur and a bushy tail ○ foxes attack lambs in this part of the world. Compare vixen (NOTE: The plural is foxes). ○ verb to puzzle someone ○ To fox everyone, we used a French company to make the planning application. ○ Today’s crossword has got me completely foxed.

foxglove /ˈfɒksɡlʌv/ noun a tall purple and white flower found in woods

fox hunting /ˈfɒks ˈhaʊntɪŋ/ noun chasing foxes to catch and kill them, usually with dogs

foyer /ˈfɔːri/ noun a large entrance hall at the front of a hotel, restaurant, or theatre

fracas /ˈfrækəs/ noun a noisy disturbance

fraction /ˈfrækʃən/ noun 1. a very small amount ○ Sales are up a fraction this month. ○ Move the camera a fraction to the right, and you’ll all get in the picture. 2. (in mathematics) less than a whole number ○ ½ and ½ are fractions. 3. a small part of something ○ Only a fraction of the stolen money was ever found.

fractional /ˈfrækʃənəl/ adj very small. Synonym slight

fractionation /ˈfrækʃəneɪʃən/ noun the breaking into small pieces ○ as soon as the founder died, the whole organisation fragmented. Synonym break up. Antonym fuse

fragments /ˈfræɡmənts/ noun 1. a small piece ○ When digging on the site of the old house they found fragments of glass. 2. noun to separate into small pieces ○ As soon as the founder died, the whole organisation fragmented. Synonym break up. Antonym fuse

fragrant /ˈfræɡrənt/ adj with a sweet smell. Synonym perfumed. Antonym smelly

frailest /ˈfrel/ adj weak and thin

frailty /ˈfreɪlti/ noun being weak ○ the frailty of human existence ○ the frailty of my father’s health

frame /ˈfreɪm/ noun 1. a border around something such as a pair of glasses, a picture, a mirror, or a window ○ He has glasses with gold frames. ○ I think the frame is worth more than the painting. 2. one picture in a film ○ The book is illustrated with frames from some of his films. 3. a basic structure ○ The car has an aluminium frame. ○ verb 1. to put a frame round a picture ○ The photograph has been framed in red. 2. to make someone seem to be guilty ○ He says he was
framed by the police. It wasn’t me – I’ve been framed! 3. to put words together to make a sentence. He had some difficulty in framing his reply. 4. The note was framed in very formal language.

frame of mind /ˈfram əv ˈmeɪn/ noun a way of thinking or feeling; general mood

framework /ˈfram ərk/ noun 1. the structure supporting a building, etc. 2. The framework of the shed is sound – it just needs some paint. 3. the basis of a plan. They are working within the framework of the United Nations resolution. 4. They are negotiating the framework of the agreement.

franchise /ˈfrænt jəz/ noun 1. a right to vote. In some countries women do not have the franchise. 2. a permit to sell a company’s products in a certain region or to trade using a well-known brand name. He bought a pizza franchise. 3. verb to sell licences for people to trade using a brand name and paying a fee for using it. His sandwich bar was so successful that he decided to franchise it.

Synonym license

Antonym forfright. Antonym insincere (NOTE: Do not confuse with franc.) 4. verb to stamp a letter with a special machine, instead of using a postage stamp. The letters were all franked before they left the office.

frank /fræŋk/ adj saying what you think. To be really frank with you – I think the plan stinks. He gave her some frank advice.

Synonym forthright. Antonym insincere

frankness /fræŋknəs/ noun being honest; saying what you think. Synonym honesty.

Antonym insincerity

frantic /ˈfræntɪk/ adj wild, worried and doing things fast

frantically /ˈfræntɪklɪ/ adv fast and in a worried way

fraternal /ˈfrætrəmənl/ adj brotherly. He started going out with his brother’s girlfriend – there’s fraternal feeling for you!

fraternal twins /ˈfrætrəmən/ plural noun twins who are not identical because they developed from two different ova at the same time. Compare identical twins

fraternise /ˈfrætəni z/ verb 1. to spend time with other people socially, especially people who are considered unsuitable. 2. to spend time with someone against military rules.

fraternity /ˈfrætərəni/ noun 1. a group of people with similar interests or occupations. Members of the banking fraternity have criticised the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

frate /frez/ noun 1. making money by making people believe something which is not true. He is facing trial for fraud. 2. a person pretending to be something which he or she is not. She’s a fraud – she has no legal qualifications. He’s an old fraud – he didn’t build that car himself.

fraudulent /ˈfrædʒdʒələnt/ adj dishonest.

Synonym fake. Antonym genuine

fraught /frɔt/ adj 1. full of problems or danger. The whole building project has been fraught with problems. 2. very worrying; very worrying. The situation in the office is particularly fraught this week. She’s a bit fraught today.

fray /freɪ/ noun a competitive situation; a fight or argument. To join or enter the fray to become involved in a situation, argument or fight. The government and opposition argued over the problem, and then the unions joined the fray.

Synonym ready for the fray

ready /freɪð/ having a worn edge, with loose threads

freak /frɪk/ noun 1. an unusual type of person, animal or plant. A white whale is a freak of nature. 2. a person who is extremely interested in something (informal). My brother’s a computer freak.

frankish /ˈfrænkɪʃ/ adj referring to weather that is very unusual. The vineyards were hit by a freak snowstorm in June.

freakish /ˈfrɪkɪʃ/ adj unusual or extraordinary

freckled /ˈfrɛk(ə)d/ covered in freckles

freckles /ˈfrɛk(ə)lz/ plural noun small brown marks on the skin, often caused by the sun. You’ll recognise her at once, she’s tall with fair hair and freckles. She was trying to get rid of the freckles on her arms.

free /fri/ adj 1. not busy; not occupied. Will you be free next Tuesday? There is a table free in the corner of the restaurant.

Do you have any free time next week? 2. not costing any money. Send in four tokens from cereal boxes and you can get a free toy.

I got a free ticket for the exhibition.

free gift a present given by a shop to a customer who buys a certain amount of goods.

There is a free gift worth £25 to any customer buying a washing machine.

3. able to do what you want; not forced to do anything. He’s free to do what he wants.

It’s a free country.

4. to be free from or of something to be without something unpleasant.

The slogan of the French state is ‘Liberty, Equality, Fraternity’. 

fraud /frɔd/ noun 1. making money by making people believe something which is not true. He is facing trial for fraud. 2. a person pretending to be something which he or she is not. She’s a fraud – she has no legal qualifications. He’s an old fraud – he didn’t build that car himself.

fraudulent /ˈfrɔdʒdʒələnt/ adj dishonest.

Synonym fake. Antonym genuine

fraught /frɔt/ adj 1. full of problems or danger. The whole building project has been fraught with problems. 2. very worrying; very worrying. The situation in the office is particularly fraught this week. She’s a bit fraught today.

fray /freɪ/ noun a competitive situation; a fight or argument. To join or enter the fray to become involved in a situation, argument or fight. The government and opposition argued over the problem, and then the unions joined the fray. Synonym ready for the fray

ready /freɪð/ having a worn edge, with loose threads

freak /frɪk/ noun 1. an unusual type of person, animal or plant. A white whale is a freak of nature. 2. a person who is extremely interested in something (informal). My brother’s a computer freak. Antonym referring to weather that is very unusual. The vineyards were hit by a freak snowstorm in June.

freakish /ˈfrɪkɪʃ/ adj unusual or extraordinary

freckled /ˈfrɛk(ə)d/ covered in freckles

freckles /ˈfrɛk(ə)lz/ plural noun small brown marks on the skin, often caused by the sun. You’ll recognise her at once, she’s tall with fair hair and freckles. She was trying to get rid of the freckles on her arms. 1. free /fri/ adj 1. not busy; not occupied. Will you be free next Tuesday? There is a table free in the corner of the restaurant. 2. Do you have any free time next week? 2. not costing any money. Send in four tokens from cereal boxes and you can get a free toy. 3. I got a free ticket for the exhibition. 4. free gift a present given by a shop to a customer who buys a certain amount of goods. There is a free gift worth £25 to any customer buying a washing machine. 3. able to do what you want; not forced to do anything. He’s free to do what he wants. 4. It’s a free country.

4. to be free from or of something to be without something unpleasant. The
free agent 336 freeze

country has been declared free of disease. ☐ free of charge with no payment to be made. ☐ duty free 5. not in prison, not in a cage ☐ After six years in prison he's a free man again. ☐ to set free to allow someone to leave prison, or to let an animal out of a cage ☐ The young birds were raised in the zoo and then set free in the wild. ■ verb 1. to release someone who is trapped ☐ It took the fire service some time to free the passengers in the bus. 2. to let someone out of prison, or an animal out of a cage ☐ The crowd stormed the jail and freed the prisoners. ■ adv 1. without having to pay ☐ Children are admitted free. 2. not in a cage; not attached ☐ Lions roam free in the park. ☐ to pull something free to pull something so that it is no longer held tight.

free agent /frɪˈdʒeɪnt/ noun someone who is able to do what they want.
freebie /ˈfrɪbɪ/ noun something supplied free of charge, especially as a gift to a customer or journalist (informal)
freedom /ˈfrɪdəm/ noun 1. the state of being free, rather than trapped or in prison ☐ She felt a sense of freedom being in the country after working all week in the city. ☐ His lawyer pleaded for his client’s freedom. 2. the state of being free to do what you want ☐ restricting our freedom of movement.
freedom fighter /ˈfrɪdəm ˈfætə/ noun a guerrilla fighting against an oppressive government.
freedom of information /ˌfrɪdəm əv ɪnˈfərəm(ə)n/ noun a situation in which official information held by government departments is made available to everyone.
freedom of speech /ˌfrɪdəm əv ˈspɛtʃ/ noun a situation in which people are able to say what they think without fear of being prosecuted.
freedom of the press /ˌfrɪdəm əv dəˈpres/ noun a situation in which people are able to write and publish in a newspaper what they want, without being afraid of prosecution unless they break the law.
free enterprise /ˈfrɪtʃəprər/ noun a system of business where there is no interference from the government.
free-for-all /ˈfrɪfə ˈæl/ noun a general fight or argument among several people (informal). Synonym brawl.
freehold /ˈfrɪthəuld/ noun a right to own a property for ever ☐ a freehold property a building which the owner can hold for ever.
free kick /ˈfrɪk/ noun a kick which a footballer is allowed to make without anyone opposing him, to punish the other side for something which they have done.
freelance /ˈfrɪləns/ noun an independent worker, not employed by one particular company. ■ adj working independently, rather than being employed by one particular company. ☐ She is a freelance journalist. ■ adv ☐ to work freelance to work independently, be self-employed. ■ verb to work independently.
freelancer /ˈfrɪlənsə/ noun a freelance worker.
freely /ˈfrɪli/ adv in an open manner, without being forced.
freedom fighter

freeze /frɪz/ verb 1. to change from liquid to solid because of the cold. ☐ The winter was mild and for the first time ever the river did not freeze over. ☐ It’s so cold that the lake has frozen solid. 2. to become very cold. ☐ The forecast is that it will freeze tonight. 3. to make food very cold so that it does not decay. ☐ We froze the raspberries we picked this morning. 4. ☐ to freeze to death to die of cold. ☐ She went out into the snow.
freezer

and froze to death. 5. to keep money or costs, etc., at their present level and not allow them to rise ○ We have frozen salaries at last year’s level. 6. to freeze a bank account to issue a court order stopping anyone from using their own bank account, especially preventing them from taking money out. 7. to stay very still ○ When they heard the police car coming, they froze. (NOTE: freezing – froze [froʊz/ – has frozen] noun 1. a period when it is very cold ○ Do you remember the great freeze in the winter of 1980? 2. when wages and prices freeze or a freeze on wages and prices a period when wages and prices are not allowed to be increased ○ freezer [ˈfiːzər] noun a refrigerator for freezing food and keeping it frozen ○ freezing [ˈfiːzɪŋ] adj very cold freezing point [ˈfiːzɪŋ pɔɪnt] noun a very low temperature at which a liquid becomes solid

freight [friːt/ noun 1. the action of transporting goods by air, sea or land ○ We sent the order by air freight. 2. goods transported ○ The government is encouraging firms to send freight by rail. ■ verb to transport goods ○ We freight goods to all parts of the world.

freighter [ˈfriːt kər/ noun US a goods wagon on a train

freezing point

French are famous for their wines and their salt, mustard and other flavourings.

french /ˈfrentʃ/ adj referring to France ○ The French railways have a system of high speed trains covering the whole country. 2. to take French leave to go away without permission ○ noun 1. the language spoken in France ○ He speaks French very well. ○ They are learning French at school. 2. noun the French the people of France ○ The French are famous for their wines and their cooking.

French bread [ˈfrentʃ ˈbred/ noun bread in the form of a long thin stick

French dressing [ˈfrentʃ ˈdresɪŋ/ noun a salad dressing made of oil and vinegar, with salt, mustard and other flavourings

French horn [ˈfrentʃ ˈhɔrn/ noun a brass musical instrument with a tube which is coiled round

Frenchman [ˈfrentʃ ˈmæn/ noun a man from France (NOTE: The plural is Frenchmen.)

French polish [ˈfrentʃ ˈpɒlɪʃ/ noun a resin polish used on wood ○ She gave the table a coating of French polish. ■ verb to polish wood with French polish ○ The table needs to be French polished.


frenzied [frəˈnɪzd/ adj wild and uncontrollable. Synonym: frantic. Antonym: calm

frenzy [ˈfrenzɪ/ noun a wild excitement

frequent /friˈkwɛnt/ adj happening often, often seen ○ He was a frequent visitor to the library. ○ Skin cancer is becoming more frequent. ○ How frequent are the planes to Birmingham? Antonym: infrequent. ■ verb /frɪˈkwɛnt/ to go somewhere very often ○ He frequents the bar at the corner of the street. Synonym: visit

frequent flyer [ˌfrɪˈkwɛnt flɪˈɛər] noun a person who travels by a certain airline often ○ frequently [frɪˈkwɛntli] adv often ○ To fly much more frequently, see your family often in France

fresh /frɛʃ/ adj 1. not used or not dirty ○ I’ll get you a fresh towel. 2. made quite recently ○ a basket of fresh rolls ○ Let’s ask for a pot of fresh coffee. 3. new ○ The police produced some fresh evidence. 4. not frozen ○ The fishmonger sells fresh fish. ○ Fresh fruit salad is better than tinned. ○ Fresh vegetables are difficult to get in winter. 5. bright and attractive ○ She has a fresh complexion. ○ The kitchen is painted a fresh green colour. 6. quite cool ○ fresh shower weather ○ quite strong ○ a fresh north wind 7. fit and awake ○ You’ll feel fresher after two hours’ sleep. (NOTE: fresher – freshest)

fresh air [frɛʃ ˈeə/ noun the open space outside buildings where the air flows freely ○ After ten hours in the office they were glad to come out into the fresh air.

freshen /ˈfɾeʃən/ verb 1. to make something fresh ○ The hot air in the valley was freshened by a mountain breeze. 2. to become cooler or fresher ○ The wind freshened as night came on. 3. to freshen (yourself) up to wash your hands and face, and tidy

French toast [ˈfrentʃ ˈtoʊst/ noun a slice of bread dipped in beaten egg and then fried, usually served with sugar

Frenchwoman [ˈfrentʃwʊmən/ noun a woman from France (NOTE: The plural is Frenchwomen.)

freezing point

Frenchwomen

fresco [ˈfreskəʊ/ noun a painting done on wet plaster on a wall or ceiling (NOTE: The plural is frescoes. Do not confuse with al fresco.)

freshest

frighten

frequent
fresher

your hair ○ I must just go to freshen up before the guests arrive.

fresher /fres/ noun a new student in his or her first year at college or university (informal); Synonym freshman

freshly /fresli/ adv recently

freshman /'frezmən/ noun a new student in his or her first year at college or university (NOTE: In the USA, freshman is also applied to a student at high school. The plural is freshmen.)

freshness /'freznəs/ noun being fresh

cleanwater /'frezətwət/ adj referring to river or lake water, not salt water

clean /'frezl/ verb to worry or be unhappy ○ She’s fretting about her exams. (NOTE: fretting – fretted) ■ noun the raised metal strip crossing the neck of a guitar against which you press the strings ○ Place your fingers so that you can feel the fret.

frêtrul /'frettərul/ adj always complaining and unhappy. Synonym worried. Antonym calm

Freudian /'frɔdɪən/ adj referring to Freud and his theories of psychoanalysis

Freudian slip /'frɔdɪən 'slip/ noun a mistake in speaking which seems to show your real feelings, when you are trying to hide them

Fri. abbr Friday

friar /'frær/ noun a member of a Christian religious order who went out to collect money or to preach

friction /'frikʃən/ noun 1. one thing rubbing against another ○ You need more oil to reduce friction in the motor. 2. a disagreement between two or more people ○ There has been a good deal of friction between the members of the board. (NOTE: no plural)

Friday /'friːdeɪ/ noun the fifth day of the week, the day between Thursday and Saturday ○ We all had a meal together last Friday. ○ We always go to the cinema on Friday evenings. ○ We normally have our meetings on Fridays. ○ Friday is a day of rest for Muslims. ○ Today is Friday, June 20th.

fridge /'frɪdʒ/ noun a kitchen machine for keeping things cold ○ The fridge is empty – we must buy some more food. ○ Shall I put the milk back in the fridge? Synonym refrigerator

fridge-freezer /'frɪdʒ-'frɪzə/ noun a kitchen machine consisting of both a fridge and a freezer in a single unit

fry /frai/ adj cooked in oil or fat. ○ fry

friend /'frend/ noun a person whom you know well and like ○ She’s my best friend. ○ We’re going on holiday with some friends from work. ○ to make friends with someone to get to know and like someone ○ We made friends with some French people on holiday.

friendly /'frendli/ adj like a friend, wanting to make friends ○ Don’t be frightened of the dog – he’s very friendly. ○ We’re not on friendly terms with the people who live next door. (NOTE: friendlier – friendliest)

friendship /'frendʃip/ noun the state of being friends ○ He formed several lasting friendships at school.

frieze /'frɪz/ noun a decorated band around a room just below the ceiling

frigate /'frɪgæt/ noun a small fast-moving naval ship

fright /frait/ noun 1. fear 2. a shock ○ to give someone a fright to make someone jump with fear ○ The sudden noise gave her a fright. ○ Don’t creep up behind me like that – you gave me a real fright. ○ to look a fright to look awful and not very attractive (dated)

frighten /'frait(ə)n/ verb to make someone afraid ○ Take off that horrible mask – you’ll frighten the children. ○ The cat has frightened all the birds away. Synonym scare. Antonym soothe

frightened /'frait(ə)nɪd/ adj full of fear; scared ○ The frightened children ran out of the building. Synonym scared. Antonym calm ○ frightened of something or someone ○ to be frightened of something ○ Don’t be frightened of the dog – he won’t hurt you.

frightening /'frait(ə)nɪŋ/ adj which causes fear ○ a frightening sound of footsteps in the corridor ○ He had a frightening thought – what if no one heard his cries for help? Synonym terrifying. Antonym soothing

frighteningly /'frait(ə)nɪŋli/ adv in a frightening way

frightful /'frait(ə)fl/ adj terrible or awful. Synonym appalling. Antonym pleasant

frightfully /'frait(ə)flɪ/ adv extremely (dated or humorous)

frigid /'frɪdʒɪd/ adj 1. very cold; icy 2. un-friendly, not showing any warm feelings ○ His frigid response did not give us much hope. 3. (of a woman) not responsive in sexual relations (unsatisfying) ○ After his marriage he discovered that she was frigid.

frigidity /'frɪdʒɪdɪti/ noun 1. great cold 2. coldness of feelings, especially lack of interest in sex

frill /'frɪl/ noun a piece of material gathered together and sewn on to a dress, etc.

frills /'frɪlz/ plural noun extra things, such as sauces with food ○ no-frills air travel cheap air travel where no meals are served and the passengers have no particular comforts

frilly /'frɪl/ adj decorated with a frill
ish-brown animal with long legs, which hops, the body
woman's clothing covering more or less all
with palm trees growing along the side
underwater
seriousness
jump about happily /L50263
the field
additional advantage which someone gets
of the crowd people were selling souvenirs.

frogman /frogman/ noun a diver working underwater (NOTE: The plural is frogmen.)
frolic /frɒlik/ noun a happy game or party
○ He said that the game of running across the railway lines was just a harmless frolic which went tragically wrong; ■ verb to play happily ○ The lambs were frolicking in the fields. (NOTE: frolicking – frolicked)
○ from /frɒm, /fɒm/ prep 1. showing the place where something starts or started ○ He comes from Germany. ○ The bees went from flower to flower. ○ We've had a letter from the bank. ○ He read the book from beginning to end or from cover to cover. ○ Take three from four and you get one. ○ I took a book from the pile on his desk. 2. showing the time when something starts or started ○ I'll be at home from 8 o'clock onwards. ○ The hours of work are 9:30 to 5:30, from Monday to Friday. ○ From now on I'm going to get up early.
3. showing distance ○ It is more than 3 km from here to the railway station. 4. showing difference ○ Can you tell butter from margarine? ○ His job is totally different from mine. 5. showing a cause ○ He died from the injuries he received in the accident. ○ He suffers from angina. ○ She suffers from coughs every winter. 6. showing material ○ items made from aluminium
fron /fɒrn/ noun a large leaf divided into many thin sections, as, e.g., on a palm tree
front /frɒnt/ noun 1. a part of something which is furthest forward ○ The front of the house is on London Road. ○ She splitt coffee down the front of her dress. 2. a particular area of interest ○ Any more news on the health front? 3. a road or path along the edge of the sea ○ We went for a walk along the front. ○ a hotel on the sea front or a sea front hotel 4. a line marking the point where two masses of air meet; ■ adj which is in front ○ She sat in the front seat, next to the driver. ○ in front further forwards ○ Her mother sat in the back seat and she sat in front. ○ in front of before or further forwards than something ○ Don't stand in front of the car – it may start suddenly. ○ There are six people in front of me in the queue. ○ You can park your car in front of the shop.
frolicking /frɒ/ving/ noun a happy game or party ○ The lambs were frolicking in the fields. (NOTE: frolicking – frolicked)
friv /frɪv/ adj a complaint which is in front ○ I'm fed up of listening to all these frivolous complaints about the bus service. frivolously /frɪvələsli/ adv in a frivolous way
frizzly /frɪzli/ adj (of hair) in a mass of tight curls
frock /fɒrk/ noun a dress; a piece of woman's clothing covering more or less all the body (dated)
frog /frɒg/ noun 1. a small greenish-brown animal with long legs, which hops, and lives both on land and in water ○ He kept some tadpoles in a jar hoping they would turn into frogs. ○ Can you hear the frogs croaking round the pond? 2. ■ to have a frog in your throat to have something in your throat which stops you speaking clearly (informal)
front /frɒnt/ noun 1. the hair lying over the forehead 2. edging of a shawl, carpet, etc., consisting of loose threads hanging down ○ a lampshade with a yellow fringe 3. an outer edge of an area ○ Round the fringe of the crowd people were selling souvenirs.
fringe benefit /frɪndʒ/ benefit/ noun an additional advantage which someone gets from doing a particular job or activity
fringed /frɪndʒd/ adj with things along the edge, like a fringe ○ fringed with palm trees with palm trees growing along the side
fringe theatre /frɪndʒ 'θɪətə/ noun usually experimental theatre, often not using a traditional theatre building (NOTE: The equivalent in New York is off Broadway.)
frisky /frɪski/ adj feeling lively, or behaving in a lively way
fritter /frɪtə/ noun a piece of meat, fruit or vegetable dipped in a mixture of flour, egg and milk, and fried ○ I love apple fritters. ■ verb to fritter something away to waste time, money, etc., on unimportant things ○ He inherited a fortune from his grandfather but had frittered it all away by the time he was thirty.
frivolity /frɪvəlɪti/ noun silliness; lack of seriousness
frivolous /frɪvələs/ adj silly; not serious ○ a frivolous complaint a complaint which is not made for a serious reason ○ I'm fed up of listening to all these frivolous complaints about the bus service. frivolously /frɪvələsli/ adv in a frivolous way
frizzy /frɪzi/ adj (of hair) in a mass of tight curls
front door /frɒnt 'dɔːr/ noun the main door to a house or building. Antonym back door
frontier /frɒntɪər/ noun 1. the boundary line between two countries ○ The customs men at the frontier didn't even bother to look at our passports. 2. the frontiers of science the furthest point in human knowledge ○ Scientists are trying to push back the frontiers of science.
frontispiece /ˈfrɒntɪspɪs/ noun a picture opposite the title page of a book
front line /ˈfrɒnt lɪn/ noun the line where two armies meet in war
front page /ˈfrɒnt ˈpeɪdʒ/ noun the first page of a newspaper or magazine
front-page story an important story which appears on the front page of a newspaper
front room /ˈfrɒnt ˈruːm/ noun a room at the front of a house, used for sitting in
front-runner /ˈfrɒnt ˈrʌnə/ noun the person who is currently first in a race or contest (informal)
frost /frɒst/ noun 1. a white covering on the ground, trees, etc., when the temperature is below freezing 2. cold, when the temperature is below freezing 3. there was a hard frost last night 4. there’s a touch of frost in the air 5. a late frost can damage young plants. 6. ten degrees of frost ten degrees below zero 7. verb 1. to cover with frost; to be damaged by frost 2. to frost over to become covered with frost 3. to frost a cake
frostbite /ˈfrɒstbɪt/ noun an injury caused by very severe cold which freezes your flesh
frostbitten /ˈfrɒstbɪtn(ə)n/ adj affected by frostbite
frosted glass /ɜːrˈfrɒstɪd ˈɡlɑːs/ noun glass with a rough or grainy surface which makes it opaque
frosting /ˈfrɒstɪŋ/ noun icing on a cake
frosty /ˈfrɒsti/ adj 1. very cold; covered with frost 2. a frosty night 3. they walked across the frosty fields 4. cold or unfriendly 5. she gave him a frosty stare 6. the minister got a very frosty reception at the meeting (NOTE: frostier – frostiest)
froth /frɒθ/ noun a mass of bubbles on top of a liquid 1. wait until the froth has settled before drinking your beer 2. to make masses of bubbles 3. he was lying on the floor, frothing at the mouth
frothy /ˈfrɒθi/ adj 1. referring to foam 2. trivial
frown /frɔːn/ noun pulling your eyebrows together as a sign that you are angry or worried 1. take that frown off your face 2. every- thing’s going to be all right. synonym scowl 1. verb to pull your eyebrows together because you are concentrating or worried 2. he frowned as he tried to do the calculation 3. to frown on or upon something to disappro- ve of something 4. the teachers frown on singing in the corridors 5. the company frowns on people who bring food into the of- fice 6. this type of behaviour is frowned upon by the municipal authorities. • antonym (all senses) smile
frustrated /ˈfrʌstrət/ adj 1. annoyed because of not being able to do something 2. she’s frustrated at not being able to speak
frustrate /ˈfrʌstreɪt/ verb 1. to make someone annoyed because they cannot do what they want to do 2. to prevent someone or something from being successful frustrated /ˈfrʌstrætɪd/ adj 1. annoyed because of not being able to do something 2. she’s frustrated at not being able to speak
fruits /frjuːts/ plural of fruit
fruit /fruːt/ noun 1. the part of a plant (such as apples, cherries, pears, etc.) which has seeds, is often eaten raw and is usually sweet 2. you should eat five pieces of fruit every day 3. he has six fruit trees in his garden 4. the fruits of your labours the results of your hard work 5. he was tired at sixty to enjoy the fruits of his labours 6. verb to produce fruit 7. the raspberries have finished fruiting 8. some pears fruit quite late in the season
fruitcake /fruˈkɛk/ noun a cake with a lot of dried fruit in it 1. as nutty as a fruitcake completely mad (informal) 2. fruitful /fruˈtɪf(ə)l/ adj which produces good results synonym productive 3. fruitless 4. to come to fruition to be finished with good results 5. after ten years’ work, the project finally came to fruition 6. to bring something to fruition to finish something with good results 7. fruit juice /fruːt dʒuːz/ noun juice from fruit 8. fruitless /ˈfrʌtliːs/ adj producing no result synonym unsuccessful 9. fruitful fruit machine /fruːt məˈʃɪn/ noun a gambling machine where pictures of different types of fruit appear when you press a button
fruit salad /fruːt ˈsæləd/ noun pieces of different fruit, cut up and mixed together 1. a dark fruity red wine 2. (of a voice or laugh) deep and attractive (note: fruitier – fruitiest)
frumpish /frʌmpɪʃ/ adj (of women) unattractive because of wearing old-fashioned clothes
frustrate /frʌˈstreɪt/ verb 1. to make someone annoyed because they cannot do what they want to do 2. to prevent someone or something from being successful frustrated /frʌˈstreɪtɪd/ adj 1. annoyed because of not being able to do something 2. she’s frustrated at not being able to speak
frustrating /frʌstreɪtɪŋ/ adj annoying, because someone or something stops you doing what you want to do. Antonym satisfying

fulfilled /fʊldɪld/ adj satisfied with what you are doing, or happy because of the things you have achieved.

fulfilment /fʊlfɪlment/ noun carrying something out in a satisfactory way (NOTE: The US spelling is fulfilment.)

full /fʊl/ adj 1. with as much inside as is possible ○ Is the box full? ○ The bag is full of potatoes. ○ We couldn’t get on the first bus because it was full. ○ All the hotels were full.

2. I’m full up I’ve eaten so much that I can’t eat any more (informal) ○ to be full of yourself to think a lot of yourself, or to be always talking about how successful you are 2. complete ○ You must give the police full details of the accident. ○ Write your full name and address at the top of the paper. ○ noun □ to the full completely ○ He always wants to live his life to the full. □ adv 1. completely; entirely ○ The story has never been told in full.

2. to know something full well to be very aware of something 3. straight; in the centre ○ The ball hit him full in the chest.

full back /ˈfʊlbæk/ noun a player who plays at the back of a team near the goal

full-board /ˈfʊlbɔːd/ noun a rate for bedroom and all meals in a hotel

full-faced /ˈfʊlfəs/ adj US fully-faced

full-grown /ˈfʊlgroʊn/ adj same as fully-grown

colorful bell-shaped hanging flowers

fulcrum /fʊlˈkrʌm/ noun a point on which a lever rests or on which something balances.

Synonym pivot

full /fʊl/ verb to complete something in a satisfactory way (NOTE: fulfilling – fulfilled. The US spelling is fulfilling.)

fulsome /ˈfʊlsəm/ adj having a particular quality to the highest degree

carrying something out in a satisfactory way (NOTE: fulfilling – fulfilled. The US spelling is fulfilling.)

full-scale /ˈfʊlskeɪl/ adj the same size as in real life ○ a full-scale model of a dinosaur 2. complete ○ It started as a dispute
full-size /'ful satz/ adj the same size as in real life

full stop /'ful stɒp/ noun 1. a punctuation mark like a small dot, showing the end of a sentence or an abbreviation. 2. meaning ‘there’s nothing more to say’ ○ She doesn’t like German food, full stop. (NOTE: The US term is period.)

fully /'ful/ adv completely or entirely ○ He was fully aware that he had made a mistake. ○ She still hasn’t fully recovered from her accident. ○ The hotel is fully booked for the Christmas week. ○ When fully grown, an elephant can weigh several tons. Synonym completely. Antonym partially

fully-fledged /'fuli 'fledʒd/ adj experienced or qualified (NOTE: The US term is full-grown.)

fully-grown /'fuli 'grownd/ adj adult-sized

fumble /'fʌmbəl/ verb to touch or feel clumsily

fume /fju:m/ verb to be angry ○ After he had read the report he was absolutely fuming.

fumes /fju:ziz/ plural noun smoke or gas ○ They must have inhaled the fumes from the gas cooker.

fumigate /fju:maɡɪte/ verb to clean a building or a room by burning chemicals to produce smoke which kills germs and insects. Synonym sterilise

fun /fʌn/ noun enjoyable or amusing activity ○ Having to stay in bed on my birthday is not much fun. Synonym amusement. Antonym boredom ○ to have fun to enjoy yourself ○ We had a lot of fun on the river.

to make fun of someone or to poke fun at someone to laugh at someone ○ Don’t make fun of her – she’s trying her best. ○ He poked fun at the Prime Minister. ○ for fun as a joke ○ She poured water down his neck for fun. ○ Just for fun, he drove the car through town dressed as a gorilla. ○ Why did you do that? – Just for the fun of it! ○ enjoyable, and probably involving games and laughter (informal) ○ Sitting on the grass in St James’s Park is a fun way of passing a Sunday afternoon. Synonym amusing. Antonym boring

function /'fʌŋkʃən/ noun 1. a party, or a gathering of people ○ We have two wedding functions in the main restaurant this weekend. ○ The Prime Minister is tied up with official functions all week. 2. work done by someone or something ○ The function of a goalkeeper is to stop the ball going into the net. ○ What’s the function of that red switch?

verb 1. to work ○ The computer is still functioning well after months of constant use. 2. to function as to serve as ○ The sofa functions as a bed if we have visitors.

functional /'fʌŋkʃənl/ adj 1. useful but not decorative ○ These old saucepans are not works of art but they’re functional. 2. working properly ○ The heating system will be functional again in an hour or so.

function key /'fʌŋkʃən kliz/ noun one of a row of keys along the top of a computer keyboard which activates a set of instructions

fund /fʌnd/ noun 1. a sum of money set aside for a special purpose ○ She contributes to a pension fund. 2. a collection ○ He has a fund of stories about his time at sea. ○ to provide money for a special purpose ○ We have asked the government to fund the building of the new library. ○ The company is funding her manager’s course. Synonym finance

fundamental /'fʌndəməntl/ adj basic; essential ○ The fundamental difference between us is that I apologise for my mistakes and you don’t. ○ Good air quality is fundamental for children’s health.

fundamentalism /'fʌndəməntliz(ə)m/ noun an approach to religion which involves following religious rules very strictly

fundamentally /'fʌndəməntli/ adv basically. Antonym superficially

fundamentals /'fʌndəməntlz/ plural noun basic principles. Synonym basics

fundraising /'fʌndreɪzing/ noun money for something. Synonym backering

fundraiser /'fʌndreɪzər/ noun 1. a person who raises money for a charity or voluntary group 2. a money-raising activity or event for a charity or voluntary group

fundraising /'fʌndreɪzing/ adj aimed at getting more money, by asking people or organisations to give some ○ a fund-raising dinner ○ The mayor launched a fund-raising scheme for the children’s club. ○ to fund the activity of raising money for a charity or voluntary group

funeral /'fju:nərəl/ noun 1. a ceremony when a dead person is buried or cremated ○ The church was packed for her funeral. ○ The funeral will take place on Friday morning. 2. ○ if it’s your funeral it is

over a few islands and soon developed into a full-scale war.

full-size

funeral
funeral director noun a person who arranges funerals in return for payment

funeral parlour noun a shop where dead bodies are taken to be made ready to be buried

funfair noun a group of amusements, sideshows, food stalls, etc., set up in one place for a short time

fungicide adjective referring to fungus

fungus noun a plant which has no green leaves or flowers and which lives on rotting matter or on other plants (NOTE: The plural is fungi)

funk noun 1. a style of African dance music with a strong rhythm 2. The crowd of teenagers were dancing to funk music 2. a state of fear (dated) verb not to do something because you are afraid to do it (informal dated)

funky adjective fashionable; modern (informal) (NOTE: funkier – funkiest)

funnel noun 1. a tube with a wide mouth and narrow bottom, used when pouring liquids from one container into another 2. a chimney on a ship through which the smoke escapes 3. The liner sailed away, with smoke billowing out of her funnel

funnily adverb 1. used to introduce a comment on something considered strange or unexpected 2. in a way that seems strange or unexplained 3. in a humorous or funny way

funny adjective 1. which makes you laugh 2. We watched a funny programme on children’s TV 3. He made funny faces and all the children laughed 4. The crowd was wearing a funny hat 5. strange or odd 6. She’s been behaving in a funny way recently 7. There’s a funny smell in the bathroom 8. a little bit ill (informal) 9. I’m feeling funny (NOTE: funnier – funniest)

funny bone noun a part of the elbow which gives a painful tingling sensation when it is hit by accident (informal)

fury noun the soft covering of an animal’s body 1. This type of cat has very short fur 2. She was wearing a fur coat 3. Have you got any fur-lined boots? (NOTE: Do not confuse with fir.)

furfur noun another spelling for fur
further education

Further education /ˈfɜːrər ɪdʒuˈkeɪʃən/ noun the system of teaching people who have left school.

furthermore /ˈfɜːrmɔːrli/ adverb also

furthermost /ˈfɜːrmərst/ adjective the furthest; the most distant (formal)

further /ˈfɜːrə/ adverb at or to the greatest distance. • Some of the staff live quite close to the office – James lives further away.

further distance /ˈfɜːrdɪst/ noun

furtive /ˈfɜːrtɪv/ adjective as if trying not to be noticed. Synonym secretive

fury /ˈfɜːri/ noun fierce anger

fuse /ʃuːz/ noun 1. a small piece of wire in an electrical circuit which melts and breaks if the circuit is overloaded, and so prevents further damage. • The plug has a fuse.

2. [in form. use] fuse. • A long fuse gives you ten seconds to get out of the way.

verb 1. to break an electrical circuit. • She plugged in her hair dryer and fused the lights.

2. [in form. use] fuse together to join things such as wires together to form one single thing. • The heat had fused the metal seat together.

3. to blow a fuse. to overload an electric circuit and make the fuse break. • The lights have gone out – I think we’ve blown a fuse.

4. to get very angry (informal). • He’s going to blow a fuse when he sees the mess you’ve made of his car.

fusebox /ʃuːzˈbɒks/ noun a box where the fuses which protect the electrical circuits in a building are kept

fuselage /ˈfjuːzəlidi/ noun the body of an aircraft

fusion /ʃuːzən/ noun 1. the melting together of two pieces of metal. • The heat of the explosion was so great that it resulted in the fusion of metal plates.

2. the joining together of two or more groups, such as political parties. • The new party has been formed by the fusion of two existing parties.

fuss /fʌs/ noun unnecessary excitement or complaints. • What’s all the fuss about?

verb to make a fuss or to kick up a fuss about something to complain for a long time about something which is not important. • Don’t make such a fuss – it’s only a little scratch.

fuzzy /ˈfjuːzi/ adjective 1. fluffy and curly. • She’s got dark fuzzy hair, which is difficult to comb.

2. blurred; not clear. • The security camera produced a fuzzy photograph of the bank robbers. (NOTE: fuzzier – fussiest)

FYI abbr for your information
g1 /dʒiː/ G noun the seventh letter of the alphabet, between F and H

g2 abbr gram

gab /ɡæb/ noun □ the gift of the gab a talent for talking a lot

gabbler /ɡɪˈbɛl/ noun □ gabbler noun □ the parent of the gabbler


gabbity /ˈɡæbi/t/ noun □ the quality of being gabbly

gabble /ˈɡæb(ə)l/ noun loud unintelligible talk. Synonym gibberish □ verb to speak very quickly ○ He gabbled a few words in Spanish. Synonym jabber
gable /ˈɡæb(ə)l/ noun the top part of a wall where it forms a triangle with the roof
gad /ɡæd/ verb (humorous) □ to gad about or gad around to be constantly going out somewhere enjoying yourself ○ He’s always gadding about.
gadget /ˈɡædʒɪt/ noun a small useful tool
gadgery /ˈɡædʒərɪ/ noun gadgets

Gaelic /ˈɡeɪlik/; in Scotland /ˈɡeɪlɪk/ noun a Celtic language spoken in some parts of Scotland, Ireland, and the Isle of Man □ adj referring to Gaelic-speaking people or areas ○ Gaelic football
gaffe /ˈɡæf/ noun a remark or action in a public situation which embarrasses someone. Synonym blunder, faux pas
gag /ɡæɡ/ noun 1. something put into or over a person’s mouth to stop him or her speaking ○ The burglar tied him up and put a gag in his mouth. 2. a joke ○ The audience laughed at most of his gags. □ verb 1. to put something over a person’s mouth to try to stop him or her talking ○ He was gagged and put into the boot of the car. 2. to try to stop someone talking or writing ○ The government tried to gag the press. 3. to choke; to try to vomit but be unable to do so ○ Every time the doctor tries to examine her throat, she gags. ○ He gagged on the hamburger. (NOTE: gagging – gagged)
gaga /ˈɡæɡə/ adj mentally incompetent (informal offensive)
gaggle /ˈɡæɡ(ə)l/ noun □ a flock of geese, or a group of noisy people

gaiety /ˈɡeɪti/ noun happiness or cheerfulness. Antonym misery
gaily /ˈɡelɪ/ adv happily. Antonym misery

gain /ɡeɪn/ verb 1. to get ○ The army gained control of the country. ○ She gained some useful experience working on a farm. 2. to increase in value ○ The pound gained six cents on the foreign exchange markets. 3. (of a clock or watch) to move ahead of the correct time ○ My watch gains five minutes a day. 4. □ to gain on someone or something, to gain ground to get closer to a person or thing you are chasing ○ With each lap he was gaining on the race leader. □ noun 1. profit ○ He betrayed his country for financial gain. 2. an increase in weight, quantity, size, etc. ○ There was no gain in weight. □ gain in experience getting more experience
gainful /ˈɡeɪnf(ə)l/ adj □ gainful employment employment which pays money
gainfully /ˈɡeɪnfl(ə)l/ adv □ gainfully employed working and earning money
gait /ˈɡeɪt/ noun a way of walking (NOTE: Do not confuse with gate)
gal noun /ɡæl/ a girl or woman (dated or US slang) □ abbr gallon
gala /ˈɡælə/ noun a festive public occasion or performance. Synonym festival
galactic /ˈɡælətɪk/ adj referring to a galaxy (informal)
galaxy /ˈɡælæksɪ/ noun 1. a huge group of stars ○ There are vast numbers of galaxies. ○ The speed of stars near the centre of a galaxy may indicate the presence of black holes. 2. a large number of brilliant and famous people, such as film stars ○ There is a galaxy of singers on our show tonight. (NOTE: The plural is galaxies.)

Galaxy /ˈɡæləksɪ/ noun the Milky Way, a band of what look like tiny stars, easily seen with the naked eye
gale /ˈɡeɪl/ noun a very strong wind □ wintry gales gales with snow □ gale force winds winds which are strong enough to be called a gale
gall /ɡɔːl/ noun 1. a thick bitter brownish-yellow liquid produced by the liver, which helps to digest fatty substances. Synonym bile 2. a growth on a plant, especially on an oak tree, caused by a parasitic insect 3. imudence ○ He had the gall to say I had cheated. □ verb to annoy someone ○ What galls me is that he is so successful when I’m not. Synonym irritate. Antonym please
gallant /ˈɡælənt/; ‘gælənt/ adj 1. brave 2. polite to women ○ It was very gallant of him
gallantly /ˈɡælbəntli/ adv in a gallant way
gallantry /ˈɡælnətri/ noun bravery
gall bladder /ˈɡɔːl ˈbledəs/ noun a sac underneath the liver, in which bile produced by the liver is stored
galleon /ˈɡæliən/ noun a large 16th century sailing ship

galvanise /ˈɡælvənəsaɪ/ verb 1. to coat iron with zinc. 2. The shed has a galvanised iron roof. 2. to give someone a shock so that he or she will act. She tried to galvanise him into action.
gambit /ˈɡæmbɪt/ noun 1. something said or done which should give you an advantage in an argument. 2. a series of moves which start a game of chess
gamble /ˈɡæmbəl/ noun a risk. 2. This investment is a bit of a gamble. He took a gamble with the weather in planning his picnic for the beginning of March.

gallop /ˈɡælp/ noun 1. the fastest running pace of a horse. 2. a fast ride on a horse. Let’s go for a gallop along the beach.
gallon /ˈɡæln/ noun a measure of quantity of liquid, equal to 4.55 litres. The car was empty and I had to put in seven gallons of petrol.

galler /ˈɡælər/ noun 1. a place where objects such as pictures and sculptures are on show to the public. The National Gallery is in Trafalgar Square. 2. The Tate Gallery has a collection of modern paintings.

gallon /ˈɡæln/ noun 1. a kitchen on a plane or ship. An economical car does 40 miles to a gallon.

gallant /ˈɡællənt/ adjective gallantly. Gallant bravery.
gallantly /ˈɡælbəntli/ adv a person who gambles.
gambler /ˈɡæmblər/ noun a person who gambles in an argument or done which should give you an advantage and which should give you a shock. 2. Everyone wanted to watch the game of football. Do you want a game of snooker? 3. to give the game away to reveal a secret plan.

game /ɡeɪm/ noun 1. a sport which can be won with skill, strength or luck. She’s not very good at games. 2. a single match between two opponents or two opposing teams.

game /ˈɡæm/ noun 1. Our team have won all their games this year. 5. Games a large organised sports competition.

gaming /ˈɡæmɪŋ/ noun 1. same as gambling.

gammon /ˈɡæmən/ noun meat from the lower part of a side of bacon

gamut /ˈɡæmət/ noun the complete range of things of the same type.
gargoyles /ˈɡɑːɡɔɪlz/ noun a water spout on a medieval building, carved like a grotesque head

garish /ˈɡɑːrɪʃ/ adj too colourful. Synonym gaudy. Antonym tasteful
garland /ˈɡærland/ noun a circle of flowers or paper decorations. □ She wore a garland of flowers in her hair. □ The room was decorated with paper garlands.
□ verb to decorate someone or something with garlands. □ The visitors were garlanded with flowers.

garlic /ˈɡɑrlɪk/ noun a bulb of a plant with a strong smell, a little like an onion
garlic bread /ˈɡɑrlɪk ˈbɛrd/ noun French bread spread with butter and garlic and heated

garlicky /ˈɡɑrlɪkɪ/ adj tasting or smelling of garlic
garment /ˈɡɑrment/ noun a piece of clothing (informal)
garnet /ˈɡɑrnət/ verb to collect something such as facts or data (formal)
garnish /ˈɡɑrnɪʃ/ noun something used to decorate food. □ Ham with a garnish of pickled cucumbers.
□ verb to decorate food or something with garnishes. □ The fish was garnished with slices of tomato.
garret /ˈɡɑrɛt/ noun a small room in an attic. Synonym attic

garrison /ˈɡɑrəsən/ noun soldiers defending a castle or town.
□ The attackers promised the garrison safe passage if they surrendered.
□ garrison town a town where a regiment of soldiers is based. □ verb to put troops somewhere as a garrison. □ The town was garrisoned by the Scots Guards.

garrulous /ˈɡɑrlələs/ adj who always talks a lot. Synonym talkative. Antonym taciturn

gas /ˈɡɑs/ noun 1. a chemical substance which is not a liquid or a solid, and which becomes liquid if it is cooled. □ Decomposing rubbish gives off methane gas. □ Air is formed of several gases, mainly nitrogen and oxygen.
□ verb to attack an enemy using poison gas. □ A chemical substance used for cooking or heating. □ I must go back home – I think I left the gas on. □ There is a smell of gas or its smells in the kitchen.
□ verb to turn down the gas or turn the gas down – it’s too hot. □ Can I borrow your lighter? I’ve mine has run out of gas. □ The hotel is heated by gas.
□ verb to run out of gas on the freeway. □ to step on the gas to drive faster (informal). □ Step on the gas – we’ll miss the train! □ verb to poison or kill someone using gas (informal). □ Millions of people were gassed during the war. (NOTE: gassing – gassed)
gas chamber /ˈɡɑs ˈʃɛmər/ noun a room where people are killed using poison gas
gas cylinder /ˈɡɑs ˌsɪləndər/ noun a metal tube containing gas
gaseous /ˈɡɑsɪs/ adj referring to gas

gas fire /ˈɡɑs ˈfɜːr/ noun a fire which heats with gas

gash /ˈɡɑʃ/ noun a deep cut. □ He received a gash on his forehead. Synonym wound

NOTE: The plural is gashes.
□ verb to make a deep cut. □ The knife gashed his arm.
□ He gashed her hand on the broken glass.
gasket /ˈɡɑskɪt/ noun a thin piece of a material put between two surfaces to prevent liquid or gas escaping

gasmask /ˈɡɑsmæsk/ noun a mask which protects against poison gas

gas meter /ˈɡɑs ˈmɛtər/ noun a meter inside a house by which you pay for the gas which you use

gasoline /ˈɡɑsəlɪn/ noun US a liquid, made from petroleum, used to drive a car engine. (NOTE: usually shortened to gas. The British term is petrol.)
gasp /ˈɡɑsp/ noun 1. a sudden intake of breath showing surprise or pain. □ She gave a gasp when she saw the face at the window.
□ last gasp a final action, which marks the end of something. □ The executions were the last gasp of the army regime.
□ verb 1. to take a short deep breath. □ He gasped when he saw the hill.
□ to have difficulty in breathing. □ After the race he lay on the ground gasping for breath.
gas station /ˈɡɑs ˈstɛnʃən/ noun US a place where you can buy gasoline. (NOTE: The British term is petrol station.)
gassy /ˈɡɑsɪ/ adj (especially of carbonated drinks) full of gas

gas tap /ˈɡɑs ˈtæp/ noun a tap on an appliance which turns the gas on or off

gastric /ˈɡɑstrɪk/ adj referring to the stomach

gastric flu /ˈɡɑstrɪk ˈfljuː/ noun any mild stomach disorder (informal)
gastronomic /ˌɡɑstrəˈnɒmɪk/ adj relating to good eating, or to styles of cooking

gas turbine /ˈɡɑs ˈtɜːbənt/ noun a unit in a car engine where the exhaust gases from the engine are used to drive a turbine and so increase engine power

gate /ˈɡeɪt/ noun 1. a low door made of bars of wood or metal, in a wall or fence, not in a building. □ Shut the gate – if you leave it open the sheep will get out of the field.
□ There is a white gate leading into the garden.
□ a door which leads to an aircraft at an airport. □ Flight AZ270 is now boarding at Gate 23.
□ the number of people with tickets to watch a sports match. □ There was a gate of
50,000 at the football final. (NOTE: Do not confuse with gait.)
gâteau /gɛtœ/ noun a large cream cake
(NOTE: The plural is gâteaux /gɛtwœ/) 
gatecrash /ˈgetkraʃ/ verb □ to gatecrash a party to get into a party without being invited □ A group of students tried to gatecrash her party.
gatecrasher /ˈgetkraʃ/ noun a person who gets into a party without being invited 
gatepost /ˈgetpouʃt/ noun a vertical piece of wood to which a gate is attached with hinges □ between you, me and the gatepost let me tell you this in secret (informal) □ Between you, me and the gatepost, I think she's pregnant.
gateway /ˈgetweɪ/ noun 1, an opening where a gate is fitted 2, a place which leads to a larger area □ Washington, gateway to the south 
 latch /lætʃ/ verb 1, to bring things or people together □ He gathered his papers together after the lecture. □ She has been gathering information on the history of the local school. 2, to come together □ Groups of people gathered outside the Parliament building.
 gateway /ˈgetweɪ/ noun 1, an opening where a gate is fitted 2, a place which leads to a larger area □ Washington, gateway to the south 
# gather /gæʃə/ verb 1, to bring things or people together □ He gathered his papers together after the lecture. □ She has been gathering information on the history of the local school. 2, to come together □ Groups of people gathered outside the Parliament building. 3, to understand □ I gather that his father is in hospital. □ We gather he has left the office.
# gathering /gæʃərɪŋ/ noun a group of people who have come together □ A speaker from another association will address the gathering. □ adj which is coming together □ The gathering crowds did not realise that the president had already left the country. □ the gathering storm the storm or other unpleasant event which is coming 
# gauche /ɡɔːʃ/ adj clumsy and shy when meeting people. Synonym awkward
# gaudily /ˈgɔːdɪli/ adv colourfully
# gaudy /ˈgɔːdi/ adj very brightly coloured. Synonym bright. Antonym tasteful (NOTE: gaudier – gaudiest)
# gauge /gæʒ/ noun 1, an instrument to measure depth, pressure, etc. 2, the distance between the two rails in a railway line □ verb to measure or to calculate □ This is an instrument which gauges the speed of the wind □ The chairman tried to gauge the feeling of the meeting. Synonym evaluate
# gaucho /ɡɔːʃ/ adj very thin
# gauntlet /ˈɡaʊntlɛt/ noun a strong glove □ to throw down the gauntlet to issue a challenge □ to pick up the gauntlet to accept a challenge □ to run the gauntlet to go through a dangerous crowd □ She ran the gauntlet of news photographers. 
# gave /ɡiːv/ verb give
# gawkiness /ˈɡɔːkɪnəs/ noun the fact of being gawky (informal)
# gawky /ˈɡɔːki/ adj clumsy and rather unattractive in appearance or movement (informal) Synonym awkward (NOTE: gawkier – gawkiest)
# gawp /gɔːp/ verb to gaze stupidly or rudely at something
# gay /ɡei/ adj 1, attracted to people of the same sex □ It’s a club where gay men and women meet. □ They met in a gay bar in Soho. 2, bright and lively (dated) □ The houses along the street are all painted in gay colours. (NOTE: gayer – gayest) □ noun a person who is attracted to someone of the same sex □ a club for gays
# gazelle /ɡəˈzel/ noun a type of small antelope which runs and leaps in the air (NOTE: The plural is usually gazelles. A herd of gazelle.)
# gazette /ɡəˈzet/ noun 1, the official newspaper of a military, legal or government organisation 2, used in the name of some newspapers □ the Evening Gazette
# gazetteer /ˌɡeɪzətɪər/ noun a list of names of places
# gazump /ɡəˈzæmp/ verb to accept a higher price from a buyer for a house which someone else has already agreed to buy at a lower price (informal) □ to gazump someone to accept a higher price for a house which someone else has already agreed to buy
# GBH abbr grievous bodily harm
# GCSE noun a British school exam taken at the age of around 16. Full form General Certificate of Secondary Education
# g'day /ɡˈdeɪ/ Australia another spelling of good day
# GDP abbr gross domestic product
# gear /ɡeə/ noun 1, equipment □ He took all his climbing gear with him. □ She was carrying her painting gear in a rucksack. 2, clothing □ She was putting on her tennis gear. 3, a system of cogs in a vehicle that makes it possible to change the amount of work the engine has to do to turn the wheels □ to change gear to move from one gear into another □ There was a loud noise as he tried to change gear. □ top gear or high gear the highest gear, used for fast speeds □ The car is most economical in top gear □ in gear with the gears engaged □ verb □ to gear some-
All dry - What a surprising sight!

The ferry service is geared to the tourist season. Lessons must be geared to the students’ ability.

gearbox /‘ɡeɪboks/ noun a case for gears in a car

gear lever /ˈɡiər ˈliːvər/, gear stick /ˈɡiər ˈstɪk/ noun the handle in a car which is used to change gears

gear up /ˈɡiər ʌp/ verb to get ready

gelatine /ˈdʒelətɪn/ noun a small tropical lizard

1. everyone has the same rights, regardless of race, religion or gender.

2. a small shop which sells a wide range of goods

3. a person who is a proud or enthusiastic user of computers or other technology, especially one who is interested in few other things or is socially awkward (informal)

genealogical /ˈdʒiːnəˈlæɡɪkəl/ adj referring to genealogy. Synonym hereditary

genealogy /ˈdʒiːnəlɔˈɡi/ noun 1. the study of the history of families. He’s an expert in the genealogy of Scottish clans. 2. the history of a family, showing how different generations are related to each other. She’s drawn up the genealogy of her father’s family.

genealogist /ˈdʒiːnəˈlæɡɪst/ noun a genealogist
genealogical /ˈdʒiːnəˈlæɡɪkəl/ adj

genealogically /ˈdʒiːnəˈlæɡɪkəlɪ/ adverb

generality /ˈdʒenərələti/ noun 1. a general statement. After talking about the recent floods, the discussion became more generalised, 2. affecting many areas throughout the country: The cancer became generalised.

generally /ˈdʒenərəli/ adverb normally

1. the ferry service is geared to the tourist season. Lessons must be geared to the students’ ability.

generous /ˈdʒenərəs/ adj 1. ordinary, not special: He had a good general education, but didn’t specialise in any particular field. In general, the weather is warmer in the south. 2. referring to everything or everyone: They issued a general instruction to all the staff.

genera /ˈdʒenərə/ plural noun an army officer of high rank: He has only recently been promoted to general.

generational /ˈdʒenərəʃən/ adj

generational change /dʒenərəˈʃən/ noun a change which is important to child

generation /dʒenəˈreʃən/ noun 1. a particular group of people who were born at about the same time: Many people of my father’s generation did.

generations /dʒenəˈreʃənz/ plural noun a family, showing how different generations are related to each other: She’s drawn up the genealogy of her father’s family.

1. everyone has the same rights, regardless of race, religion or gender.

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members of a family born about the same time
that’s a matter for the younger generation
that’s a matter for the younger members of a family
much of our time is spent looking after the older generation
much of our time is spent looking after the older members of our family
a series of machines made at about the same time
They are developing a new type of engine for the next generation of aircraft.
generation gap /dʒəˈneɪʃən ɡæp/ noun a lack of understanding between generations
2. generous with his time.
3. your time to help someone
4. a generous

2. You’re so generous!

2. The nurse has gentle hands.

2. globe is waiting to be served.

2. The wind blew gently

rises gently to the top of the hill.

2. The nurse has gentle hands.

2. The wind blew gently

rises gently to the top of the hill.

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geography

d  geography /dʒɪˈɒgrəfi/ noun the study of the Earth’s surface, its climate, plants and animals
d  geological /dʒiˈɔlədʒɪk(ə)/ adj referring to geology
d  geologist /dʒiˈɔlədʒɪst/ noun a person who specialises in geology
d  geology /dʒiˈɔlədʒi/ noun the science and study of the rocks that form the Earth’s crust
d  geometrical /dʒiˈæmɪtrɪk(ə)/ adj referring to geometry

d  geometry /dʒiˈæmɪtrɪ/ noun the mathematical science of lines, surfaces and solids
d  Georgian /dʒiˈɔrəniən/ adj referring to the architecture of the time of George I, George II and George III in the eighteenth century
d  geranium /dʒiˈrəniəm/ noun a brightly coloured summer flower, usually red or pink

d  gerbil /dʒiˈɜrbəl/ noun a small furry animal, often kept as a pet

d  geriatric /dʒiˈɛriətrɪk/ adj referring to old people, or old age or geriatric medicine

d  geriatrics /dʒiˈɛriətrɪks/ noun the study of old people and their health

d  germ /dʒɜrm/ noun 1. something which causes disease ○ Wash your hands after emptying the dustbin so you don’t spread any germs. 2. an inside part of a seed ○ wheat germ 3. the beginning of something ○ He had the germ of an idea.

d  German /dʒɜrmən/ adj referring to Germany or its inhabitants ○ There are three German players in the team. ○ Do you like German food?  
n  noun 1. the language spoken in Germany, Austria and parts of Switzerland and Italy ○ Do you know the German for ‘one – two – three’? ○ You must brush up your German if you are going to work in Germany. ○ He took a crash course in German. ○ He goes to German classes in the evening. 2. a person from Germany ○ Our next-door neighbours are Germans.

d  germane /dʒɜrmən/ adj directly connected to a matter. Synonym relevant. Antonym irrelevant

d  German measles /dʒɜrməˈzils/ noun a usually mild disease which gives a red rash but which can affect an unborn child if caught by a pregnant woman. Also called rubella

d  German shepherd /dʒɜrməˈʃeptərd/ noun a breed of large dog, often used as a guard dog (NOTE: The British term is Alsatian.)

d  germicide /dʒɜrmɪˈsaid/ noun a substance which kills germs

d  germinate /dʒɜrmɪˈneɪt/ verb (of a plant seed) to start to grow. Synonym sprout

d  get across /get əˈkrɒs/ verb to make signs with your hands or arms

d  gestas tion /dʒeɪˈstɛʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. a period when a baby is carried in its mother’s womb 2. a period when something such as a book is being worked on ○ The gestation period is almost over and the book should be published next month.

d  gesticulate /dʒeɪˈstɪkjuˈleɪt/ verb to make a movement with your hands ○ He gestured to the audience to sit down.

d  get /get/ verb 1. to receive something ○ We got a letter from the bank this morning. ○ He will get £10 for washing the car. ○ She gets more money than I do. 2. to get to to arrive at a place; to reach a place ○ We only got to the hotel at midnight. ○ When does your train get to London? ○ The plane gets to New York at 4 p.m. ○ When you get to my age you’ll understand! 3. to become a particular way ○ I’m getting too old for rugby. ○ He’s got much fatter over the last year or so. ○ The sun got hotter and hotter. ○ The carpet’s getting dirty. 4. to have something done ○ I must get my suit cleaned. ○ We got the car mended in time to go on holiday. 5. to make someone do something ○ Can you get the garage to mend the brakes? ○ I’ll try and get her to bring some CDs. 6. to catch an illness ○ I think I’m getting a cold. ○ He got measles just before the holiday started. 7. to make something become a certain way ○ He always gets his clothes dirty. ○ She’s busy getting the meal ready. 8. to start doing something ○ Let’s get going! 9. to understand something ○ Do you think he got my meaning? ○ got it! I’ve solved the problem! (NOTE: getting – got – gone – has got)

d  get across /get əˈkrɒs/ verb to manage to cross something ○ They got across the river on rafts. 2. to make someone understand something ○ I’m trying to get across to the people in the office that they all have to work harder. ○ We just can’t seem to get our message across.
get along

get along /ˈget əlɪŋ/ verb 1. to manage o She got along quite well when her mother was away on holiday. o We seem to get along very happily without the telephone. o How are you getting along? 2. to get along (with someone) to be friendly with someone; to work well with someone. 3. I don’t think they get along.

get around /ˈget əroʊnd/ verb 1. to move from place to place. Since he had his accident he gets around on two sticks. 2. (of news) to be heard by a lot of people. The news soon got around that they were married.

get at /ˈget ət/ verb 1. to reach something. You’ll need to stand on a chair to get at the jam jar on the top shelf. 2. to get at someone to criticise someone all the time. She thinks she’s being got at.

get away /ˈget əweɪ/ verb 1. to escape. o The robbers got away in a stolen car. 2. to get away with something not to be punished for having done something. o He’s always rude to the customers, but gets away with it somehow. 3. to get away with murder to do something really bad and still not be punished for it. o He’s the teacher’s favourite and she lets him get away with murder.

getaway /ˈget əweɪ/ noun an escape. o They got back home very late.

get back /ˈget ˈbæk/ verb 1. to return. o They got back home very late. o When did they get back from the cinema? 2. to get something again which you had before. If I got my money back after I had complained to the manager.

get by /ˈget ˈbaɪ/ verb 1. to manage to do something with difficulty. o I can just get by in German. 2. to manage to live. o It is difficult for them to get by in New York on only $30 a day.

get down /ˈget ˈdaʊn/ verb 1. to go back down onto the ground. The cat climbed up the tree and couldn’t get down. o He got down off the ladder. 2. to bring down. o Can you get my suitcase down for me? 3. to make someone sad. o Rainy weather always gets me down.

get down to /ˈget ˈdaʊn tʊ/ verb 1. to get down to (some hard) work to start working hard. o He will have to get down to work if he wants to pass the test.

get in /ˈget ˈɪn/ verb 1. to go inside a vehicle such as a car. o Get in! – the train’s going to leave. 2. The burglars must have got in through the bathroom window. 3. to arrive home or at the office. o What time did you get in last night? o Because of the train strike, we didn’t get in until eleven o’clock. 4. to ask someone to come to do a job. o We’ll get a builder in to mend the wall.

get lost /ˈget ˈlʌst/ verb 1. not to know where you are. o He’s hopeless, he got lost walking from Oxford Circus to Piccadilly. o They should be back by now – do you think they’ve got lost? 2. o Get lost! o go away! o (slang) When she asked him for money he told her to get lost.

get off /ˈget əf/ verb 1. to come down from or out of a vehicle such as a car. o She got off her bicycle at the red light. 2. to manage to do something with difficulty. o She was lucky to get off so lightly. 3. o to get off someone’s back to stop bothering someone. (informal) o How can I get him off my back?

get on /ˈget ən/ verb 1. to go inside or onto a vehicle such as a car. o They got on the bus at the bank. 2. to manage to do something with difficulty. o He’s getting on and can’t work as hard as he used to. 3. o to get on (well) to progress well. o She’s getting on well at university. My son is getting on well in his new job – he has just been promoted.

get out /ˈget əut/ verb 1. to take something out. o I’ll get the book out of the library. o She’s getting the car out of the...
get over

get over /get ˈʌvə/ verb 1. to climb over 3. They got over the wall into the garage. 2. to go out of something The bus stopped and the driver got out. 3. to get out of the habit of doing something not to do something any more I’ve got out of the habit of eating meat.

ghastly /ˈɡɑʃtli/ adj horrible (NOTE: ghastliest)

gherkin /ˈɡərkin/ noun a small vegetable of the cucumber family used for pickling

ghetto /ˈgetəu/ noun a poor area in a city in which people of a particular race, religion or nationality live (NOTE: The plural is ghettos)

ghetto blaster /ˈgetəu ˈblæstə/ noun a large and loud portable radio (informal; sometimes offensive)

ghost /ˈgɑʊst/ noun 1. an image of a dead person which appears They say the house is haunted by the ghost of its former owner. 2. Her face is white – she looks as if she has seen a ghost. 3. to give up the ghost to die 2. not to have a ghost of a chance to have no chance at all She’s gone in for the competition, but she doesn’t have a ghost of a chance of winning. 4. to write a book for someone else whose name will appear on the book as the author He’s ghosting the boxer’s memoirs.

ghostly /ˈɡɑʊstli/ adj like a ghost. Synonym ethereal

ghost story /ˈɡɑʊst stɔrɪ/ noun a frightening story about ghosts

ghost town /ˈɡɑʊst tɔnt/ noun an abandoned town where no one lives

ghost writer /ˈɡɑʊst ˈrɔnt/ noun a person who writes a book for a famous person whose name then appears on the book as if they were the author

ghoul /ˈɡʊrl/ noun 1. a person who is interested in unpleasant things 2. an evil and frightening spirit in Islamic folklore, a demon which steals bodies from graves

G/Q:

GI /ˈdʒi/ noun an American soldier

giant /ˈdʒiənt/ noun 1. (in fairy tales and myths) a very large man 2. a story about a giant who lived in a castle at the top of a mountain 3. any very large or important person or thing He’s a giant of a man. 4. Shares in the computer giant have soared. 5. adj very large He’s grown a giant cabbage. 6. They are planning a giant car factory in South Wales. Synonym huge. Antonym tiny

giantess /ˈdʒiəntes/ noun a female giant (NOTE: The plural is giantesses)

gibber /ˈdʒɪbə/ verb to talk rapidly without making any sense. Synonym babble

gibberish /ˈdʒɪbərɪʃ/ noun nonsense; words that do not seem to mean anything. Synonym nonsense

gibbon /ˈdʒɪbən/ noun a small ape with long legs and arms, native to Asia

gibe /ˈdʒɪb/ noun a nasty remark He went on with his experiments disregarding the gibes of the press. Synonym jeer 2. verb to jeer; to mock. Synonym taunt (NOTE: also spelled jibe)
giblets /ˈdʒɪbliːts/ plural noun organs such as the liver and the heart of a bird which are taken out before it is cooked. Synonym gullet

giddy /ˈgɪdl/ adj dizzy; feeling that everything is turning round (NOTE: giddier – giddiest)

gift /ɡɪft/ noun 1. a present; something given to someone ○ The wedding gifts were displayed on a table. ○ She was wrapping up gifts to put under the Christmas tree. 2. a special ability for something ○ He has a gift for maths. ○ She has a gift for saying embarrassing things.
gifted /ˈɡɪftɪd/ adj with a special talent. Synonym talented
gift shop /ˈɡɪftʃɔp/ noun a shop which sells the type of things which are often given as presents
gift tag /ˈɡɪft tæɡ/ noun a little label put on a parcel to show who it is for and who it is from

gift token /ˈɡɪft ˈtəʊkən, ˈɡɪft vɔːkən/ noun a card bought in a shop which is given as a present and which must be exchanged in that shop for goods
gift-wrap /ˈɡɪft ˈræp/ verb to wrap something in coloured paper to give as a present (NOTE: gift-wrapping – gift-wrapped)
gift-wrapped /ˈɡɪft ˈræpt/ adj (of a gift) packaged in attractive paper

pigeon /ˈpɪdʒən/ noun a large African animal with a very long neck

giraffe /ˈgaɪəfr/ noun a large African animal with four children – two boys and two girls.
girder /ˈɡɜːdr/ noun a strong metal beam to hold up a wall or roof
girlie /ˈɡɜːlɪ/ noun 1. a belt round a dress, a tight piece of underwear worn by women in the past to support their bodies ○ girlie /ˈɡɜːlɪ/ noun 1. a female child ○ a crowd of girls waiting at the bus stop ○ They have four children – two boys and two girls. ○ My sister goes to the local girls’ school. 2. a young woman ○ girlfriend /ˈɡɜːlfrend/ noun a girl or woman that someone is having a relationship with ○ He’s broken up with his girlfriend. ○ On Saturdays she always has lunch with a group of girlfriends. Synonym boyfriend

Girl Guides /ˈɡɜːl ˈɡɜːdəz/ noun ○ Squad ○ Guides ○ She joined the Girl Guides. ○ She was wearing her Girl Guide uniform. (NOTE: part of the same organisation as the Boy Scouts. The American equivalent is Girl Scout)
girlish /ˈɡɜːlɪʃ/ adj like a young girl. Synonym youthful
girth /ˈɡɜːθ/ noun 1. a measurement round something, especially round your stomach (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 2. a leather band round a horse’s stomach ○ You need to tighten the girths.
gilt /ɡɪlt/ noun an annoying person (informal insult)
give /ɡɪv/ verb 1. to pass something to someone ○ Give me another piece of cake, please. ○ Can you give me some information
thing such as steam or a smell. Synonym

given /'givn/ 1. a thing which is given to a customer 2. a thing which reveals something. Note: Beaming smile was an absolute giveaway that she’d got the job.

glacier /'ɡlæsɪər/ noun 1. a mass of ice like a frozen river which moves slowly down a mountain. Synonym: gizmo /'ɡɪzməʊ/ noun a useful little device (informal).

gladder /'ɡlædər/ noun 1. a thing which is given to a customer 2. a thing which reveals something. Note: Beaming smile was an absolute giveaway that she’d got the job.

gladder /'ɡlædər/ noun 1. a thing which is given to a customer 2. a thing which reveals something. Note: Beaming smile was an absolute giveaway that she’d got the job.

gladiator /'ɡlædɪər/ noun an ancient Roman fighter

gladiolus /'ɡlædiəlʌs/ noun a tall garden plant with sword-shaped leaves and brightly-coloured flower spikes (NOTE: The plural is gladioli /'ɡlædiəlɪ/).

gladly /'ɡlædli/ adv with great pleasure

glamorise /'ɡlæməraɪz/ verb to make someone or something glamorous 2. to make something seem to be more attractive or glamorous than it really is

1. a thing which is given to a customer 2. a thing which reveals something. Note: Beaming smile was an absolute giveaway that she’d got the job.

glance /'ɡlɑːns/ noun 1. a quick look. Synonym: glance /'ɡlɑːns/verb to produce something such as steam or a smell. Synonym: emit /'ɪmɪt/ verb to produce something.

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glancing /ˈɡlænsɪŋ/ adj sliding off to the side. Synonym sideways

gland /ɡlænd/ noun an organ in the body which produces a chemical substance

glandular fever /ˈɡlændjʊlər/ noun an infectious disease, where the body has an excessive number of white blood cells

glares /ɡlɛəz/ plural noun a very bright light. 1. The glare of the sun on the wet road blinded me. 2. The glare of publicity. 3. a fierce look. He gave her a glare and walked on.

verb 1. to shine very brightly. The sun was glaring down on the square. 2. to look angrily. She glared at me and went on reading her book.

glares /ˈɡlæzərɪŋ/ noun a system which prevents certain people, especially women, from progressing in their career

glass /ɡlæs/ noun 1. material which you can see through, used to make things such as windows, vases and bowls. a bowl made of glass or a glass bowl. a car with dark glass windows. (NOTE: no plural) 2. a container to drink out of, usually made of glass. She put the dirty glasses in the dishwasher. We took plastic wine glasses on the picnic.

(NOTE: The plural is glasses.) 3. the liquid contained in a glass. She asked for a glass of water. He was so thirsty he drank three glasses. Add a glass of red wine to the sauce. (NOTE: The plural is glasses.)

glass ceiling /ɡlæsˈsiz̻iŋ/ noun a system which prevents certain people, especially women, from progressing in their career

glassly /ˈɡlæsli/ adj 1. resembling glass. 2. dull; not seeing a glassy stare.

glaze /ɡlez/ noun a shiny surface on pottery. The pot has a green-blue glaze. Synonym coating. 1. to put glass in a window. The framework of the greenhouse has been built and now it needs to be glazed. 2. to cover a cake or a piece of pottery, with a shiny coating. She glazed the cake and put six candles on it.

glazed /ˈɡlezəd/ adj 1. with a shiny surface. a floor of glazed tiles. 2. with glass windows. We have built a glazed porch. 3. he gave her a glazed look. He looked at her without showing any expression. She stared at him with a glazed look on her face.

glazing /ˈɡlezɪŋ/ noun the glass in windows or doors

gleam /ɡliːm/ noun 1. a small light. He saw the gleam of a flashlight in the distance.

2. a slight sign. He saw a gleam of recognition in the boy’s eyes. There was a wild gleam in her eyes. to shine as if polished. a line of gleaming black cars

glean /ɡliːn/ verb to collect scraps of information

gleeful /ˈɡliːfəl/ adj very happy

gleefully /ˈɡlɪfəli/ adv happily

glen /ˈɡlɛn/ noun (in Scotland) a narrow valley

glib /ˈɡlɪb/ adj easily said, but insincere

glide /ˈɡlaɪd/ verb 1. to move in a smooth way. Skaters were gliding across the ice.

2. to fly a plane without using the engines

glider /ˈɡlaɪdər/ noun an aircraft which flies without a motor

gliding /ˈɡlɑɪdɪŋ/ noun the sport of flying a glider.

1. hang-gliding

glimmer /ˈɡlimər/ noun 1. a weak light. There was a glimmer of light in one of the upstairs windows.

2. a very small amount. We only glimpsed the back of her head as she was leaving.

glint /ˈɡlɪnt/ noun a flash. a glint of sunlight on the waves. to flash. The soldiers’ swords glittered in the sunshine.

glisten /ˈɡlistən/ verb to shine brightly, as if wet.

Synonym gleam

glitch /ˈɡlɪtʃ/ noun a small problem which suddenly arises

glitter /ˈɡlɪtər/ noun a bright sparkle of light. the glitter of the sun on the sea. She was attracted by the glitter of the West End theatres. to sparkle. The jewels in her crown were glittering in the light of the candles. Her eyes glittered hopefully as she spoke.

Synonym gleam. All that glitters is not gold. Things which look very attractive on the surface often turn out not to be so

glittering /ˈɡlɪtərɪŋ/ adj 1. which shines brightly. a glittering diamond crown.
We are carrying out a global review of salaries.

gloomy /ˈɡləʊmɪ/ adj gloomier – gloomiest a feeling of deep gloom came everyone sank into gloom.

glow /ɡləʊ/ verb □ to glow over something to be happy about something, especially someone else’s. Synonym gloat She gloated over her brother’s misfortune in losing his well-paid job. □ He gloated over the bag of gold he kept under his bed.

global /ˈɡloʊb(ə)l/ adj 1. referring to the whole world. □ We offer a global parcel delivery service. 2. referring to the whole of something. □ We are carrying out a global review of salaries.

globally /ˈɡloʊb(ə)lɪ/ adv involving all parts of the world, or of an organisation.

globe /ˈɡloʊb/ noun 1. □ the globe the world. □ He is trying to be the first person to fly round the globe in a balloon. 2. a map of the world on a ball. □ He spun the globe round and pointed to Canada.

globetrotter /ˈɡloʊbtrətər/ noun a person who travels all over the world (informal).

globetrotting /ˈɡloʊbtrətɪŋ/ adj who travels all over the world (informal).

globular /ˈɡloʊbjʊlə/ adj shaped like a globe. Synonym spherical.

globule /ˈɡloʊbjʊl/ noun a small round drop, especially of oil or another thick liquid.

gloom /ɡluːm/ noun 1. darkness □ It was difficult to see in the gathering gloom. 2. deep despair □ A feeling of deep gloom came down on the family. □ When the exam results came out everyone sank into gloom.

gloomily /ˈɡluːmɪli/ adv in a gloomy way.

gloomy /ˈɡluːmɪ/ adj 1. miserable, unhappy. □ She was gloomy about her chances of passing the exam. □ He’s very gloomy about his job prospects. 2. dark □ a gloomy Sunday afternoon in November (NOTE: gloomier – gloomiest)

glorification /ˈɡlɔrifikəʃ(ə)n/ noun the act of making something seem more important or special than it really is.

glorified /ˈɡlɔrɪfaɪt/ adj seeming more important or special than it really is.

glorify /ˈɡlɔrɪfaɪ/ verb to make something seem more important or special than it really is. Synonym praise. Antonym belittle.


gold /ɡəʊld/ noun a quality which makes something seem to be very exciting and glamorous but without real value.

glitter /ˈɡlɪtər/ noun a glossy magazine, a magazine printed on shiny paper, with bright fashionable photographs or photographs of the wedding were in all the glossies.

glimmer /ˈɡlɪmər/ noun the glow of the charcoal in the barbecue which fits over your hand.

glamorous and exciting, but without real value the act of making something seem more important or special than it really is.

glamorize /ˈɡlæməraɪz/ verb to make or become global.

glamerize /ˈɡlæməraɪz/ verb involving all parts of the world, or of an organisation.

Globalisation /ˈɡloʊbəlɪzaʃ(ə)n/ noun the process by which world economy and culture merge, as a result of telecommunications and multinational companies.

Globalise /ˈɡloʊbəlɪzaɪ/ verb to make or become global.
glucose /ˈɡluːs/ noun a widely occurring simple sugar.

-glue /ɡluː/ noun a substance which sticks things together. She spread the glue carefully onto the back of the poster. The glue on the envelope doesn’t stick very well. Synonym adhesive ■ verb 1. to stick things together 2. He glued the label to the box. 2. to be glued to something to sit in front of something without moving. The children sat glued to the TV set.

glue sniffing /ˈɡluː snɪfɪŋ/ noun a form of drug abuse where users inhale the fumes from a strong glue.

glum /ɡlʌm/ adj miserable. Synonym gloomy. Antonym cheerful (NOTE: glum—glumest)
glumly /ˈɡlʌmli/ adv in a glum way.

glut /ɡlʌt/ noun too much of something. There’s a glut of poultry on the market.

-glutton /ˈɡlʌt(ə)n/ noun a person who eats too much. He’s just a glutton – look at him finishing off that trifles! 2. a glutton for punishment a person who likes doing difficult things or working very hard.

-gluttonous /ˈɡlʌtənəs/ adj unpleasantly thick and sticky.

gluttony /ˈɡlʌtnɪ/ noun eating and drinking too much. Synonym greed.

glycerine /ˈɡlɪsərɪn/ noun a colourless sweet liquid, used in medicine and explosives. (NOTE: The US spelling is glycerin.)

GM abbr gram

GM abbr genetically modified

GMO abbr genetically modified organism

GMT abbr Greenwich Mean Time.

gnarled /ˈnɑːrld/ adj twisted; covered with hard lumps.

gnash /næʃ/ verb to grind your teeth.

gnat /næt/ noun a small fly which bites. Synonym midge.

gnaw /nɔː/ verb to chew something; to bite something again and again.

gnawing /ˈnɔːvɪŋ/ adj (of worries) persistent and troubling.

gnome /nɔːm/ noun a little man with a beard and pointed hat, in children’s fairy stories.

GNP abbr gross national product

-go /ˈɡoʊ/ verb 1. to move from one place to another. The plane goes to Frankfurt, then to Rome. She is going to London for the weekend. 2. It’s time the children went to bed. He has gone to work in Washington. They are going on a tour of the south of Spain. 2. She was going downstairs when she fell. 2. to work 2. Can you phone the garage? 2. the car won’t go. 2. He’s trying to get his motorbike to go. 3. to leave 2. Get your coat, it’s time to go. 2. The last bus goes at half past two. 4. to fit O It’s too big to go into the box. 2. This case won’t go into the back of the car. 5. to be placed 2. The date should go at the top of the letter. 2. That book goes on the top shelf. 6. to become 2. Her face went red from sitting in the sun. He went pale and rushed out of the room. You have to shout, my father’s going deaf. 2. She’s going grey, but it suits her. 7. to happen in a particular way. 2. The party went very well. 2. Things are going badly at work. 6. to make a sound. 2. The balloon landed on a candle and went ‘pop’. 2. Do you remember the song that goes: ‘there’s no place like home’? 

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-go about /ˈɡoʊ əˈbɔːt/ verb to deal with something.

goat /ɡəʊt/ noun a stick used to make animals go forward. She drove the buffalo forward, poking it with a long goad. ■ verb to goad someone into doing something to push someone into doing something which he or she does not want to do. Her laughter goaded him into action.

-go ahead /ˈɡəʊ əˈhɛd/ verb to take place as planned 2. The project went ahead even though there were not enough staff. Antonym fall through.

-go ahead /ˈɡəʊ əˈhɛd/ noun (informal) 2. to give something the go-ahead to give permission for something to start 3. We got the council’s go-ahead to build the new supermarket. ■ adj hard-working and enterprising.
goal

○ a go-ahead publicity firm ○ The company needs a go-ahead managing director.

go-ahead /ˈgoʊəˌhiːd/ adj ○ We have a go-ahead plan for the new factory.

goal /gəʊl/ noun 1. (in games) a point scored by sending the ball between the posts ○ He scored a goal after being sent off. 2. (in games) a point scored by a member of a team ○ Our team scored three goals. 3. an aim ○ Our goal is to open a new pizza restaurant every month. ○ He achieved his goal of becoming a millionaire before he was thirty.

goalie /ˈɡəʊlɪ/ noun a goalkeeper (informal)

goalkeeper /ˈɡəʊlkɪpər/ noun a player who stands in front of the goal to stop the ball going in

goalless /ˈɡəʊlɪs/ adj with no goals being scored

go along with /ˈɡəʊli ɔnliŋ wið/ verb to agree with someone or something

goalpost /ˈɡəʊlpəʊst/ noun one of the two posts between which you have to send the ball to score a point ○ to move the goalposts to change the way things are done to gain an advantage ○ Everyone thought the investment was tax-free, and then the government suddenly moved the goalposts.

goat /ɡəʊt/ noun 1. a small farm animal with horns and a beard, giving milk and wool ○ a herd of goats ○ to separate the sheep from the goats to divide the good from the bad 2. ○ to get someone’s goat to annoy someone (informal) ○ It really got my goat the way he turned up for work at lunchtime.

goatee /ˈɡəʊti/ noun a small pointed beard

go away /ˈɡəʊi ɔˈwi/ verb to leave

go back /ˈɡəʊbæk/ verb to return

go back on /ˈɡəʊbæk ˈɒn/ verb not to do what has been promised

gobble /ˈɡɑbəl/ verb 1. to eat greedily ○ He gobbled up his dinner. 2. to make a noise like a turkey ○ We could hear the turkeys gobbling away in the farmyard.

gobbledygook /ˈɡɑbəldʒik/ noun nonsense or technical language that you do not understand

go-between /ˈɡɑb bɪˌtɛn/ noun a person who takes messages between two people

goblet /ˈɡɑbliːt/ noun a large wine glass with a long stem, or a similar container made of metal or pottery

goblin /ˈɡɒblɪn/ noun an ugly little man in fairy stories

go-cart /ˈɡɑk rt/ noun another spelling of go-kart

god /ɡɔd/ noun a being with special powers that humans do not have, who is worshipped by some people ○ Bacchus was the Roman god of wine.

God ○ the spiritual being that is worshipped by Christians, Jews and Muslims ○ Do you believe in God? ○ We pray to God that the children will be found alive. ○ We thank God used for showing surprise or annoyance, ○ God, what awful weather! ○ My God, have you seen how late it is? ○ thank God used for showing relief ○ Thank God no one was hurt in the crash! ○ Thank God you’re come! (NOTE: Using expressions that include the word God is offensive to some people.)

godchild /ˈɡɔtʃaɪld/ noun a child who has a godparent (NOTE: The plural is godchildren.)

god-daughter /ˈɡɔd ˈdɔtə/ noun a girl who has godparents

goddes/ /ˈɡɔdəs/ noun a female god (NOTE: The plural is goddesses.)

godfather /ˈɡɔdfəˈðər/ noun 1. a male godparent ○ He was godfather to four children. 2. the head of a mafia gang ○ The godfather’s word is law.

godforsaken /ˈɡɔd fɔrˈseɪkən/ adj desolate
godless /ˈɡɔdliːs/ adj not believing in God ○ God is not important to him.
godlike /ˈɡɔdlək/ adj having the qualities of a god or God

godly /ˈɡɔdlɪ/ adj very religious; like a saint (dated)

godmother /ˈɡɔdmʌðər/ noun a female godparent

go down /ˈɡəʊn ˈdəʊn/ verb 1. to go to a lower level ○ There are thirty-nine steps which go down to the beach. ○ Be careful when going down the hill. ○ After having a rest in her bedroom, she went down to the hotel bar. ○ Prices have gone down. 2. to catch a disease ○ Half the crew went down with flu. 3. ○ to go down well to be accepted ○ The head teacher’s talk didn’t go down at all well with the parents.

godown /ˈɡəʊdaʊn/ noun (in the Far East and India) a warehouse
godparent /ˈɡɔdpɛrɪnt/ noun a person who promises to take a special interest in a child at his or her baptism
godsend /ˈɡɔdsend/ noun a helpful thing which arrives just in time. Synonym blessing
godson /ˈɡɔdsn/ noun a boy who has godparents
goat /ˈɡəʊt/ noun US a person who does all types of work in an office, especially taking messages (informal) (NOTE: Do not confuse with gobber.)
good-getter /ˈɡəʊ ɡɛtə/ noun a person who works hard and is determined to succeed

goggles /ˈɡɒgli/ plural noun close-fitting glasses worn to protect your
golden hair.

rer

last night's rain.

low-coloured metal

/L50263

one item, say 'a pair of goggles'.

wears a gold ring on his little finger.

face of a race track

/L50263

scuba diving.

business that is operating successfully and is

3.

2.

She went into the bedroom.

x

strange things that happen

(informal
goings-on

/L50263

go in

/noun / verb to enter

go in for

/in for / verb 1. to take an examination

2. to take something up as a career

He's going in for medicine.

being sold as a going concern.

golden wedding

/noun a celebration 50 years after an event took place

golden opportunity

/noun an important chance to do something which may not happen again

golden rule

/noun an important rule that must be obeyed

golden syrup

/noun a thick yellow liquid made from sugar

golden wedding

/noun a celebration when two people have been married for fifty years

goldfish

/noun a small orange fish, kept as a pet (NOTE: The plural is goldfish.)

gold medal

/noun the medal given to someone who finishes first in a race or competition

gold medalist

/noun the person who wins the gold medal in a race or competition

goldmine

/noun a mine which produces gold

gold medal / that shop is a little
goldmine that shop is a very profitable business

a golf / golf ball / noun a small hard white ball used when playing golf

1. a stick used to hit the ball in golf

2. an organisation for people who play golf together

He's joined his local golf club.

3. a place with a golf course and a restaurant and bar, where people go to play golf and meet socially

golf course / noun a large area of ground for playing golf

golfer / noun a person who plays golf

golfing / noun / golfing / the act of playing golf

/golfer/ adj relating to playing golf

/a golfing holiday

gondola

/noun a narrow boat, used on the canals in Venice, pushed by a person with a long pole

2. a passenger compartment hanging on a cable or underneath a balloon

gone / noun / go

gong / noun a metal disc which is sounds like a bell when it is hit

They
gona sounded a gong to warn visitors that the museum was closing. 2. a medal or award (informal) ○ He got a gong for long service.
gonna /ˈɡoʊnə/ another spelling of going to (informal) ○ I’m gonna get you before you get me!
gonorrhoea /ˈɡnɔrəriə/ noun a sexually transmitted disease which produces painful irritation of the vagina or penis
go /ɡu/ noun sticky stuff (informal)
(NOTE: no plural)
○ good (gd) adj 1. of high quality; not bad ○ We had a good breakfast and then started work. ○ Did you have a good time at the party? ○ It would be a good idea to invest in these shares. ○ Her Spanish is better than his. 2. skilful; clever ○ He’s good at making things out of wood. ○ She’s good with her hands. ○ He is good at football. 3. well-behaved ○ Be a good girl and I’ll give you a sweet. ○ Have you been good while we’ve been away? ○ as good as gold very well behaved ○ The children were as good as gold. 4. ○ a good deal of, a good many a lot of ○ He won a good deal of money on the lottery. (NOTE: good – better /ˈbetər/ – best /ˈbest/) ■ noun 1. an advantage or a benefit ○ The machine didn’t do me any good. ○ He decided to give up smoking for the good of his health. ○ What’s the good of having a big garden if you don’t like gardening? ○ Governments should work for the good of the people. 2. the quality of being morally right ○ The play represents the struggle between the forces of good and evil. 3. ○ for good for ever ○ He’s left the town for good. ■ interj ○ Good! Excellent; I’m pleased! ○ a good afternoon (gd ′æftn/ ′ɛn) used when meeting or leaving someone in the afternoon ○ goodbye (gd′bɔɪ/ noun, interj used when leaving someone ○ Say goodbye to your teacher. ○ Goodbye! we’ll see you again on Thursday. (NOTE: often shortened to bye) ○ a good day (gd′dæ, ′ɡod ′deɪ/ interj) 1. mainly used in Australia, meaning ‘hello’ ○ Good day, everybody! (NOTE: often written g′day in this meaning) 2. used for saying hello or goodbye (dated) ○ Good day to you! ○ a good evening (gd′ ′ɛvnŋ/ interj) used when meeting or leaving someone in the evening ○ good-for-nothing noun a lazy person ■ adj lazy ○ Good Friday (gd′ ′frɛdi/ noun the Friday before Easter Day ○ good guy /′ɡud ′gy/ noun a hero (informal)
good-humoured /′ɡud ′hjuːməd/ adj cheerful and friendly (NOTE: The US spelling is good-humored.)
goodies /′ɡudɪz/ plural noun 1. sweet food ○ The children looked at all the goodies on the table. 2. presents ○ What goodies did Father Christmas bring you?
googly /′ɡʊdli/ adjective (of a person) pleasant to look at. Syonym attractive
Antonym unattractive
good looks /′ɡʊdliks/ plural noun pleasing and beautiful appearance ○ His good looks and charm attracted many women.
go good morning /′gd ′mɔrnŋ/ interj used when meeting or leaving someone in the morning
go good-natured /′ɡʊdnətʃəd/ adj with a pleasant and cooperative character. Antonym disagreeable
goodness /′ɡʊdnəs/ noun 1. being good ○ She did it out of pure goodness of heart. 2. ○ thank goodness! used for showing relief ○ Thank goodness the ambulance arrived quickly! ○ for goodness’ sake used for showing you are annoyed, or that something is important ○ What are you screaming for? – It’s only a little mouse, for goodness’ sake. ○ For goodness sake try to be quiet, we don’t want the guards to hear us! ■ interj used for showing surprise ○ Goodness! is that the time? ○ a good night /′ɡʊdnət/ interj used when leaving someone late in the evening ○ goods /′ɡudz/ plural noun 1. things that are produced for sale ○ The company sells goods from various European countries. 2. possessions; things which you own ○ She carried all her worldly goods in a bag. 3. to deliver the goods to do what you promised or what you were asked to do ○ The question is, can he deliver the goods? ○ goods and chattels /′ɡʊdz ən ′tʃætlz/ plural noun moveable objects which you possess, as opposed to buildings or land (formal)
goodwill /′ɡʊd ′wɪl/ noun 1. a kind feeling ○ The charity relies on the goodwill of people who give money regularly. 2. a value given to things such as the customers of a business, its reputation and its site ○ He paid £10,000 for the goodwill of the restaurant and £40,000 for the fittings.
goodly /′ɡʊdlɪ/ adjective (dated informal) ■ noun a hero (informal) ○ The man with the white hat is a goody. Antonym baddy
goodly-goodly /′ɡʊdlɪ ′ɡʊdlɪ/ adverb a person who is not liked because they are always trying to please people such as their teacher or their boss
gooey /ˈɡuə/ adjective and sticky
goof

/goof/ (informal) noun a stupid person

= verb to make a stupid mistake ○ She really goofed this time!

1. go off /gu:fi/ verb 1. to go to another place ○ He went off to look for a parking space. ○ She went off muttering something about buying cheese. 2. to start working suddenly ○ The burglar alarm went off in the middle of the night. 3. to explode ○ The bomb went off when there were still lots of people in the building. ○ Fireworks were going off everywhere on Bonfire Night. 4. to become rotten ○ Throw that meat away – it’s gone off. ○ Fish goes off quickly in hot weather. 5. not to like something any more ○ I’ve gone off modern music. ○ She went off her new boyfriend quite quickly.

goofy /gu:i/ adj stupid (informal)

= verb to make a stupid mistake ○ She really goofed this time!

go on /gu:in/ verb 1. to continue ○ Please go on, I like hearing you sing. ○ They went on working in spite of the fire. ○ She went on speaking for two hours. 2. to happen ○ What’s been going on here? 3. to base your opinion and actions on something ○ The police investigating the murder don’t have much to go on. ○ We have to go on the assumption that the festival will start on time. 4. used for showing you do not believe someone ○ Go on! She’s not as old as that! 5. ○ to go on about something to talk all the time about something ○ She will keep going on about her operation.

goose /gu:s/ noun a large bird, living near water, which can be eaten (NOTE: The plural is geese /giz/.

= verb to make a stupid mistake ○ She really goofed this time!

gooseberry /gu:z(b)əri/ noun a little green hairy fruit, with a sharp taste

go out /gu:ut/ verb 1. to leave a building ○ I don’t go out often at night. ○ He forgot to lock the door when he went out. 2. to go to parties ○ We used to go out every Friday and Saturday night. 3. not to be burning or lit any more ○ The fire went out and the room got cold. ○ All the lights in the building suddenly went out. 4. ○ to go out of business to stop trading ○ The firm went out of business last week.

go out with /gu:at wiz/ verb 1. to have regular meetings with someone as part of a relationship ○ He’s going out with a girl from work. 2. to go to a party, restaurant, etc., with someone ○ He’s been out with us a couple of times.

go over /gu:vr/ verb 1. to cross to the other side ○ Go over the bridge and turn left. 2. to examine something carefully ○ She went over the contract with her solicitor.

gopher /gufər/ noun a fat American rat which lives in holes in the ground (NOTE: Do not confuse with gofer.)

go on /go:in/ verb to talk about people’s private lives ○ They spent hours gossiping about the people working in the office.

gossip /'gɔspəl/ noun the part of the Bible which tells the life of Jesus Christ ○ it’s the gospel truth it’s absolutely true

gospel music /'gɔspəl/ 'mjuːzɪk/ noun religious music which first became popular in the USA during the Depression

gossip column /'gɔspəl 'kɔləm/ noun a section in a newspaper which tells stories about famous people

got /gɔt/ ○ get to have got to must or to be obliged to ○ I’ve got to see my father tomorrow.

gothic /'gɔθik/ adj in a medieval architectural style, with tall pointed arches

= verb to make a stupid mistake ○ She really goofed this time!

good through /'gud 'θru/ verb ○ to go through something to look at or to discuss something thoroughly ○ They went through...
gourmet dinner in a three-star restaurant.

gotten /got(ə)n/ US: get, another spelling of got to (informal) I'm sick – I've gotta go to the doctor.

gouge /gouдж/ noun a chisel ○ The gouge bit into the wood. ■ verb to cut out ○ He gouged out a hole in the plank. ○ The waves have gouged out a cave in the cliff.

gourd /gɔːrd/ noun a round fruit of a climbing plant, dried and used as a bottle or as a decoration

government /gəv(ə)rn(ə)mənt/ adj which rules ○ government /gəv(ə)rnmənt/ noun 1. the people or a political party which governs ○ The president asked the leader of the largest party to form a new government. ○ The government controls the price of bread. ○ He has an important job in the government. 2. the system of ruling a country ○ a country struggling to achieve democratic government (Note: no plural in this meaning)

grace /greɪs/ noun 1. elegance and attractiveness ○ We admired the grace of the deer as they ran off into the woods. ○ a good grace ○ He accepted the criticisms with good grace. 2. a prayer before a meal ○ Father always says grace before dinner. 3. extra time to pay ○ We gave the creditors two weeks’ grace to pay. ■ verb to honour ○ She graced the ceremony with her presence.

gratefully /gréitf(ə)l/ adv smoothly and beautifully

grateless /ɡreɪt(ə)ls/ adj 1. not elegant 2. not dignified

gratefully /greɪf(ə)l/ adv 1. elegant ○ a gracious London square ○ The Edwardian era was a time of gracious living. 2. dignified and polite ○ She gave him a very gracious welcome. ■ interj used for showing surprise ○ Gracious! Is that the time?

gradation /ɡræd(ə)ʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. a series of degrees or stages 2. one of a series of
got to 364

got to
grade 365
grandiose

grades or stages. The act of arranging things according to size or quality.

- grade [greid] noun 1. a level of quality. 2. I always buy grade 2 eggs. 3. What grade of vegetables do you sell most of? 4. to make the grade to succeed; to do well. 5. high-grade. 6. top-grade best quality. 7. an examination mark. 8. She got top grades in maths. 9. US a class in school. 10. students in fifth grade. 11. She’s a fifth grade student.

- verb to sort according to size or quality. 12. a machine for grading fruit. 13. grafts. 14. graft the apple onto the stock.

- noun the best quality. 15. high-grade, best quality. 16. the grade to succeed; to do well. 17. to go against the grain to go against your natural instincts. 18. It goes against the grain to throw away all that good food.

- verb gradate [‘greidət] adj. consisting of a series of stages, each of which is more advanced than the previous one.

- noun grade school [‘greid skool] a school for children between the ages of about 5 and 11.

- adjective gradient [‘greidjant] noun a slope in a road or railway.

- noun gradual [‘greidʒuəl] adj. which changes a little at a time. Antonym rapid.

- noun gradually [‘greidʒuəl] adj. little by little. 19. His condition improved gradually day by day.

- noun graduate noun [‘greidʒuət] a person with a degree from a university or college. 20. He’s a graduate of London University.

- verb to get a degree. 21. She graduated from Edinburgh university last year.

- noun graduated [‘greidʒuətəd] adj. rising in stages. 22. graduated income tax. 23. with quantities marked on it. 24. a graduated measuring jar.

- noun graduation [‘greidʒuəʃən] noun 1. the ceremony at which you get a degree from a university or college. 25. Graduation will take place on June 11th. 26. US leaving high school or college with a diploma. 27. a mark showing quantities.

- noun graduation ceremony [‘greidʒuəʃən ˈsɛrəmənəri] a ceremony when degrees are given. 28. Commencement.

- noun graffiti [‘græfləti] noun writing on walls in public places.

- noun graft [‘græft] noun 1. (in surgery) the act of transplanting an organ (heart, lung or kidney) or tissue (bone or skin) to replace an organ or tissue which is not functioning or which is diseased. 29. He had a skin graft. (NOTE: The plural is grafts.) 30. (in surgery) an organ or tissue which is transplanted. (NOTE: The plural is grafts) 31. a piece of a plant which is attached to another plant. 32. The pear graft has taken. (NOTE: no plural) 33. the bribery and corruption of officials. (informal) 34. Graft is widespread at all levels of the civil service. 35. The minister was accused of graft. (NOTE: no plural) 36. verb 1. (in surgery) to take a healthy organ or tissue and transplant it into a patient in place of diseased or damaged organ or tissue. 37. Surgeons grafted a section of bone. 38. They grafted skin from his arm onto his leg. 39. (in gardening) to take a piece of a plant and attach it to another plant. 40. He grafted the apple onto the stock.

- noun grain [grein] noun 1. a cereal crop. 41. a field of grain. 42. the grain harvest. 43. a very small piece. 44. a grain of sand. 45. the patterns of lines in wood. 46. This old oak table has a beautiful grain.

- noun grade school. 47. grammar school. 48. university or college. 49. graduated income tax. 50. to go against the grain. 51. to go against your natural instincts. 52. It goes against the grain to throw away all that good food.

- noun gram [greim] noun a weight equal to one thousandth of a kilogram. (NOTE: usually written g after figures: 50 g.)

- noun grammar [‘greimə] noun 1. the rules of a language. 2. I’m finding Russian grammar very difficult. 3. He’s been learning English for years, and still makes basic grammar mistakes.

- noun granary [‘grænəri] noun a place where grain is stored.

- noun grand [‘grænd] adj. big and important. 1. his grand plan for making a lot of money. 2. impressive. 3. We went to a very grand wedding. 4. very good. 5. It’s grand weather for a picnic. (NOTE: grander – grandest) 6. noun 1. one thousand pounds or dollars. (informal) 7. The car cost me ten grand. 8. a grand piano.

- noun grandad [‘grændd] noun a grandfather. 1. My grandfather. 2. a grandson.

- noun grandchild [‘grændtʃild] noun a child of a son or daughter. (NOTE: The plural is grandchildren.

- noun grandchild.

- noun granddaughter [‘grænddɔtə] noun the daughter of a son or daughter.

- noun grandeur [‘grændor] noun splendour.

- noun grandad. 1. My grandfather. 2. a grandson.

- noun grandad.

- noun grandpa.

- noun grandad. 1. My grandfather. 2. a grandson.

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- noun grandad. 1. My grandfather. 2. a grandson.

- noun grandad.

- noun grandpa.
grand jury

grand jury /ˈɡrænd ˈdʒʊri/ noun US a group of between 12 and 24 jurors who meet as a preliminary to a trial to decide if an indictment should be issued to start criminal proceedings
grandly /ˈɡrændli/ adv in a grand way
grandma /ˈɡrændmə/ noun a grandmother (informal)

grandmother /ˈɡrændmʌðə/ noun the mother of your mother or father ○ It will be grandmother’s ninetieth birthday next month.
○ My grandmother taught me how to make bread. (NOTE: often called gran or granny or grandma or nan by children)
grandpa /ˈɡrændpə/ noun a grandfather (informal)
grandparent /ˈɡrændprɛərənt/ noun the mother or father of one of your parents

grand piano /ˈɡrænd pɪˈænəʊ/ noun a large horizontal piano (NOTE: A smaller pi-

a piano, with a vertical body, is called an upright.)

Grand Prix /ˈɡrænd prɪˈs/ noun a race for large and powerful racing cars

grand slam /ˈɡrænd ˈslæm/ noun winning a series of competitions, such as all the main tennis competitions held in a year

grandson /ˈɡrændsʌn/ noun the son of a son or daughter
grandstand /ˈɡrændstænd/ noun a stand with seats for spectators at games or races

grand total /ˈɡrænd tʊˈætl/ noun a final total made by adding several items
granite /ˈɡrænɪt/ noun a hard grey stone
granary /ˈɡrænəri/ noun a granary (informal)

granny flat /ˈɡrænɪ tʃlæt/ noun a small separate flat in a large house, intended for a relative, not necessarily a grandmother
grant /ˈɡrænt/ verb 1. to agree to give something ○ The government has granted them a loan or a subsidy. ○ to take something for granted to assume that you will get something, or will keep something, and so not to appreciate it ○ The children seem to take it for granted that I will give them big presents every birthday. 2. to admit ○ I grant you it’s going to be difficult, but I’m sure you’ll do it well. ○ noun a sum of money to help ○ Not many students get a full grant. ○ My grant only pays for a few books. ○ We have applied for a grant to plant trees by the side of the road. Synonym funding

granulated sugar /ˈɡrænjuələtɪd ˈʃʊɡə/ noun white sugar in the form of granules
granule /ˈɡrænjuəl/ noun a very small particle. Synonym grain

grape /ɡreɪp/ noun a small green or red fruit which grows on vines, often used to make wine

grapes /ˈɡreɪps/ plural noun grapes

grapefruit /ˈɡreɪprfruːt/ noun a large yellow citrus fruit, like an orange but not as sweet (NOTE: The plural is grapefruits.)
grapevine /ˈɡreɪpvviːn/ noun a plant on which grapes grow ○ I heard it on the grapevine someone told me about it when gossiping

graph /ˈɡrɑːf/ noun a chart showing figures in the form of a line

graphic /ˈɡrɑːfɪk/ adj 1. drawn in symbols or letters ○ The results are shown in graphic form. 2. vivid ○ He gave a graphic description of the accident.

graphically /ˈɡrɑːfɪkli/ adv. 1. using graphs and diagrams 2. in great detail ○ She described the accident graphically.

graphic design /ˈɡrɑːfɪk dɪˈzæn/ noun the art or practice of designing things involving images and text

graphic designer /ˈɡrɑːfɪk dɪˈzænə/ noun a person who works in graphic design

graphics /ˈɡrɑːfɪks/ noun plural noun pictures on a computer screen or designed on a computer ○ The graphics on this game are brilliant.

graphite /ˈɡrɑːfɪt/ noun natural carbon

graph paper /ˈɡrɑːf ˈpeɪpə/ noun paper with little squares, for drawing graphs

grapes /ˈɡreɪpəʊ/ verb 1. to fight ○ The two men were grappling on the floor. 2. to grapple with something to struggle to solve something difficult ○ He’s grappling with the company accounts.

grasp /ɡrɑːsp/ noun 1. a tight hold ○ She forced him to loosen his grasp on her arm. 2. an understanding ○ She has a good grasp of physics. ○ verb 1. to hold tightly ○ She grasped the branch of the tree with both hands. 2. to understand ○ They didn’t seem to grasp my meaning.

grasping /ˈɡrɑːspɪŋ/ adj wanting to get money. Synonym greedy

greasy /ˈɡreɪsi/ adj 1. a low green plant, which is eaten by sheep and cows in fields, and used in gardens to make lawns ○ The grass is getting too long – it needs cutting. 2. a lawn ○ Keep off the grass! ○ We’ll sit on the grass and have our picnic. ○ not to let the grass grow under your feet to waste no time in doing something (informal) ○ They don’t let the grass grow under their feet – they phoned immediately they saw the ad. 3. a person who gives information to the police (informal) ○ The police gave the grass special protection. 4. marijuana in the form of leaves (slang) ○ verb ○ to grass on someone to give information about someone to the police ○ He grassed on his pals. (slang)

grasshopper /ˈɡrɑːʃəˈpəʊ/ noun a green insect which jumps and makes a rubbing noise
grassland /'græslænd/ noun an area of land covered in wild grass
grassroots /'græsfruts/ plural noun ordinary members of a political party or of society in general
grassy /'græsI/ adj covered in grass
grate (grat) noun a metal frame for holding coal in a fireplace ☐ He put some more coal into the grate. ■ verb 1. to make into small pieces by rubbing against a grater ☐ She grated nutmeg over the pudding. ○ Sprinkle grated cheese over your pasta. ○ We made a salad of grated carrots and spring onions. 2. to make a rough irritating noise ☐ That door needs oiling – it grates on its hinges. ○ The sound of metal grating on stone makes me shudder. 3. to irritate someone; to make someone annoyed ☐ The way he sings while he works is beginning to grate on my nerves. (NOTE: Do not confuse with grate.)
 plagiarise /'plægrətaɪs/ verb (formal) 1. to take someone else’s work and pass it off as your own. 2. to use people’s ideas without giving them proper credit.

Companies often plagiarise other companies' ideas.

grate /'græt/ adv 1. in a grateful way ☐ gratefully. 2. in a grumpy way ☐ grumpily.

grate /'græt/ noun a kitchen instrument with a rough surface and little holes for grating

gratify /'grætɪfaɪ/ verb (formal) 1. to satisfy someone ☐ It gratifies her need for luxury. 2. to please someone; to make someone gratified; to see that our work was primitively displayed.

gratifying /'grætɪfɪɪŋ/ adj which satisfies someone. Synonym rewarding

gratify /'grætɪfɪ/ verb (informal) to make someone feel pleased; to please someone.

gratitation /'grætɪteɪʃn/ noun the action of gratifying someone.

gratitude /'grætɪtjuːd/ noun thankfulness. Synonym thanks.

gratuitous /'grætjʊtəs/ adj unnecessary; unjustified

gratuity /'grætjuːtɪ/ noun 1. money given to someone who has provided a service. The staff are instructed not to accept gratuities. Synonym tip 2. a sum of money given to someone who leaves a job. She received a tax-free gratuity of £10,000 when she retired. (NOTE: all senses) The plural is gratuities.

grave /greɪv/ noun 1. a hole in the ground where a dead person is buried. At the funeral, the whole family stood by the grave. 2. to have one foot in the grave to be old (informal). □ he would turn in his grave (of a dead person) he would be annoyed. □ Father would turn in his grave if he saw what they have done to his house. ■ adj 1. important; serious. ○ It is a grave offence. □ He is in court facing grave charges. 2. quietly serious. ○ She looked at him with a grave expression. (NOTE: graver – gravest)

gravel /'greɪvl/ noun small stones (NOTE: no plural: a heap of gravel; for one piece say a bit of gravel. I’ve got a bit of gravel in my shoe).

gravelly /'greɪvlɪ/ adj 1. (of a voice) rough 2. like gravel or covered with gravel

gravely /'greɪvli/ adv seriously

graven /'grævən/ noun a large stone placed on a grave with the name of the dead person written on it. Also called headstone, tombstone.

graveyard /'greɪvərd/ noun a cemetery

gravitate /'grævɪteɪt/ verb (formal) □ to gravitate towards something to move towards something. In the evening the students gravitate towards the bars.

gravitation /'grævɪteɪʃn/ noun 1. gradual and steady movement towards someone or something. Synonym movement 2. the force that causes objects to be attracted to each other

gravitational /'grævɪteɪʃnəl/ adj referring to gravity

gravity /'grævɪtɪ/ noun 1. the force which pulls things towards the ground. □ Apples fall to the ground because of the earth’s gravity. 2. great seriousness. □ No one seems to realise the gravity of the situation. □ Due to the gravity of the crimes he is supposed to have committed, his trial will be held in a different town.

gravy /'greɪvi/ noun sauce made from the juices of cooked meat (NOTE: no plural)

gravy train /'greɪvi ˈtreɪn/ noun a way of getting money without doing much work (informal)

graze /greɪz/ noun a slight wound. □ He had a graze on his knee. ■ verb 1. to feed on grass. □ The sheep were grazing on the hillside. 2. to damage the skin slightly. □ He fell off his bicycle and grazed his knee. 3. to scrape for a short time when moving. □ The car grazed the garage door.

grase /græs/ noun 1. thick oil. □ Put some grease on the hinge. 2. a soft animal fat. □ elbow grease hard work (informal) □ It doesn’t need any skill, just a lot of elbow grease. ■ verb 1. to cover with grease. Don’t forget
to grease the wheels. • She greased the pan before cooking the eggs. 2. to grease someone’s palm to give someone a bribe (informal) • We had to grease a few palms to get the contract signed.

greaseproof paper /ˈgrɛsprɔft/ paper which will not let oil through
greasy /ˈgrɛsi/ adj covered with oil or grease • He wiped his greasy hands on a piece of rag. • I don’t like the chips they serve here – they’re too greasy. (NOTE: greasier – greasiest)
greasy spoon /ˈgrɛsi ˈspəʊn/ noun a small cheap and often dirty café (informal)
greasy spoon restaurant /ˈgrɛsi ˈspəʊn ˌrɛstɔrənt/ a small cheap and often dirty café (informal)
greasing /ˈɡreɪzɪŋ/ noun or verb to grease the wheels.
greaseproof paper 368 greaseproof paper /ˈɡreɪzpɹɔft/ noun paper which will not let oil through
greaseproof greaseproof /ˈɡreɪzpɹɔft/ noun paper which will not let oil through

grease /ˈɡreɪz/ noun 1. large • We visited the Great Wall of China. • She was carrying a great big pile of sandwiches. 2. a great deal of, a great many a lot of • There’s a great deal of work to be done. • She earns a great deal of money. • A great many people will lose their jobs. 2. important or famous • New York is a great city. • Picasso was a great artist. • the greatest tennis player of all time 3. wonderful; very good • We had a great time at the party. • What did you think of the film? – It was great! • It was great of you to help. • It was great that they could all get to the picnic. 4. the great and the good people who occupy influential positions in society (humorous) • The government looked through the ranks of the great and the good to find someone to be chairman of the museum’s trustees.
great-/ˈɡreɪt/ prefix referring to an older generation
great-aunt /ˈɡreɪt ənt/ noun the aunt of a father or mother

Great Britain /ˈɡreɪt ˈbrit(ə)n/ noun the country formed of England, Scotland and Wales

Great Dane /ˈɡreɪt ˈdɛn/ noun a breed of very large dog

great-grandchild /ˈɡreɪt ˈɡrændkɑːl/ noun the son or daughter of a grandchild
great-grandfather /ˈɡreɪt ˈɡrændfɑːðə/ noun the father of a grandfather

great-great-grandfather /ˈɡreɪt ˈɡreɪt ˈɡrændfɑːðə/ noun the grandfather of a grandfather

greatly /ˈɡreɪtlɪ/ adv very much
greatness /ˈɡreɪtnes/ noun importance or respect

great-uncle /ˈɡreɪt ˈʌŋkəl/ noun an uncle of a father or mother
greed /ˈɡriːd/ noun too much love of food, money or power
greedily /ˈɡriːdɪli/ adv in a greedy way
greedy /ˈɡriːdi/ adj wanting food or other things too much (NOTE: greedier – greediest)

Greek /ˈɡriːk/ adj referring to Greece or its inhabitants • the son of a Greek shipping tycoon • He’s opened a Greek restaurant near us. • The letters of the Greek alphabet are used in science. • noun 1. a person from Greece • The ancient Greeks lived many years before the Romans. 2. the language spoken in Greece • He reads Plato in the original Greek. • She bought a Greek phrase book before going on holiday.

green /ˈɡriːn/ noun 1. of a colour like the colour of grass • It was wearing a bright green shirt. • They painted the door dark green. • Go on – the traffic lights are green. 2. relating to, interested in, or concerned about the environment • She’s very worried about green issues. • He’s a leading figure in the green movement. (NOTE: greener – greenest)
green spoon /ˈɡriːn ˈspəʊn/ noun 1. a colour like grass • The door was painted a very dark green. • Have you any paint of a darker green than this? 2. a grassy piece of public land in the middle of a village • They were playing cricket on the village green. 3. a piece of smooth short grass for playing golf • The grass on the greens is cut very short. • His ball landed about two feet from the hole on the tenth green.
green back /ˈɡriːnbæk/ noun US a dollar bill ( slang)
green bean /ˈɡriːn ˈbiːn/ noun a long thin green vegetable
green belt /ˈɡriːn ˈbelt/ noun an area of farming land or woods and parks, which surrounds a town, and on which building is restricted or completely banned
green card /ˈɡriːn ˈkaːd/ noun 1. a work permit for someone who is going to live in the USA 2. an insurance certificate to insure a car which is being taken abroad
green channel /ˈɡriːn ˈʃeɪnəl/ noun a way through customs for people who have nothing to declare
greenery /ˈɡriːnəri/ noun the leaves of trees and plants. Synonyms foliage (NOTE: no plural)
greenfield site /ˈɡriːnfild ˈsait/ noun a site for a factory which is in the country, and not surrounded by other factories
green fingers /ˈɡriːn ˈfɪŋəz/ plural noun skill at gardening (NOTE: The US term is green thumb.)
greenfly /ˈɡriːŋflai/ noun a small green insect which sucks sap from garden plants (NOTE: usually plural)
greening /ˈɡriːnɪŋ/ noun a variety of small green plum
greengrocer /ˈɡriːnɡrɑːkər/ noun a person who sells fruit and vegetables
grin
noun /gri:n/ a wide smile
verb /gri:n/ to show a wide smile

grim /gri:m/ adj
1. causing pain, suffering or hardship
2. looking or feeling very serious or unpleasant

grimace /gri:mǝs/ noun
a twisting of the face as a sign of pain, anger or surprise

grim-faced /gri:m ˈfeɪst/ adj
with a serious, unfriendly expression

grimy /ˈgriːmi/ adj
covered in dirt or grease

grin
verb /gri:n/ to smile broadly
noun /gri:n/ a wide smile

grind /ɡrɪnd/ verb
1. to rub or press something together to form a fine powder
2. to be stuck or unable to move

grease /ɡriːz/ noun
1. a thick liquid used to lubricate machines
2. something that causes problems or difficulties

greenhouse /ˈɡriːnhaus/ noun
a glass building for growing plants (NOTE: The plural is greenhouses.)
greenhouse effect /ˈɡriːnhaus efɛkt/ noun
the accumulation of gases in the earth’s atmosphere which prevent heat loss

green light /ˈɡriːnlait/ verb to give approval or permission for something to proceed

Green Paper /ˈɡriːnpəpər/ noun a report from the British government on proposals for a possible new law. Compare White Paper
greens /ɡriːnz/ plural noun
1. green vegetables
2. US greenery
green thumb /ˈɡriːntʌm/ noun US skill at gardening (NOTE: The British term is green fingers.)

Greenwich meridian /ˈɡriːntʃmərɪdiən/ noun a line passing through Greenwich near London at longitude 0° from which all longitudes are calculated

greet /griːt/ verb to meet someone and say hello
greetings /griːtnɪz/ plural noun
words said when meeting or welcoming someone

gregarious /ˈɡriːɡərɪəs/ adj
enjoying the company of other people. Antonym shy
grenade /ˈɡriːndər/ noun
a small bomb, usually thrown by hand

grew /ɡriː/ growth

grey /ɡreɪ/ greyer – greyest
grey /ɡreɪ/ a colour that is a mixture of black and white
grey /ɡreɪ/ a hair or skin that is grey
grey /ˈɡreɪi/ grey thumb
grey /ˈɡreɪi/ green thumb
grey /ˈɡreɪi/ grey-haired
grey /ˈɡreɪi/ greyhound
grey /ˈɡreɪi/ grey area
grey /ˈɡreɪi/ grey-haired

greyhound /ˈɡreɪhaʊnd/ noun a racing dog

grid /ɡrɪd/ grid
1. a set of parallel bars
2. a network or system of lines or components
3. a partition or division of space

gridiron /ˈɡrɪdɪrən/ noun a metal frame for cooking over a fire

gridlock /ˈɡrɪdlɒk/ noun a traffic jam

grim 

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1. grind /ɡraɪnd/ verb 1. to crush to powder
   ○ to grind corn ○ a cup of freshly ground coffee
2. to rub surfaces together
   ○ to grind a knife to sharpen a knife by rubbing it on a rough stone
   ○ to grind your teeth to rub your teeth together and make a noise, especially because you are annoyed
   ○ to grind to a halt
3. ground /ɡraʊnd/ verb 1. to stop working gradually
   ○ to come to a halt.
4. gritty /ˈɡrɪti/ adjective 1. of a sound like two hard things rubbing together
5. grindstone /ˈɡraɪndstʌn/ noun
   ○ a stone which turns to sharpen knives
   ○ to keep someone’s nose to the grindstone to keep someone working very hard
6. grip /ɡrip/ noun 1. a firm hold
   ○ He has a strong firm grip.
   ○ Radial tyres give a better grip on the road surface.
   ○ to lose your grip not to be as much in control as before
   ○ She simply doesn’t make any decisions – I think she’s losing her grip.
2. to get or come to grips with something to start to deal with something (informal)
   ○ The president is having to come to grips with the failing economy.
   ○ to get a grip on yourself to try to control yourself; to try to be less emotional
   ○ Get a grip on yourself – you’ve got an interview in half an hour.
3. grippe /ɡrip/ noun 1. a complaint of gripe about the work
   ○ pains in the stomach
   ○ The baby is suffering from grippe.
   ○ The baby is suffering from grippe.
2. to gripe about something to complain about something
   ○ She’s always griping about the weather.
3. gripping /ˈɡrɪpɪŋ/ adjective which holds your interest or attention
   ○ Synonym fascinating.
   ○ Antonym boring
4. grinder /ˈɡraɪndə/ noun a machine for grinding
5. grinding /ˈɡraɪndɪŋ/ adjective 1. causing a feeling of boredom
   ○ a [sound] like two hard things rubbing together
6. grindstone /ˈɡraɪndstʌn/ noun
   ○ a stone which turns to sharpen knives
   ○ to keep someone’s nose to the grindstone to keep someone working very hard
7. grippe /ˈɡrip/ noun 1. a complaint of grippe about the work
   ○ pains in the stomach
   ○ The baby is suffering from grippe.
   ○ The baby is suffering from grippe.
2. to gripe about something to complain about something
   ○ She’s always griping about the weather.
ground zero 371

groove young person or their family in order to undertake illegal sexual contact

groove /ˈgruːv/ noun a wide line cut into a surface. Synonym channel. Antonym ridge
d to be stuck in a groove to be leading a dull life with no excitement
groovy /ˈgruːvi/ adj fashionable (dated slang) (NOTE: groovier – grooviest)
grope /ˈgrɑːp/ verb to feel with your hands
gross /ˈɡrɒs/ adj 1. total, with nothing taken away 2. very great and bad a gross miscarriage of justice
3. ugly and vulgar (informal) He’s such a horrible man – he’s gross.
(NOTE: grosser – grossest) a adv with nothing taken away His salary is paid gross.
verb to make as a total The film grossed £25m in its first week.
noun twelve dozen, equal to 144 (NOTE: The plural is gross)
gross domestic product /ˈɡrɑːs dəˈmeɪstɪk/ prn’dakt/ noun the value of goods and services paid for inside a country. Abbr GDP
grossly /ˈɡrɑːslɪ/ adv in a great bad way, greatly
gross margin /ˈɡrɑːs məˈdʒɪn/ noun the difference between the price received and the cost of manufacture
gross misconduct /ˈɡrɑːs mɪskˈɑːnt/ noun an action such as being drunk at work or molesting women staff, which leads to instant dismissal
gross national product /ˈɡrɑːs ˈneɪʃənal/ prn’dakt/ noun the value of goods and services paid for in a country, including income earned in other countries. Abbr GNP
gross negligence /ˈɡrɑːs nɛɡˈlɪdʒəns/ noun an act showing a very serious failure to do your duty towards other people
gross profit /ˈɡrɑːs prɪˈfɪt/ noun a profit calculated as income from sales less the cost of the goods sold, before paying for any other expenses

grotesque /ˈɡrɑːstəsk/ adj 1. strange and ugly We got a really grotesque present from our Spanish landlady.
2. unnatural and unpleasant It was grotesque to see her at the funeral.
3. Grotesque abuses of justice were commonplace during the civil war.
grotto /ˈɡrotəʊ/ noun an attractive cave, especially one made as a garden decoration (NOTE: The plural is grottoes.)
grouch /ˈɡruːtʃ/ noun a person who complains all the time She’s such an old grouch.
verb to complain unhappily (informal) He’s always grouching about his pay.

1. ground /ˈɡraʊnd/ noun 1. soil or earth You should dig the ground in the autumn.
2. The house is built on wet ground. It has been so dry that the ground is hard.

2. the surface of the earth The factory was burnt to the ground. There were no seats, so we had to sit on the ground.
3. She lay down on the ground and went to sleep.
4. to get a project off the ground to get a project started He played an important role in getting the project off the ground.

1. ear land used for a special purpose a football ground a sports ground a cricket ground a show ground a fairground, grounds
2. to put or keep on the ground After the mechanical failure was discovered, the fleet of aircraft was grounded.
3. to base Our teaching system is grounded on years of practice.

1. US to connect electrical equipment to the earth Household appliances should be properly grounded.
(NOTE: The British term is to earth.)
2. to be more successful than someone else to lose ground to someone else
3. not to keep close to someone else in a competition
4. to be less successful than someone else
ground beef /ˈɡraʊnd bɪt/ noun US beef which has been cut into very small pieces (NOTE: The British term is mince or minced beef.)
groundbreaking /ˈɡraʊndbrɪkɪŋ/ adj involving new ideas

1. ground floor /ˈɡraʊnd “flɜː/ noun a floor in a building which is level with the street
2. a floor at the same level as the street

1. ground level /ˈɡraʊnd ,leɪvəl/ noun a floor at the same level as the street
2. a floor at the same level as the street

1. ground rule /ˈɡraʊnd ruːl/ noun a basic rule
2. a general rule

grounds /ˈɡraʊndz/ plural noun 1. a large area of land around a big house or institution
2. The police searched the school grounds for the weapon.
3. The village fête is held in the grounds of the hospital.
4. Does he have any grounds for complaints?
5. What grounds have you got for saying that?

Do they have sufficient grounds to sue us?
groundswell /ˈɡraʊndswel/ noun preliminary work. Synonym foundation (NOTE: no plural)
ground zero /ˈɡraʊnd ˈzaʊrə/ noun 1. the point just above or below a nuclear explosion
2. the most basic possible level or starting
point 3, the huge debris field left following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center towers in New York City on 11 September 2001

1. group /gruːp/ noun 1. a number of people or things taken together o a group of houses in the valley o Groups of people gathered in the street. o She is leading a group of businessmen on a tour of Italian factories. o There are reduced prices for groups of 30 and over. 2. a way of classifying things o These drugs belong to the same group. 3. 2. and over. (NOTE: The plural is groups)

2. grovelled /ˈɡroʊvəld/ verb in transit to grovel; intransitive to grovel (informal). She grovelled for her supper.

3. groveling /ˈɡrəʊvəliŋ/ adj. becoming bigger in size or amount 2. becoming stronger or more extreme

grow into /ˈɡraʊ tntuː/ verb to become
groww/ˈɡraʊ/ noun an angry sound made by a dog, or by a person o As he opened the door he heard a growl. o The dog growled when he tried to take away its bone. o When we asked the doorman if we could go in, he just growled ‘yes’.

grown /ˈɡraʊn/ noun 1. full size. Synonym grown-up (NOTE: Do not confuse with grown.)

1. grown-up /ˈgrəʊn ˈʌp/ noun, adj. adult o a grown-up taste in books o The family consists of three grown-ups and ten children. o She has a grown-up daughter. o The grown-ups had wine with their meal.

2. grudgingly /ˈɡrʌdʒɪŋli/ adv. unwilling. Antonym willingly

3. grousing /ˈɡrʌsɪŋ/ noun a grumbling or complaining (informal)

4. grove /ɡrəʊv/ noun a small group of trees. Synonym copse

5. grovel /ˈɡrəʊvəl/ verb to behave towards someone in a way that shows respect or admiration too obviously (NOTE: groveling – grovelled)

6. grow /ɡraʊ/ verb 1. (of plants) to live o There was grass growing in the middle of the road. o Roses grow well in our garden. 2. to make plants grow o He grows all his vegetables in his garden. o We are going to grow some cabbages this year. 3. to become taller or bigger or longer o He’s grown a lot taller since I last saw him. o The profit has grown to £1m. o The town’s population is growing very fast. 4. to become gradually o She grew weak with hunger. o The nights are growing colder now. o All the time he grew richer and richer. (NOTE: grow – grower)

grower /ɡraʊər/ noun a farmer who grows a particular type of plant

1. groser /ˈɡroʊsər/ noun

2. grousers /ˈɡroʊsəz/ plural noun a hard or cold-looking person who tends to argue (informal)

3. grove /ɡrəʊv/ noun 1. a small group of trees. o Birds were searching for grubs under the bushes. 2. food (informal) o The grub in the canteen is so awful that I take sandwiches to work.

4. grub /ˈɡrʌb/ noun 1. a little worm which is a young insect o Birds were searching for grubs under the bushes. 2. food (informal) o The grub in the canteen is so awful that I take sandwiches to work.

5. grubby /ˈɡrʌbi/ adj dirty (NOTE: grubbier – grubbiest)

6. grudge /ˈɡrʌdʒ/ noun 1. to have or bear a grudge against someone to have bad feelings about someone because of something they did to you in the past o Since her bag was snatched in Rome, she has a grudge against Italians. o He has been nursing a grudge against his boss for the last six years. o Verb o to grudge someone something to be unwilling to give someone something or be angry that they have something o I grudge having to pay so much for so-called expert advice. o No one grudges him his success in the tennis championship.

grudginess /ˈɡrʌdʒənɪs/ noun an unwillingness to do something that one is asked to do.

grudgingly /ˈɡrʌdʒɪŋli/ adv. unwillingly
will pay for the repairs.

is still under guarantee, so the manufacturers promises to pay the debts of another person.

is guaranteed for twelve months.

a certain length of time

/L50263

firm promise that something will happen

/L50263

guarantee

We can almost guarantee good

/L50263

with a twelve-month guarantee.

The product is

/L50263

of them guessed the right answer. 

/NOTE: Do not confuse with gorilla.

guerrilla warfare

a type of fighting when guerrillas attack in small groups in unexpected places

guess

a person who looks after and protects

a person who legally

a person who looks after someone else's child

a group of soldiers standing or marching with an important person at a ceremony

a regiment of the Guards

a soldier who is not part of a regular national army (NOTE: Do not confuse with gorilla.)

guerrilla

a soldier

/A guard

A guard

You must be on your guard against burglars

a person who protects, especially a person who legally

a regiment of the Guards

a person who looks after and protects

a person who looks after and protects

a person who looks after and protects

a person who protects, especially a person who legally

a person who protects, especially a person who legally

a legal document in which someone states that something is going to happen

The travel agent could not give a guarantee that we would be accommodated in the hotel mentioned in the brochure.

a legal document which promises that a machine is in good condition and will work without problems for a certain length of time

The fridge is sold with a twelve-month guarantee.

under guarantee covered by a guarantee

The car is still under guarantee, so the manufacturers will pay for the repairs.

a firm promise that something will happen

We can't give you a guarantee that the weather will be fine. 

There is no guarantee that he will get a job even if he gets through the training course successfully.

a legal promise that something will work, or that something will be done

The product is guaranteed for twelve months.

to make a legal promise that something will happen

can guarantee that the car will give you no trouble.

We can almost guarantee good weather in the Caribbean at this time of year.

guaranteed

a person who promises to pay the debts of another person

/A guarantor

/A certain guarantor

guess

a person who by asking a series of questions to try to gain information

guessing game

a game in which players must identify a thing or person by asking a series of questions to gain information

guess estimate

an estimate based on a guess

/A guess

verb /gestəmaɪ/ to
make an estimate of something based on incomplete evidence or information

**guesswork** /ˈɡɛsəwək/ noun the process or end result of guessing

1. **guest** /ɡest/ noun 1. a person who is asked to come to your home or to an event ○ We had a very lively party with dozens of guests. ○ None of the guests left the party early. ○ be my guest used to say that you will allow someone to do what they have asked to do or what you think they might like to do ○ If you want to borrow any of these books, be my guest. 2. a person staying in a hotel

**guesthouse** /ˈɡesthaus/ noun a private house which takes several guests, like a small hotel

**guffaw** /ɡaˈfɔː/ noun a loud laugh ○ Guffaws came from the audience as soon as she started to speak. ○ chuckle noun verb to laugh loudly ○ The audience guffawed as she tried to ride the bicycle.

**guidance** /ˈɡaɪdəns/ noun advice

1. **guide** /ɡaɪd/ noun 1. a person who shows the way ○ They used local farmers as guides through the forest. 2. a person who shows tourists round a place ○ The guide showed us over the castle or showed us round the castle. ○ The museum guide spoke so fast that we couldn’t understand what she was saying. 3. a book which gives information ○ a guide to Athens ○ a guide to the butterflies of Europe ○ verb to show the way, to show tourists round a place ○ She guided us up the steps in the dark. ○ He guided us round the castle.

**Guide** /ɡaɪd/ noun a member of the Guides (NOTE: part of the same organisation as the Boy Scouts)

1. **guidebook** /ˈgaɪdbʊk/ noun a book with information about a place

2. **guided missile** /ˈɡaɪdɪd ˈmɪsəl/ noun a missile which can be controlled to hit a specific place

3. **guide dog** /ˈɡaɪd dɔɡ/ noun a dog which has been trained to lead a blind person

4. **guided tour** /ˈɡaɪdɪd tʊər/ noun a visit to a place where people are led by a guide

5. **guidelines** /ˈɡaɪdlˌaɪnzl/ plural noun general advice on what to do ○ If you follow the government guidelines, you should not have any trouble. ○ The minister has issued a new set of guidelines about city planning.

**Guides** plural noun the Guides Association, an international youth organisation for girls ○ She’s joined the Guides.

**guild** /ɡaɪld/ noun an association of craftsmen (NOTE: Do not confuse with gild.)

1. **guildhall** /ˈɡaɪldhɔl/ noun the main public hall in a town

**guile** /ɡaɪl/ noun the use of trickery to deceive people. Synonym **cunning**. Antonym **frankness**

**guillotine** /ɡəˈlutən/ noun 1. a machine which was used in France for punishing criminals by cutting off their heads 2. a machine for cutting paper 3. a motion in the House of Commons to end a debate at a certain time ○ verb to cut someone’s head off as a punishment ○ Many aristocrats were guillotined during the French Revolution. Synonym **behead**

**guilt** /ɡaɪlt/ noun 1. the state of having committed a crime ○ The prisoner admitted his guilt. 2. being or feeling responsible for doing something bad ○ The whole group bears the guilt for his death. (NOTE: Do not confuse with guilt.)

**guilty** /ˈɡaɪlti/ adj 1. who has committed a crime ○ He was found guilty of murder. ○ The jury decided she was not guilty. 2. feeling unhappy because you have done something wrong ○ I feel very guilty about not having written to you. (NOTE: guiltier – guiltiest)

**guinea** /ˈɡɪnɪ/ noun 1. a former coin worth 21 shillings (£1.05 in modern currency), still used in auction prices and in names of prizes for horse races ○ guinea pig ○ guinea fowl 2. a bird with black fathers and white spots, used for food

**guinea pig** /ˈɡɪnɪ pɪg/ noun 1. a little furry animal, kept as a pet ○ She keeps guinea pigs in a hutch in the garden. 2. a person used in an experiment ○ The hospital is advertising for guinea pigs to test the new drug. ○ We’re using her as a guinea pig to see if the instructions for making the cake work.

**guise** /ɡaɪz/ noun an appearance, which is sometimes misleading ○ in the guise of pretending to be ○ The drugs were sent in the guise of packets of sugar.

**guitar** /ɡɪˈtɑːr/ noun a musical instrument with six strings, played with the fingers ○ He plays the guitar in a pop group.

**gulch** /ɡəltʃ/ noun US a narrow valley with a stream at the bottom (NOTE: The plural is gulches.)

1. **gulf** /ɡaʊl/ noun 1. an area of sea partly surrounded by land ○ the Gulf of Mexico 2. a great distance between two points of view ○ The gulf that separates the two parties will be difficult to bridge.

2. **Gulf** /ɡaʊlf/ noun the Persian Gulf

**gull** /ɡaʊl/ noun a large common white sea bird. Also called **seagull**

**gullet** /ˈɡaʊlt/ noun the tube down which food and drink passes from the mouth to the stomach. Also called **oesophagus**
gullibility /ˌgəlˈbɪlətɪ/ noun a willingness to believe something or trust someone very easily.
gullible /ˈɡələbl/ adj ready to believe anything. Synonym naive. Antonym discerning

gully /ˈɡəli/ noun a small narrow valley (NOTE: The plural is gullies.)
gulp /ɡʌlp/ noun a quick swallow ○ He swallowed the glass of wine in one gulp. ■ verb to swallow fast ○ She gulped and went onto the stage. ○ He gulped down his drink and ran for the bus. ▶ Antonym (all senses) sip

= gum /ɡʌm/ noun 1. glue ○ She spread gum on the back of the photo and stuck it onto a sheet of paper. 2. the flesh around the mouth or the base of your teeth ○ Brushing your teeth every day is good for your gums. ■ verb to stick with glue ○ She gummed the pictures onto a sheet of paper. (NOTE: gumming – gummed)
gumboot /ˈɡʌmbʌt/ noun a rubber boot gummed /ɡʌmd/ adj with glue on it
gumption /ˈɡəmptʃən/ noun 1. good common sense 2. the courage to take action
gum tree /ˈɡʌm tri/ noun a eucalyptus tree ○ to up a gum tree in a difficult situation (informal)

= gun /ɡʌn/ noun 1. a weapon which shoots bullets ○ The robber pulled out a gun. ○ She grabbed his gun and shot him dead. ▶ to jump the gun to start too quickly (informal) ○ The law on Sunday opening starts in a month’s time, but some shops have already jumped the gun. ▶ to stick to your guns to keep to your point of view even if everyone says you are wrong 2. a large weapon which shoots shells ○ We heard the guns firing all night. ○ The ship trained its guns on the town. 3. a small device which you hold in your hand to spray a substance such as paint or glue ○ A spray gun gives an even coating of paint. ■ verb ○ to gun someone down to shoot and kill someone ○ The policeman was gunned down in broad daylight. (NOTE: gunning – gunned)
gunboat /ˈɡʌnbət/ noun a small ship with guns on it
gun control /ˈɡʌn kənˈtrəʊl/ noun legal measures to control the ownership of guns by members of the public
gunfire /ˈɡʌnfər/ noun the shooting of guns ○ under gunfire being shot at ○ He’s always very calm, even under gunfire.
gunge /ˈɡʌndʒ/ noun an unpleasant sticky substance

= gunman /ˈɡʌnmən/ noun a man armed with a gun (NOTE: The plural is gunmen.)
gunpoint /ˈɡʌnpɔɪnt/ noun □ at gunpoint with a gun being pointed at you ○ He was held at gunpoint by robbers.
gunpowder /ˈɡʌnpəʊdər/ noun a chemical substance used as an explosive and to make fireworks
gunshot /ˈɡʌnʃɒt/ noun the firing of a gun
gurgule /ˈɡərdʒəl/ noun a gurgling sound ○ the gurgle of the stream between the rocks ■ verb to make a gurgling sound ○ The water gurgled in the pipes. ○ The baby was gurgling in his pram.
guru /ˈɡɜːru/ noun 1. a respected teacher, often a religious or spiritual teacher ○ He was the great guru of the civil disobedience movement. 2. a person who gives advice ○ She’s one of the Prime Minister’s media gurus.
gush /ɡəʃ/ noun 1. a sudden fast flow of liquid ○ A sudden gush of water came out of the pipe. 2. lots of praise ○ I can’t stand all this gush about babies. ■ verb 1. to flow out very quickly and suddenly ○ Oil gushed from the hole in the pipeline. 2. to speak in a very enthusiastic way ○ She tends to gush over babies.
gushing /ˈɡəʃɪŋ/ adj 1. flowing fast or in large quantities 2. speaking or behaving in an extremely enthusiastic or emotional way that embarrasses other people
gust /ɡʌst/ noun □ a gust of wind a sudden rush of wind ○ A sudden gust blew my hat off. ■ verb to blow in gusts ○ The wind was gusting at up to 70 miles an hour.
gusto /ˈɡʌstʊ/ noun energy and enthusiasm. Synonym enjoyment. Antonym apathy (NOTE: no plural)
gusty /ˈɡʌstɪ/ adj with the wind blowing in sudden bursts. Synonym windy. Antonym calm

= gust /ɡʌst/ noun the tube passing from the stomach in which food is digested as it passes through the body ○ He complained of pain in the gut. ■ verb 1. to remove the insides of an animal or fish before cooking ○ The pigeons have not been gutted. ○ Women stood in the market gutting sardines. 2. to destroy the inside of a building totally ○ The house was gutted by fire. (NOTE: gutting – gutted)
gut reaction /ˈɡʌt rɪˈkʌrʒən/ noun an instinctive reaction
guts /ɡʌts/ plural noun 1. courage (informal) ○ She had the guts to tell the boss he was wrong. 2. the stomach and the area just below it (slang) ○ a pain in the guts

= I hate his guts I dislike him a lot (informal)
gutsy /ˈɡʌtsɪ/ adj 1. brave 2. done or performed with a great deal of passion, or emotion
gutted /ˈɡʌtɪd/ adj 1. with the insides taken out 2. very upset or disappointed ▶ to feel
gutted to feel extremely upset (informal)

When he missed the penalty kick we all felt gutted.

gutter  n noun 1. a channel by the side of a road to take away rainwater | Pieces of paper and leaves blowing about in the gutter.
   □ he was brought up in the gutter he was brought up in very poor conditions

guttering  n noun 1. the gutters at the edges of a roof 2. open metal or plastic pipes for use as gutters

gutter press  n noun newspapers which specialise in scandals

guttural  adj 1. characterised by throaty speech sounds 2. pronounced with the tongue near the back of the mouth.

guy  n noun 1. a man | She married a guy from Texas.
   □ the boss is a very friendly guy.
   □ hey, you guys, come and look at this! (NOTE: in US English, you guys can be used when speaking to men or women.)
   □ a rope which holds a tent
   □ a model of a man
   □ burnt on Bonfire Night, 5th November | The children are collecting clothes to make a guy.
   □ Penny for the guy!

Guy Fawkes Night  n noun 5th November, when the attempt by Guy Fawkes to blow up the British Houses of Parliament in 1605 is remembered with bonfires and fireworks. Also called Bonfire Night

guzzle  v verb to eat or drink greedily (informal)
animal or plant lives

inhabitable

Synonym

/ˈhæbətəbəl/ noun a place where an animal or plant lives

habitual /ˈhæbɪtjuːəl/ adj 1. usual She was sitting in her habitual place at the bar. 2. referring to someone who does something by habit ○ a habitual liar ○ a habitual offender

habitually /ˈhæbɪtjuːəli/ adv in the usual way

hack /hæk/ noun a badly paid journalist ○ A bunch of hacks followed her everywhere. ■ verb 1. to cut roughly ○ He hacked at the tree with an axe. 2. to enter a computer system illegally ○ He hacked into the bank’s computer.

hacker /ˈhækər/ noun a person who enters a computer system illegally

hackles /ˈhæk(ə)lz/ plural noun the hairs on the back of the neck ○ feel or make your hackles rise to begin to feel or to make you feel angry

hackneyed /ˈhækniːd/ adj used too often. Synonym trite

hacksaw /ˈhæksoʊ/ noun a saw for cutting metal

had /hæd, had, hæd/ have

had better had ‘betə, ‘d better phrase it would be a good thing if ○ You had better stay here instead of going to the hotel. ○ Hadn’t you better answer the phone?

hacknied /ˈhækniːd/ adj used too often. Synonym trite

ha2 /hɑː/ lengthmark

ha1 /hə/ vertstrokeinferiorbʃuəl

ha2 /hɑː/ vertstrokeinterj

hacket /ˈhækət/ noun a place where an animal or plant lives

habitation /ˈhæbɪtʃən/ noun a place where someone lives

habitual /ˈhæbɪtjuːəl/ adj 1. usual She was sitting in her habitual place at the bar. 2. referring to someone who does something by habit ○ a habitual liar ○ a habitual offender

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haggard

haggard /ˈhæɡdər/ adj thin and tired

haggis /ˈhægɡɪs/ noun a Scottish dish, made of inner parts of a sheep cooked in a bag made from the sheep’s stomach

haggling /ˈhæɡlɪŋ/ verb to argue about prices and terms to try to reduce them. Synonym bargain (NOTE: You haggle with someone over something.)

ha ha interj /ˈhɑːhɑː/ showing that you find something funny ○ Ha ha! That’s a funny hat! 2. showing that you find something surprising ○ Ha ha! I’ve caught you stealing from the cash box again. ■ noun /ˈhɑː/ hat: a fence at the bottom of a ditch so as not to spoil the view of a landscape ○ The lawn in front of the house ends in a ha-ha.

hailed for ten minutes and then the sun came out. (NOTE: The US term is bobby-pin.)

hairstyle /ˈhɛəstʌl/ noun a piece of false hair

hairpin bend /ˈhɛəpɪn ˈbend/ noun a very small distance

hairstyle /ˈhɛəstʌl/ noun a way of cutting and styling hair

hair stylist /ˈhɛə, ˈstɑːlist/ noun a hairdresser

hairy /ˈhɛəri/ adj 1. covered with hairs ○ He’s got hairy arms. 2. frightening and dangerous (informal) ○ Crossing the Alps in a snowstorm was the hairiest ride I’ve ever had. (NOTE: hairier – hairiest)

hairstyle /ˈhæəstʌl/ noun a piece of false hair

hairpin /ˈhɛəpɪn/ noun a piece of bent wire used to keep your hair in place. Also called grip (NOTE: The US term is bobby-pin.)

hairpin bend /ˈhɛəpɪn ˈbend/ noun a very small distance

hair stylist /ˈhɛə, ˈstɑːlist/ noun a hairdresser

hair stylist /ˈhɛə, ˈstɑːlist/ noun a hairdresser

Hairline cracks appeared in the wall. (literary)

half /ˈhɑːlf/ noun 1. one of two parts which are the same in size ○ She cut the orange in half. ○ One half of the apple fell on the carpet. ○ Half of six is three. 2. (in sport) one of two parts of a match ○ Our team scored a goal in the first half. ○ We thought we were going to win, and then they scored in the final minutes of the second half. 3. (in rugby) a midfield player 4. a part of a financial year ○

half /ˈhɑːf/ noun 1. one of two parts which are the same in size ○ She cut the orange in half. ○ One half of the apple fell on the carpet. ○ Half of six is three. 2. (in sport) one of two parts of a match ○ Our team scored a goal in the first half. ○ We thought we were going to win, and then they scored in the final minutes of the second half. 3. (in rugby) a midfield player 4. a part of a financial year ○
half-and-half

The sales in the first half were down on last year. 5. half a pint, especially of beer ○ An orange juice and two halves of bitter, please. 6. a child’s ticket which costs half the price of an adult’s ○ one adult and two halves (NOTE: The plural is halves/hælvz/) ○ divided into two equal parts (informal) ○ half a bottle of wine ○ half of a bottle of wine ○ We drank half a bottle of wine each. ○ a half bottle of wine ○ a small bottle of wine, containing half the amount of a normal bottle ○ He ordered his meal and a half bottle of Bordeaux. ○ adv. half as big only 50 per cent of the size ○ This book is half as big as that one. ○ half as big again 50 per cent bigger

half-and-half /hælf 'ænd-ælf/ adv in two equal quantities

half an hour /hælf 'æn 'auə/ a half hour noun 30 minutes

half-back /hælf 'bæk/ noun a defending player in football or rugby

half-baked /hælf 'bekd/ adj not properly planned and therefore not practical

half board /hælf 'bɔrd/ noun a rate for breakfast and dinner at a hotel, but not lunch

half-brother /hælf, 'brʌðə/ noun a brother who has only one parent the same as another brother or sister

half-day /hælf 'dei/ adj half the day; morning or afternoon

half-dollar /hælf 'dɔlə/ noun US fifty cents

half-dozen /hælf 'dəzn/ noun six

half-hearted /hælf 'heərtid/ adj not very enthusiastic. Antonym wholehearted

half-hour /hælf 'hɔur/ noun a period of thirty minutes

half-hourly /hælf 'hɔurli/ adj, adv every thirty minutes ○ We have a half-hour bus service to town.

half-mast /hælf 'mɑst/ noun ○ flying at half-mast (of a flag) raised only half-way up the flagpole, as a mark of respect ○ On the day of the King’s death flags flew at half-mast on all public buildings.

half measures /hælf 'mizəri/ plural noun an plan or action which is begun but not completed

half past /hælf 'pɑst/ phrase 30 minutes after an hour

half price /hælf 'prais/ noun, adj 50 per cent of the price

half-price sale /hælf prəs 'seil/ noun a sale of all goods at 50 per cent of the usual price

half-sister /hælf, 'sɪstə/ noun a sister who has only one parent the same as another brother or sister

half-term /hælf 'tɜrm/ noun a short holiday in the middle of a school term. Compare midterm

half-time /hælf 'taim/ noun a rest period in the middle of a game

halfway /hælf'weɪ/ adv in the middle ○ halfway ○ halfway there! ○ The post office is about halfway between the station and our house. ○ to meet someone halfway, to go halfway to meet someone to compromise ○ I’ll meet you halfway. I write the report and you present it at the meeting.

half-yearly /hælf 'jɪəri/ adj, adv every six months

halibut /hælɪbʌt/ noun a large flat white fish (NOTE: The plural is halibut.)

halitosis /hælɪtɵsɪs/ noun a condition where someone has bad-smelling breath ○ hall /hɔl/ noun, adv 1. a room just inside the entrance to a house, where you can leave your coat ○ Don’t wait in the hall, come straight into the dining room. ○ She left her umbrella in the hall. 2. a large room for meetings ○ The children have their dinner in the school hall.

hallmark /hælmɑ:k/ noun 1. a mark put on gold or silver items to show that the metal is of the correct quality ○ The hallmark on this old silver spoon has almost been worn away. 2. it bears the hallmark of it is characteristic of ○ The murder bore all the hallmarks of a serial killing. ○ verb to put a hallmark on a piece of gold or silver ○ The spoon was hallmarked in London in 1790.

hall of residence /hɔl əv 'resɪd(ə)nɔs/ noun a building where students live at university or college

hallowed /hæ'ləʊd/ adj 1. made holy ○ The cemetery is hallowed ground. 2. very much respected (humorous) ○ She entered the hallowed gates of the school.

Halloween /hæləʊweɪn/ noun 31st October, the day before All Saints’ Day, when children sometimes dress up as frightening spirits. ○ Trick or Treat

hallucinate /hɔləˈkjuːnɪteɪt/ verb to imagine seeing or hearing someone or something

hallucination /hɔləˈljuːʃən/ noun the belief that an imaginary scene or sound is really there

halfway /hælˈweɪ/ noun a half; a passage at the entrance to a house or flat. Synonym corridor

halo /hæləʊ/ noun 1. the ring of light round the head of a holy person in a painting ○ a painting of an archbishop with two saints, each with a golden halo 2. a ring round the moon or sun when seen through mist or in icy weather (NOTE: The plural is haloes.)
halt /həlt/ noun a complete stop. Synonym standstill, 1. to come to a halt to stop completely. 2. Theorry came to a halt just before the wall. 3. to call a halt to something to make something stop. 4. He tried to call a halt to arguments inside the party. 5. to grind to a halt to stop working gradually. 6. The whole plan ground to a halt for lack of funds. 7. verb to stop. 8. The cars halted when the traffic lights went red. 9. We are trying to halt experiments on live animals. Antonym start.

halter /ˈhɑːltər/ noun a rope put around an animal’s neck so that you can lead it

halting /ˈhɑːltɪŋ/ adj not sure. Synonym hesitant.

halve /hɑːlv/ verb 1. to cut into two equal parts. a. She halved the cake. b. to reduce by half. 2. Because the town has no cash, its budget has been halved.

halves /hɑːlvz/ noun half

ham /hæm/ noun 1. pork that has been preserved using salt or smoke. a. We had a ham and tomato salad. b. She had a ham sandwich for lunch. 2. a bad actor who uses too many gestures and speaks too loudly (dramatic). 3. verb to ham it up to act a piece badly on purpose (informal).

hamburger /ˈhæmbɜːrɡə/ noun a piece of minced beef grilled and served in a toasted roll

hamlet /ˈhæmliːt/ noun a little village. Antonym city

hammer /ˈhæmər/ noun a tool with a heavy head for knocking nails. a. She hit the nail hard with the hammer. b. to go under the hammer to be sold by auction. c. All his furniture went under the hammer last week.

hammer 1. to knock something into something with a hammer. 2. It took him a few minutes to hammer the tent pegs into the ground. 3. to hit hard, as with a hammer. 4. He hammered the table with his fist. 5. She hammered on the door with her stick. 6. to hammer it into someone to try to make someone understand by repeating. 7. They’re trying to hammer it into schoolchildren that drugs are dangerous. 8. to beat someone in a competition (informal).

hammering /ˈhæmərɪŋ/ noun a heavy defeat

hammer out /ˈhæmər aʊt/ verb 1. to hammer out an agreement to go through long and difficult discussions in order to reach agreement on something.

hammock /hæmˈmɒk/ noun a piece of fabric hanging between two hooks

hamper /ˈhæmpər/ noun a large basket

We packed the hamper with food for the picnic. 2. verb to get in the way. 3. Lack of funds is hampering our development project. Synonym hinder. Antonym facilitate

hamster /ˈhæmstr/ noun a small furry animal, kept as a pet

hamstring /ˈhæmstrɪŋ/ noun the group of tendons behind the knee, which connects the thigh muscle to the bones in the lower leg

hamstrung /ˈhæmstrʌŋ/ adj not able to do what you want to

hand /hænd/ noun 1. the part of the body at the end of each arm, which you use for holding things. a. She was carrying a cup of tea in each hand. b. She held out her hand, asking for money. 2. verb to shake hands to hold someone’s hand to show you are pleased to meet them or to show that an agreement has been reached. 3. The visitors shook hands and the meeting started. 4. to shake hands on a deal to shake hands to show that a deal has been agreed. 5. to give or lend someone a hand with something to help with something. a. Can you lend a hand with moving the furniture? b. He gave me a hand with the washing up. c. the shop has changed hands the shop has a new owner. d. they walked along hand in hand they walked holding each other by the hand. 2. a. to be hand in glove with someone to be working closely with someone. b. We discovered he was hand in glove with our main rivals. 3. to have your hands full to be very busy. 4. With three little children to look after she has her hands full. 5. verb hand over fist in large quantities. a. They were making money hand over fist. b. verb to give away. c. to wash 3. one of the two pieces on a clock which turn round and show the time. 4. the minute hand is longer than the hour hand. 4. a. at hand near. b. The fire extinguisher is kept close at hand. c. by hand using your hands and tools, but not using large machines. d. He made the table by hand. 5. in hand kept ready. a. to have a supply of extra paper in hand for emergencies. b. on hand ready. 6. There’s a doctor on hand if accidents occur. 7. on the one hand showing the first part of a comparison. a. on the other hand as the second part of a comparison; but. 8. On the one hand he’s a good salesman, on the other hand he can’t work out discounts correctly. 9. out of hand not controlled. a. Our expenses have got out of hand. 10. a. a worker to take on ten more hands. b. an old China hand a person who has had a lot of experience in doing business in China. 2. the action of hitting your hands together. 3. Had it very well — give him a big hand, everyone. 4. cards which have been given to you as a player in a game. 5. His hand contained three aces. 6. verb to pass something to someone. 7. Can you hand me that box? 8. She handed me all her money. Synonym give. 9. you’ve got to hand it to him he has to be admired for (informal).
hand back
You’ve got to hand it to her, she’s a great manager!
verb to give something back

handbag /ˈhændbæg/ noun a small bag which a woman carries to hold small things such as money or make-up (NOTE: The US term is purse or pocketbook.)

hand baggage /ˈhænd ˈbægɪdʒ/ noun small cases carried by passengers onto a plane. Also called hand luggage

handball /ˈhændbɔːl/ noun a game played with a large ball, which you have to hit only with your hands.

handbill /ˈhændbɪl/ noun a small piece of printed paper advertising something, given out by hand. Synonym leaflet

handbook /ˈhændbɔːk/ noun a book which gives instructions on how to use or repair something. Synonym manual

handbrake /ˈhændbreɪk/ noun a lever in a vehicle which works the brakes

handcart /ˈhændkɑːrt/ noun a small vehicle which is pushed or pulled by hand

handcuff /ˈhændkʌf/ verb to attach with handcuffs. Synonym chain

handcuffs /ˈhændkʌfs/ plural noun two metal rings connected by a chain, which are locked round the wrists of someone who is being arrested. He came out of the court house in handcuffs. (NOTE: plural for one item, say ‘a pair of handcuffs’)

hand down /ˈhænd ˈdaʊn/ verb 1. to pass from one generation to a younger one. This is one of those folk tales which have been handed down over the centuries. 2. The house has been handed down from father to son since the sixteenth century. 3. to announce publicly. The judge handed down his verdict.

handful /ˈhændfʊl/ noun 1. as much as you can hold in your hand. She paid with a handful of loose change. 2. a very few. Only a handful of people came to the wedding. 3. a difficult child. Their son is a bit of a handful.

hand grenade /ˈhænd ɡrɛdʒ/ noun a small bomb usually thrown by hand

handgun /ˈhændɡʌn/ noun a small gun which is carried in the hand

disabled

hand-held /ˈhænd ˈheld/ adj/hænd held/ which can be held in the hand. A penalty given to a player to make it harder for him or her to win. He has a golf handicap of 7.

hand luggage
hand luggage

handicap /ˈhændɪkep/ noun 1. a physical or mental disability (dated) 2. something which puts you at a disadvantage. Not being able to drive is a handicap in this job. 3. a punishment given to a player to make it harder for him or her to win. She was handicapped by not being able to speak Russian. (NOTE: handicapping – handicapped)

handicapped /ˈhændɪkept/ adj not able to use part of the body or mind because of a permanent illness or injury. a school for handicapped children. (NOTE: Many people avoid this term as it can cause offence and prefer to say disabled.)

handicraft /ˈhændɪkrɑːft/ noun artistic work done by hand

handily /ˈhændəli/ adv 1. conveniently. 2. in a skilful, clever way

hand in /ˈhænd ˈɪn/ verb to give in something by hand. He handed in his notice or resignation. He resigned

handiwork /ˈhændwɜːk/ noun work done or made by yourself

handkerchief /ˈhændkɛʃ/ noun a piece of cloth or thin paper for wiping your nose. Also called hanky (NOTE: The plural is handkerchiefs or handkerchieves.)

handle /ˈhænd(ə)l/ noun 1. a part of something which you hold in your hand to carry or use the object held. I turned the handle but the door didn’t open. Be careful. the handle of the frying pan may be hot. 2. to deal with something. His company handles most of the traffic through the port. Leave it to me – I’ll handle it. 3. to sell or to trade in a type of service or product. We do not handle washing machines.

handlebars /ˈhænd(ə)bɑːz/ plural noun a bar for steering a bicycle or motorcycle. The handlebars are too low, can you alter the handlebars?

handier /ˈhændɪr/ noun same as trainer

handling /ˈhændlɪŋ/ noun 1. the way in which a person deals with something. a situation that needs careful handling. 2. the way in which something can be controlled or used. 3. the act of touching or moving something with the hands. Handling this product without gloves is not recommended. 4. the act of dealing with something, or of managing someone. 5. the transport and packaging of goods. 6. the buying or selling of goods known to be stolen. 7. convicted of handling stolen goods

handling charge /ˈhændlɪŋ tʃɑrɪdʒ/ noun a charge made for dealing with something

hand luggage /ˈhænd ˈlɛʤ/ noun same as hand baggage
handmade /ˈhændmɪd/ adj made by hand, without using a machine

hand out /ˈhænd aʊt/ verb to distribute ♦ Protesters were handing out leaflets at the station. Synonym dispense

handout /ˈhændəʊt/ noun 1. a gift such as clothes or money, given to poor people ♦ The support group exists on handouts from the government. 2. a printed information sheet ♦ You will all get handouts after the lecture.

hand over /ˈhænd əʊvər/ verb to give something to someone ♦ She handed over all the documents to the lawyers. Synonym give up. Antonym withhold

handover /ˈhændəʊvər/ noun the passing of power to someone else

handpicked /ˈhændpɪkt/ adj carefully chosen. Synonym select

handrail /ˈhændreɪl/ noun a bar which you hold on to for safety

handset /ˈhændset/ noun the part of a telephone which you hold in your hand

hands-free /ˈhændz friː/ adj able to be used or operated without the use of the hands

handsake /ˈhændʃeɪk/ noun the act of shaking hands when meeting someone

handsome /ˈhændsəm/ adj 1. good-looking ♦ Her boyfriend is very handsome – I'm jealous! (NOTE: handsome is usually used of men rather than women) 2. large ♦ We made a handsome profit on the deal.

hands-on /ˈhændz əʊn/ adj practical and done by yourself

handsstand /ˈhændstænd/ noun the position of holding yourself upright on your hands upside down

hand-to-hand /ˈhænd tu ˈhænd/ adj (of fighting) with soldiers very close to each other

hand-to-mouth /ˈhænd tu ˈmaʊθ/ adj with only just enough money or food for what is necessary to live each day

handwriting /ˈhændrɪtɪŋ/ noun writing done by hand

handwritten /ˈhændrɪt(ə)n/ adj written by hand

handy /ˈhændi/ adj practical and useful ♦ to come in handy to be useful ♦ The knife will come in handy when we are camping.

handyman /ˈhændɪmæn/ noun someone who is skilled at doing small jobs such as repairs

hang /hæŋ/ verb 1. to attach something to something that it does not touch the ground ♦ Hang your coat on the hook behind the door. ♦ He hung his umbrella over the back of his chair. ♦ We hung the painting in the hall. ♦ The boys were hanging upside down from a tree. (NOTE: hanging – hung /hæŋ/) 2. to kill someone by tying a rope round their neck and hanging them off the ground ♦ He was sentenced to be hanged for murder. 3. to hang yourself to commit suicide by hanging ♦ He hanged himself in his prison cell. (NOTE: hanging – hanged) ♦ noun ♦ to get the hang of something to understand how something works (informal) ♦ I don’t think I’ll ever get the hang of this software package.

hang about /hæŋ ˈəʊbət/ same as hang around

hangar /ˈhæŋər/ noun a large shed for keeping aircraft in (NOTE: Do not confuse with hangar)

hang around /ˈhæŋ əˈraʊnd/ verb to wait in a certain place without doing anything much

hang back /hæŋ ˈbæk/ verb to stay behind when others go on. Synonym hesitate

hang down /ˈhæŋ ˈdʌn/ verb to hang in a long piece

hang and hangar /ˈhæŋər/ noun a device for hanging things

hang-on /ˈhæŋən ˈəʊn/ noun a person who stays near someone in the hope of getting something good ♦ the president with his usual crowd of hangers-on Synonym follower (NOTE: The plural is hangers-on.)

hang-glider /ˈhæŋ ˈɡlɪdər/ noun a large cloth wing stretched over a light frame, under which a person hangs, holding onto a bar which is used for steering 2. a person who flies a hang-glider

hang-gliding /ˈhæŋ ˈɡlɪdɪŋ/ noun the sport of flying a hang-glider

hang-up /ˈhæŋ əp/ noun 1. a gift such as clothes or money, given to poor people ♦ The support group exists on hang-ups after the lecture.

hangover /ˈhæŋəvər/ noun 1. an unpleasant feeling after having drunk too much alcohol ♦ Last night’s party was good but I’ve got a dreadful hangover this morning. ♦ a thing which is left over from the past ♦ This is a hangover from the old days when inns always provided stables for horses.

hang up /hæŋ ,ˈhæŋ/,ˈhæŋ əp/ verb 1. to put something on a hanger or on a hook ♦ Don’t leave
hang-up

your jacket on the back of your chair, hung it up! 2. to stop a telephone conversation by putting the telephone back on its hook. When I asked him when he was going to pay, he hung up.

hang-up /ˈheŋ əp/ noun a worry or anxious feeling (informal) hung up (NOTE: The plural is hang-ups.)

hanker /ˈheŋkər/ verb to want something over a long time

hank-y-panky /ˈheŋki ˈpæŋkki/ noun 1. activity which is strange or suspicious 2. sexual behaviour

Hanukkah /ˈheŋnakə/ noun a Jewish religious festival in November or December

haphazardly /ˈheŋzdəli/ adv at random, without any plan

hapless /ˈhepləs/ adj unlucky; unfortunate (literary). Antonym fortunate

happening /ˈheŋpɪŋ/ verb to take place

The accident happened at the traffic lights. How did the accident happen?

happened /ˈheŋpəd/ past tense/ past participle

Everything happened to be empty at the time. It so happened that my wife bumped into her

happens /ˈheŋps/ present tense

The shop happened to be empty at the time. We happened to meet at the library. Do you happen to have change for £10? Do it so happened or happened that, as it happens, as it happened quite by chance. As it happens I have the car today and can give you a lift. It so happened that my wife bumped into her at the supermarket.

happenings /ˈheŋpɪŋz/ noun an event. Synonym occurrence

happiness /ˈheŋpinəs/ noun a feeling of being happy. Synonym contentment. Antonym sadness

happy /ˈheŋpi/ adj 1. (of people) very pleased I’m happy to say we’re getting married next month. I’m so happy to hear that you are better. She’s very happy in her job. 2. (of events) pleasant It was the happiest day of my life. By a happy coincidence, we both like Dutch painters and met at the exhibition. 3. to be happy to do something to do something very willingly I’d be happy to lend you my car. 4. to be happy with something to be satisfied with something. Are you happy with your new car? No one is happy with the plans for the new town centre. (NOTE: happier – happiest)

Happy Birthday /ˈhepi ˈbɑrdli/ intj a greeting said to someone on their birthday. "Happy Birthday to you!") the first line of a song sung at a birthday party. We all sang ‘Happy Birthday to you’ and then she blew out the candles on her cake.

happy-go-lucky /ˈhepi goʊ ˈlæki/ adj without any worries. Synonym carefree

happy hour /ˈhepi aʊr/ noun a period when drinks are cheaper in a bar

happy medium /ˈhepi ˈmiːdɪən/ noun an agreement that includes something for everyone

harangue /haˈræŋ/ noun a loud speech. I’m fed up listening to harangues from politicians. Synonym tirade verb to make a loud speech to someone. The president harangued the crowd for three hours.

harass /ˈhærəs, haˈræs/ verb to bother and worry someone. Synonym annoy

harassment /ˈhærəsmənt, həˈræsmənt/ noun pestering and worrying

harbour /ˈhɑbər/ noun a place where boats can come and tie up. The yacht moved away from the harbour.

The ship came into harbour last night. Two events 1. to protect someone, such as a criminal. He was arrested and charged with harbouring illegal immigrants. 2. to harbour a grudge against someone to keep remembering a bad feeling about someone. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is harbor.)

hard /ˈhɑrd/ adj 1. not soft. If you have back trouble, you ought to get a hard bed. The ice cream is rock hard or hard as a rock. The cake she made is so hard I can’t bite into it. It is too hard – I can’t even begin to do it. The exam was very hard, and most students failed. She finds it hard to cope without any money. It’s hard to say it’s difficult to know (informal). It’s hard to say if it’s going to rain or not. 2. difficult. Today’s crossword is too hard – I can’t even begin to do it. The exam was very hard, and most students failed. She finds it hard to cope without any money. It’s hard to say it’s difficult to know (informal). It’s hard to say if it’s going to rain or not. 3. severe. There was a hard winter in 1982. The hard lines. hard luck! I’m sorry you didn’t win (informal). 4. he’s rather hard of hearing he’s quite deaf. 5. (of water) containing calcium, which makes it difficult to wash with. The water in this area is very hard. (NOTE: harder – hardest) strongly He hit the nail hard. It’s snowing very hard. They worked hard to finish the order on time. She always tries hard.

hardback /ˈhɑrdbæk/ noun a book bound in a stiff card. Compare paperback

hardboard /ˈhɑrdboʊrd/ noun artificial board, made of little bits of wood mixed with glue and pressed together. (NOTE: no plural)
hard-boiled 384 harm

hard-boiled /,hɑːrd 'boʊld/ adj 1. (of an egg) which has been boiled until the inside is solid ○ Do you prefer your egg hard-boiled or soft-boiled? 2. tough; not showing any emotion ○ She’s pretty hard-boiled, that sort of thing doesn’t bother her.

hard copy noun /hɑːrd 'kaʊpi/ computer data which has been printed on paper or on paper

hardcore /,hɑːrd 'kɔrəl/ noun 1. pieces of brick and stones, used as the foundation for roads and buildings ○ They dug a hole and filled it with hard core. 2. a central group ○ Most of the guests left before eleven, but the hard core of drinkers stayed till two. (NOTE: [all senses] no plural) 3. adj referring to a central group ○ The hard-core members of the party were all for opposing the government.

hardcover /,hɑːrd'kʌvər/ noun same as hardback

hard currency /,hɑːrd 'kʌrənsi/ noun the currency of a country with a strong economy, which can be changed into other currencies easily. Compare soft currency

hard disk /,hɑːrd 'dɪsk/ noun a disk which is fixed inside a computer

hard drug /,hɑːrd 'drʌg/ noun a strong drug such as heroin, which people become addicted to

harden /,hɑːrdərn/ verb 1. to become hard ○ Leave the cement for a couple of days to harden. ○ Attitudes are hardening as the transport strike continues. 2. to make harder ○ We use specially hardened steel in the construction. 3. to make more experienced ○ a hardened criminal

hardened /,hɑːrdənd/ adj 1. which has been made harder or stronger 2. so experienced that something that most people would find unpleasant or difficult seems ordinary

hard graft /,hɑːrd 'ɡrɑːft/ noun hard work (informal)

hard hat /,hɑːrd 'hæt/ noun same as safety helmet

hard-headed /,hɑːrd 'hedɪd/ adj practical or sensible

hard-hearted /,hɑːrd 'hɑrtɪd/ adj cruel

hard-hitting /,hɑːrd 'hɪtɪŋ/ adj very critical

hard labour /,hɑːrd 'lɜːbər/ noun the former punishment of sending someone to prison to do hard work

hard line /,hɑːrd 'laɪn/ noun ○ to take a hard line to be severe; to follow the rules strictly ○ The courts are taking a hard line with football hooligans

hardline /,hɑːrd'laɪn/ adj strict over policy. Synonym uncompromising

hardliner /,hɑːrd'laɪnə/ noun a strict person who takes a hard line

hardly /,hɑːrdli/ adv 1. almost not ○ Do you know her? — Hardly at all. ○ We hardly slept a wink last night. ○ She hardly eats anything at all. 2. hardly ever almost never ○ I hardly ever see her these days. ○ It hardly ever rains in September.

hard-nosed /,hɑːrd 'nɔʊzd/ adj tough; determined

hard porn /,hɑːrd 'pɔːrn/ noun extremely indecent pornographic material

hard-pressed /,hɑːrd 'prɛst/ adj acting under a lot of pressure

hard put /,hɑːrd 'pʊt/ adj in a difficult situation

hard sell /,hɑːrd 'sɛl/ noun aggressive selling

hardship /,hɑːrdʃɪp/ noun difficult conditions; suffering. Synonym adversity

hard shoulder /,hɑːrd 'ʃəʊldər/ noun a strip along the edge of a motorway, used for stopping in an emergency

hard up /,hɑːrd 'ʌp/ adj with very little money (informal). Antonym well-off

hardware /,hɑːrdweɪə/ noun tools and pans used in the home ○ I bought the paint in a hardware shop.

hard-wired /,hɑːrd 'wɜːrd/ adj physically connected to a computer system or network

hard-won /,hɑːrdwʌn/ adj achieved after a big effort

hardwood /,hɑːrdwʊd/ noun 1. a strong wood from trees such as oak or teak. 2. a slow-growing tree, such as oak or teak, which produces a hard wood Compare softwood

hardworking /,hɑːrd'wɜːkɪŋ/ adj who works hard

hardy /,hɑːrdɪ/ adj able to survive in cold weather. Antonym frail

hare /heɪə/ noun a wild mammal like a large rabbit ○ In the spring mountain hares lose their white winter coats. ○ verb ○ to hare after someone to run fast to try to catch someone ○ He went haring down the road after the bus.

harebrained /,heər'breɪnd/ adj not serious; not concentrating on essential things

harem /,hɑrərɛm/ noun 1. a group of women who are the wives of the same man in some Muslim societies, especially in the past. 2. the part of a Muslim house where only women live

hark /hɑrk/ interj listen (dated) ○ Hark! Can you hear the bells? ○ to hark back to 1. to go back to a subject talked about earlier 2. to be similar to something that happened earlier

harlot /,hɑrəlɔt/ noun a woman who has sex for money (dated)

harm /hɑrm/ noun damage done to people or animals ○ He didn’t mean to do any
hastily /ˈhæstli/ adv carelessly and quickly
hastly /ˈhæstli/ adj carelessly fast. Synonym quick (NOTE: hastier – hastiest)

hat /hæt/ noun 1. a piece of clothing which you wear on your head. ○ Take your hat off when you go into a church. ○ He’s got a Russian fur hat for the winter. 2. ○ keep it under your hat keep it secret (informal) ○ to be talking through your hat to be talking nonsense ○ That’s rubbish – you’re talking through your hat. ○ pass round ○ to take your hat off to someone 1. to salute someone, by lifting your hat up a little 2. to say that you admire someone ○ She’s made a great success of her business – I take my hat off to her.

hatch /hætʃ/ noun an opening in the deck of a ship, or a cover for this opening ○ He opened the hatch and went down into the cabin. ■ verb 1. (of a baby bird) to break out of the egg ○ All the chicks hatched on the same day. ○ don’t count your chickens before they’re hatched don’t be too sure that everything will be all right ○ He’s a very cautious man, he never counts his chickens before they’re hatched. 2. to plan ○ They hatched a plot to kidnap the Prime Minister’s daughter.

hatchback /ˈhætʃbæk/ noun a type of car where the back opens upwards as a door

hatchet /ˈhætʃ/ noun a small axe ○ to bury the hatchet to make peace with someone after an argument or fight (informal) ○ After years of quarrelling, the two brothers decided to bury the hatchet.

hatchet man /ˈhætʃtʃmən/ noun a manager whose job is to find ways of saving money in a business or company (informal)

hate /hæt/ verb to dislike very much ○ I think she hates me, but I don’t know why. ○ I hate going to the dentist. Synonym detest ■ noun strong dislike ○ Cucumber sandwiches are one of my pet hates. Synonym hatred

hateful /hætləf/ adj which makes people dislike it. Synonym vile. Antonym lovable

hate mail /ˈhæt meil/ noun letters showing that the writer hates someone

hated /ˈhætɪd/ noun a great dislike. Synonym hate

hatter /ˈhætər/ noun a person who makes hats

hat trick /ˈhæt ˈtrɪk/ noun a score of three goals or wins by the same person in a sport

haughtily /ˈhɔrtli/ adv proudly

haughtiness /ˈhɔrtnəs/ noun being haughty. Synonym arrogance

haughty /ˈhɔrti/ adj extremely proud and unpleasant. Synonym supercilious (NOTE: haughtier – haughtiest)

haul /hɔ:lu/ noun 1. a large quantity of things which have been stolen ○ The burglars made off with their haul. 2. a distance travelled with difficulty ○ It’s a long haul up the hill. ■ verb to pull with difficulty ○ They hauled the boat up onto the beach. ○ The police hauled the body out of the water. Synonym drag. Antonym shove

haunch /ˈhʌnʃ/ noun the top part of the leg, especially of an animal ○ to sit on your haunches to sit in a squatting position

haunt /hɔːnt/ noun a place which you visit frequently ○ I went back to some of my old haunts. ○ The pub is a favourite haunt of actors. Synonym meeting place ■ verb (of ghosts) to visit frequently ○ The castle is supposed to be haunted by the ghost of a soldier

haunted /ˈhɔːntɪd/ adj visited by ghosts

haunting /ˈhɔːntɪŋ/ adj sad and wonderful. Synonym lingering

haute couture /ˈhɔt kʊˈtʃʊr/ noun the designing of expensive fashionable clothes for women ○ have/hav, əv, hæv/ verb 1. to possess or own something ○ She has a lot of money. ○ They have a new green car. ○ She has long dark hair. ○ The house has no telephone. ○ Do you have a table for three, please? 2. to take, to eat, to play, etc. ○ Have you had any tea? ○ She has sugar in her coffee. ○ They had a meal of bread and cheese. ○ She had her breakfast in bed. ○ They had a game of tennis. ○ I had a long walk. 3. to cause something to be done for you ○ I must have my hair cut. ○ She’s having the house painted. 4. used to form the past of verbs ○ Have they finished their work? ○ She has never been to Paris. ○ They had finished supper when we arrived. ○ I haven’t seen him for two days. ○ If she had asked me I would have said no. 5. used to introduce a wish that someone will enjoy something ○ Have a nice day! ○ Have a good trip! (NOTE: having – had)

have got /hæv ˈgɒt/ verb 1. to possess or own something ○ She’s got dark hair. ○ Have you got a table for three, please? ○ She’s got a lot of money. ○ They’ve got a new green car. ○ The house hasn’t got a telephone. ○ They haven’t got enough to eat. 2. used to mean ‘must’ ○ Why have you got to go so early? ○ She’s got to learn to drive.

haven /ˈhævn/ noun a safe port or safe place ○ tax haven a country where taxes are low, encouraging financial companies to set up offices there ○ She put most of her money into an offshore tax haven.

haven’t /ˈhæv(n)ənt/ short form have not
have on /haev 'oun/ verb 1. to wear ○ What did she have on when she left the party? ○ I can't answer the door – I've got nothing on. 2. □ to have something on to have something planned (informal) ○ I haven't anything on tonight so I'll be able to finish painting the bathroom.

have out /haev 'aut/ verb □ to have a tooth out to get a tooth removed by a dentist

have to /haev tu/ verb □ to have to do with to relate to something

havoc /havək/ noun damage. Synonym chaos □ to play havoc with to ruin ○ The snow has played havoc with the train timetables.

hawk /hɔ:k/ noun 1. a large bird of prey ○ The hawk was hovering over the motorway. □ she has eyes like a hawk she notices everything 2. a person who prefers military action to diplomacy ○ Curiously, it’s the military commanders who are the doves and the president and his advisers are the hawks. Antonym dove □ verb to sell goods from door to door or in the street □ to hawk something round to take an idea or a project to various companies to see if anyone will accept it ○ He hawked his idea for a film round all the studios but no one wanted it.

hawker /ha'kər/ noun a person who sells goods from place to place

hawser /ha'zər/ noun a thick rope used on a ship. Synonym cable

hawthorn /'hɔθɔrn/ noun a bush found in hedgerows with little white flowers ○ hay /heɪ/ noun dried grass used to feed cattle ○ to make hay while the sun shines to enjoy yourself while you can

hayfever /'heɪfəvə/ noun an inflammation of the nose and eyes caused by an allergy to flowers, pollen, scent or dust

haystack /'heɪstæk/ noun a construction made from piles of hay ○ it’s like looking for a needle in a haystack it’s a hopeless task.

haywire /'heɪwɪər/ adj (informal) □ to go haywire to stop working properly ○ Everything’s gone haywire.

hazard /'hæzdər/ noun a dangerous situation ○ Don’t leave those cardboard boxes in the passage – they’re a fire hazard. Antonym danger. Antonym safeguard □ at hazard at risk □ verb to risk □ to hazard a guess to risk making a guess ○ I wouldn’t hazard a guess at how many people will come to the concert.

hazard lights /'hæzdəd laɪts/ plural noun flashing lights which warn that there may be some danger

hazardous /'hæzədəs/ adj risky or dangerous □ hazardous to health which can harm health ○ Environmentalists are convinced that the discharges are hazardous to the health of the local people.

haze /heɪz/ noun 1. mist, smoke or dust suspended in the atmosphere, reducing visibility ○ 2. not being able to think or remember clearly ○ He was in a haze when he came round after the operation. ■ verb US to play jokes, especially on a new student ○ Hazing has become so extreme that it has had to be banned in some colleges.

hazel /'heɪzl/ noun a small tree which produces small round nuts ○ The flowers of the hazel are called catkins. ■ adj, noun a light brownish-green colour ○ The little girl had beautiful hazel eyes.

hazelnut /'heɪzənlʌt/ noun a small brown round nut from the hazel tree

hazy /'heɪzi/ adj 1. misty ○ It was too hazy for us to get a good view from the top of the cliff. 2. vague ○ I have a hazy recollection of the party. ○ He reported the accident to the police but was very hazy about some of the details. (NOTE: hazier – haziest)

head /head/ noun 1. the top part of the body, which contains the eyes, nose, mouth and brain ○ He says he can relax by standing on his head. ○ She hit her head on the cupboard door. □ head over heels over and over ○ She rolled head over heels down the hill. □ to be head over heels in love to be very much in love ○ He’s head over heels in love with my sister. □ to shake your head to move your head from side to side to mean ‘no’ ○ She asked him if he wanted any more coffee and he shook his head. □ head and shoulders above much better than (informal) ○ She’s head and shoulders above all the others in the class. 2. a brain; intelligence ○ She has a good head for figures. ○ He tried to do the sum in his head. ○ If we all put our heads together we might come up with a solution. □ to take it into your head to do something to decide to do something sud-
headache /ˈhedɪk/ noun 1. a pain in your head, caused by changes in pressure in the blood vessels. 2. a problem caused by the lack of resources in the education system. 3. one of the main white lights on the front of a vehicle.

headboard /ˈhedɜːbɔːd/ noun a flat upright piece at the top end of a bed.

headcount /ˈhedəukaʊnt/ noun the process of counting the people in a group one by one.

headed /ˈhedɪd/ adj 1. with a title. 2. with a particular kind of head or heads. 3. with a particular colour or type of hair. 4. with a particular character or ability. 5. a level-headed young businesswoman.

header /ˈhedər/ noun 1. the act of hitting a ball with your head. 2. a dive. 3. words or page numbers at the top of a page of a book or document. Compare footnote.

headfirst /ˈhed ˈfɜːst/ adv 1. with your head first. 2. hastily. 3. head-first into a deal with someone you hardly know.

headgear /ˈhedɡər/ noun something which is worn on the head.

headhunt /ˈhedhʌnt/ verb to be headhunted to be approached by a headhunter and offered a job with another company.

headliner /ˈhedlɪnər/ noun a person or company that looks for top managers and offers them jobs in other companies.

heading /ˈhedɪŋ/ noun words at the top of a piece of text. Synonym subheading.

headlamp /ˈhedlæmp/ noun one of the main white lights on the front of a vehicle.

headland /ˈhedlənd/ noun a piece of high land sticking into the sea.

headmaster /ˈhedmɑːstər/ noun a man who is in charge of a school.

headmistress /ˈhedmɪstrəs/ noun a woman who is in charge of a school. (Note: The plural is headmistresses.)

head off /ˈhed ˈɔf/ verb 1. to prevent something from taking place. 2. to go away in a certain direction.

head office /ˈhed ˈɒfɪs/ noun the main office where the directors work and meet.

head of state /ˈhed əv ˈsteɪt/ noun a king, queen, or president who is the official leader of a state.

COMMENT: The head of state is not necessarily the head of the government. In the United Kingdom, the Queen is head of state and the Prime Minister is head of government. In the United States, the President combines both roles. Most monarchies, such as Spain or Denmark, split the function of head of state and head of government; some republics, like Germany, do the same.

head-on /ˈhed ˈɒn/ adj, adv 1. with the front first. 2. directly.

head-on collision a collision where two vehicles run into each other front to front.
headphones  

headphones /hed*founz/ plural noun equipment which you put on your ears to listen to sounds privately (NOTE: plural for one item, say ‘a pair of headphones’)

headquarters /hed*kwɔ*stɔ/ noun a military commander’s base or the main offices of a company or organisation

headrest /hed*rest/ noun a cushion on top of a car seat against which you can lean your head

headroom /hed*rum/ noun the amount of space needed to be able to sit or walk upright

headscarf /hed*skorf/ noun a square piece of cloth worn over the head and usually tied under the chin (NOTE: The plural is headscarves.)

headset /hed*set/ noun a set of headphones for listening to something such as the telephone, the radio or a CD, which fits over your ears with a band across the top of your head, and sometimes has a microphone attached

head start /hed*stɔt/ noun to have a head start over someone to have an advantage over someone. They had a head start over some other companies because they had a local office. 

headstone /hed*stɔn/ noun a piece of stone standing at the end of a grave with the name of the dead person written on it. Synonym gravestone, tombstone

headstrong /hed*strɔŋ/ adj determined to do what you want. Antonym docile

head teacher /hed*t hemorrhage /L50263/ noun a man or woman who is in charge of a school

head-to-head /hed*to hed/ adj to ‘head on’, competing directly with someone or something in a head-to-head contest. The winner of this game will go head-to-head with the reigning champion.

head waiter /hed*westə/ noun a person in charge of other waiters

headway /hedwɔ/ noun 1. to make headway 1. to have some success in trying to achieve something. 2. to move forwards in difficult conditions

headwind /hedwind/ noun a wind blowing towards you. Synonym breeze

heady /hed*adj strong and likely to affect your senses, such as making you drunk or excited (NOTE: headier – headiest)

heal /hi/ verb to mend; to become healthy again (NOTE: Do not confuse with heal.)

healer /hi*ler/ noun a person who heals people, often by touching them with their hands

healing /hi*ling/ noun the action of making something or someone healthy. The healing of the sick is her vocation. 

headphones 389 hear
hearing /hɛ*ν/ noun the action of making something or someone healthy. The healing of the sick is her vocation. 

health /helθ/ noun 1. the fact of being well or being free from any illness. He has enjoyed the best of health for years. 

Smoking is bad for your health. 2. to pose a health risk to be bad for people’s health. Sewage flowing directly into the river poses a health risk to the population. 2. your health! good health! a greeting said to someone when drinking

health care /helθ kər/ noun the services which take care of people’s health, e.g. doctors and dentists

health centre /helθ sentə/ noun a building with various doctors and specialists

health club /helθ klʌb/ noun a club for people who want to improve their health, e.g. by taking exercise and dieting

health farm /helθ fɑm/ noun a clinic in the country for people who want to improve their health and appearance, especially by taking exercise and by dieting

health inspector /helθ ɪnspektə/ noun an official who inspects restaurants, etc. to see if they are clean

health insurance /helθ ɪnʃərəns/ noun insurance which pays the cost of medical treatment if you are ill

health service /helθ ˈsɜrvis/ noun an organisation in a district or country which is in charge of providing health care to the public

health visitor /helθ ˈvɪzɪtə/ noun a nurse who visits people in their homes to check their health

health warning /helθ ˈwɜrɪŋ/ noun a warning that something may be bad for your health

heady /hed*i/ adj not ill. He’s healthier than he has ever been. 2. which makes you well. The healthiest place in England. She’s keeping a healthy diet. 3. good or strong. He has a healthy appetite. He has a healthy contempt for politicians. The company’s bank account is looking very healthy. (NOTE: healthier – healthiest)

heap /hɪp/ noun 1. a pile. A heap of rubbish. 2. heaps of lots of (informal). Apple pie with heaps of cream. Don’t rush – we’ve heaps of time.

verb to pile things up. A pile of presents were heaped under the Christmas tree.

Heaps were heaped up on the station platform.

heaped /hɪpt/ adjective full

hear /hɪər/ verb 1. to notice sounds with your ears. He heard footsteps behind him.

You could hear the sound of church bells in the distance.

I heard her drive up in the
car. Can you hear him singing in the bath?
2. to listen to something ¿ Did you hear the
news. 3. to get information ¿ I hear he's got
a new job. ¿ Have you heard that the man-
ager has resigned? ¿ We have not heard
from them for some time. (NOTE: hearing ¿
heard /hɔrd/)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>heard</th>
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| noun | 1. the ability to
| hear | but has a very sharp sense of hear-
| ing | ¿ She has hearing difficulties. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 2. a session of a court
| ¿ The hearing is expected to last three days. | |
| noun | hearing aid /hɔrɪŋ eɪd/ an electric
device put in your ear to make you hear better. |
| noun | hearing-impaired /hɔrɪŋ mɪˈpɛrd/ adj not able to hear properly |
| verb | hear of /ˈhɪər əv/ 1. to know about something ¿ I’ve heard of a new restaurant in the High Street. ¿ She’s never heard of the Rolling Stones. 2. ¿ to not hear of it not to accept an offer (formal) ¿ I said I would replace the glass I broke, but she wouldn’t hear of it. |
| noun | hearsay /hɪrˈseɪ/ noun what people say, rather than what is true. Antonym fact |
| noun | hearse /ˈhɑrəs/ a vehicle for carrying a
| coffin |
| noun | heart /hɑːt/ 1. a main organ in the
| body, which pumps blood around the body ¿ She isn’t dead — her heart’s still beating. ¿ The doctor listened to his heart. ¿ He has had heart trouble for years. 2. the centre of feelings ¿ My heart sank when I realised that he hadn’t read my letter. ¿ with all my heart with all my love ¿ to know something by heart to know and remember something ¿ I don’t know his phone number by heart, so I’ll just look it up for you. ¿ to learn something by heart to learn and remember something ¿ She learnt the poem by heart. ¿ to lose heart to stop being interested in something ¿ After all the delays she lost heart in the project. ¿ to take heart to be encouraged ¿ He took heart at the news. ¿ don’t take it to heart don’t be too sad about it ¿ his heart isn’t in it he has lost interest in it ¿ to set your heart on something to want something very much ¿ I have set my heart on buying a little sail-
| ing boat. 3. a centre or middle ¿ The restaur-
| ant is in the heart of the old town. 4. one of the red suits in a game of cards, shaped like a
| heart ¿ My last two cards were the ten and the ace of hearts. (NOTE: The other red suit is diamonds; clubs and spades are the black suits.) |
| noun | heartache /ˈhɑrtɪk/ noun great sadness
| and worry. Antonym sorrow. Antonym joy (NOTE: no plural) |
| noun | heat attack /ˈhɑrt əˈtæk/ noun a con-
| dition where the heart suffers from a reduced
| blood supply because an artery has become blocked |
| noun | heartbeat /ˈhɑrtbɪkt/ noun a regular noise
| made by the heart as it pumps blood |
| noun | heartbreak /ˈhɑrtbreɪk/ noun great sadness
| and worry. Antonym joy. Antonym grief. Antonym
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| noun | heartburn /ˈhɑrtbɜːrn/ noun indigestion
| causing a burning feeling in the stomach |
| noun | heart bypass /ˈhɑrtbɪˈpɜːs/ noun an op-
| eration to help the blood flow freely in a person
| who has a blocked artery |
| noun | heart disease /ˈhɑrt dɪˈzɪz/ noun any
disease affecting the heart |
| noun | heartburn /ˈhɑrtbɜːrn/ noun indigestion
| causing a burning feeling in the stomach |
| noun | heart failure /ˈhɑrt feɪl/ noun a serious private talk |
| noun | heart-to-heart /ˈhɑrt əʊ tə ˈhɑrt/ a serious private talk |
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heated

two heats before the final race. ■ verb to make something hot ○ Can you heat the soup while I’m getting the table ready? ○ The room was heated by a small electric fire. ○ Heat the milk to room temperature. Antonym cool

definition
heated /ˈhɪtɪd/ adj 1. made warm ○ The car has a heated rear window. □ a heated swimming pool a pool where the water is kept warm. 2. angry ○ There was a heated discussion after the meeting. ○ The students became very heated during the debate.

heater /ˈhɪtər/ noun a machine for heating a room

heath /hɪθ/ noun an area of dry sandy acid soil with low plants such as heather and gorse growing on it

definition
heath /ˈhɛθ/ noun a low plant with mainly purple or pink flowers, common in hilly areas

definition
heathert /ˈhɛθər/ noun a way of warming a place, e.g. a house or an office

heathen /ˈhɛθiən/ noun a period of very hot weather

heave /hɛv/ noun a strong hard pull ○ One more heave, and we should pull down the tree. ■ verb 1. to pull something hard ○ They heaved on the anchor to pull it up. ○ heave ho! pull hard! (said when pulling) ○ ‘All together now, heave ho!’ □ to get the old heave-ho to be sacked from your job (informal) 2. to throw something ○ He heaved a brick through the window. 3. to breathe heavily ○ She heaved a sigh, and picked up the phone. ○ We all heaved a collective sigh of relief when he left. (NOTE: heave — heaved) 4. □ to heave to (of a ship) to stop moving ○ The ship hove to and dropped anchor in the bay. to heave into sight to appear ○ The ship hove into sight round the headland. (NOTE: heaving — heaved)

heaven /ˈhɛvən/ noun 1. a beautiful place believed by some people to be where good people go after death ○ She believes that when she dies she will go to heaven. 2. the heavens the sky above ○ the heavens opened it poured with rain ○ the heavens opened up to allow rain to fall ○ the heavens opened, and they were shown heaven ○ Good heavens! It’s almost 10 o’clock! □ for heaven’s sake an expression showing you are surprised ○ Good heavens! It’s almost 10 o’clock! □ for heaven’s sake an expression showing you are annoyed, or that something is important ○ What are you screaming for? — It’s only a little mouse, for heaven’s sake. ○ For heaven’s sake try to be quiet, we don’t want the guards to hear us!

heavenly /ˈhɛvəniəl/ adj 1. belonging to heaven ○ heavenly choir of angels singing ○ the heavenly host a group of angels 2. very nice (dated) ○ We had a heavenly holiday by the sea. ○ The food she served was simply heavenly.

heavenly body /ˈhɛvəniəl bɔdi/ noun same as celestial body (old)

heavily /ˈhɛvli/ adv 1. as if you are heavy ○ He sat down heavily on the little chair. 2. to a great extent; very much ○ The company was heavily criticised in the press. ○ She is heavily in debt. ○ It rained heavily during the night. 3. □ to sleep heavily to sleep without waking ○ heavy /ˈhɛvi/ adj 1. which weighs a lot ○ This suitcase is so heavy I can hardly lift it. ○ She’s heavier than I am. 2. □ to have a heavy meal to eat a meal which is filling and difficult to digest ○ Don’t go to bed just after you’ve had a heavy meal. 3. in large amounts ○ There has been a heavy demand for the book. ○ There was a heavy fall of snow during the night. ○ The radio says there is heavy traffic in the centre of town. to be a heavy smoker to smoke a lot of cigarettes ○ to be a heavy drinker to drink a lot of alcohol □ to make heavy weather of something to make something you are doing more difficult and complicated to do than it needs to be ○ We asked him to sort out the invoices but he’s really making heavy weather of it. (NOTE: heavier – heaviest)

heavenly body /ˈhɛvli djuːti/ adj made for rough work

heavenly body /ˈhɛvli gudz vɜːrkl/ noun a very large truck. Abbr HGV

heavenly body /ˈhɛvli ˈhændəd/ adj not delicate

heavenly body /ˈhɛvli ɪndˈstrɪ/ noun industry which makes large products such as steel bars, ships or railay lines (NOTE: no plural)

heavenly body /ˈhɛvli ˈmɛt(ə)l/ noun 1. a type of loud music with electric guitars 2. a metal with a high atomic number, e.g. lead, mercury or zinc

heavenly body /ˈhɛvli wɪtˈnau/ noun 1. the largest and heaviest class of boxer ○ the heavyweight champion ○ a heavyweight title fight 2. a person who has a lot of influence ○ He’s the director of the National Theatre – a heavyweight in the theatre world.

Hebrew /ˈhɪbru/ noun 1. the official language of Israel 2. a Jewish person who lived in Israel in ancient times

hectic /ˈhɛktɪk/ adj very active. Synonym frantic. Antonym calm

hectic /ˈhɛktɪk/ adv very active. Synonym frantic. Antonym calm
heed to something

to pay attention to something
(formal)

how high something is on his heels he fled to Argentina.

NOTE: The plural is heiresses.

heirloom /ˈhiərliəm/ noun a valuable object which has belonged to a family for a long time

helipad /ˈhelipæd/ noun a small area such as one marked on the roof of a building or the deck of a ship where helicopters can land or take off

heliport /ˈhelipɔr t/ noun an airport for helicopters

helium /ˈhiəliəm/ noun a light inert gas, often used in balloons

hell /hɛl/ noun 1. a place where devils are thought to live, to which bad people are sent after they die 2. a very unpleasant place or experience (informal)

NOTE: Using expressions that include the word hell is offensive to some people.

1. to give someone hell to treat someone very badly 2. used to emphasise what you are saying (informal)

The car’s making a hell of a noise: 2. a marvellous thing

That was one hell of a party last night!

he’ll /ɪl, hɪl/ short form he will

heilepment /ˈheləpment/ noun leadership or control by one state over others

heif in /ˈhɛfɪn/ noun a young cow which has not had a calf

height /hɛt/ noun 1. a measurement of how high something is 2. The height of the bridge is only three metres. 3. he is of above average height he is taller than most men 2. the highest point 3. looking down on the city from the heights around

It is difficult to find hotel rooms at the height of the tourist season.

I don’t like heights. I haven’t got a head for heights I get dizzy when I am high up

heighten /ˈhɛtən/ verb to increase

heinous /ˈhɛnəs/ adj very bad (formal)

heir /ˈhɛər/ noun 1. a man or woman who will inherit something from someone after that person’s death 2. He’s the heir to the banking fortune. 3. Her heirs divided the estate between them.

the heir to the throne the man or woman who will be king or queen when the present king or queen dies

heir apparent /ˈhɛə rəˈpərənt/ noun a person who will certainly inherit a title

heirress /ˈhɛər əs/ noun a woman who will inherit something from someone after that person’s death

emphasise what you are saying (informal)

I am going to lend you £50? Am I hellish?

I don’t like heights...

She called hello from the other side of the street.

Hello, Mary! I’m glad to see you.
When you see her, say hello to her from me. (NOTE: also spell hallo, hullo)

helmet /ˈhelmət/ noun 1. a solid hat used as a protection
  2. to help...something which makes it easier for you to do something

help /help/ noun 1. something which helps someone

helpdesk /ˈhelpdɛsk/ noun a service which helps people with computer problems

helper /ˈhelprə/ noun a person who helps someone

helpful /ˈhelflə/ adj useful or giving help to someone

helpfully /ˈhelfləli/ adv in a helpful way

helpfulness /ˈhelfləns/ noun the activity of being helpful

helping /ˈhelplɪŋ/ noun a portion of food

The helpings in this restaurant are very small. Children’s helpings are not as large as those for adults.

helping hand /ˈhelplɪŋ hænd/ noun

He gave me a helping hand with the cleaning.

helpless /ˈhelpləs/ adj not able to do anything about a situation.

helplessness /ˈhelpləsnəs/ noun the feeling of being unable to do anything about a situation

helpdesk /ˈhelpdɛsk/ noun a special phone number for people to call when they need help

help out /ˈhelp əut/ verb to help someone in an emergency

hem /hɛm/ noun the seam edge of a piece of clothing, e.g. a skirt or dress

She was wearing a long skirt, with the hem touching the floor.

hemisphere /ˈhɛmɪsfər/ noun half of a sphere

hemorrhage /ˈhɛmərɑːdʒ/ noun internal bleeding

hen /hɛn/ noun 1. an adult female chicken

The hens were scared by the fox. Look, one of the hens has laid an egg!

henchman /ˈhɛntʃmæn/ noun a political assistant or bodyguard, a person who assists or protects an important person (NOTE: The plural is henchmen.)

henna /ˈhɛnə/ noun a red dye used to colour hair

hen party /ˈhɛn pərti/ noun a party for women only (NOTE: A party for men only, is a stag party or stag night.)

henpecked /ˈhɛnpekt/ adj (of a man) who is continually told what to do by his wife

hepatic /ˈheptɪk/ adj relating to the liver

hepatitis /hepəˈtɪtɪs/ noun an infectious disease of the liver

her /hər/ a, ha, hə, ha object pron referring to a female

There’s a parcel for her in reception.

Did you see her? He told her to go away.

hers belonging to a female, a ship or a country

Someone has stolen her luggage.

Have you seen her father? The dog doesn’t want to eat her food.

France is helping her businesses to sell more abroad.

herald /ˈhɛrləd/ noun a person who brings a message. She is a herald of good tidings.

If the leaves fall early, that is a herald of cold weather to come.

Snowdrops are the herald of spring.
heraldry /ˈhɛrəldri/ noun the science of coats of arms

herb /ɜːrb/ noun a plant used to give flavour to food, or as a medicine

erbacaceous /ɛrˈbæsɪəs/ adj (of a flowering plant) which comes up every year, but does not have stems permanently above the ground

erbacaceous border /ɛrˈbæsɪəs bɔrˈdər/ noun an area of herbaceous plants growing along the edge of a lawn

herbalist /ɜːrˈbælɪst/ noun a person who sells herbs as medicines

herbicide /ɛrˈbɪsɪd/ noun a chemical which kills plants, especially weeds

herbivore /ɛrˈbɪvɔr/ noun an animal which eats plants

herbivorous /ɛrˈbɪvərəs/ adj (of an animal) which eats plants

herd /hɜːrd/ noun a group of animals, especially cattle ○ Herds of cattle were grazing on the hillside. (NOTE: Do not confuse with heard. The word herd is usually used with cattle; for sheep, goats, and birds, the word to use is flock.) ■ verb to gather people or animals together into a group ○ The prisoners were herded together into a yard.

here /hɪər/ adv 1. in this place ○ I’ll sit here in the shade and wait for you. ○ Here are the keys you lost. ○ I’ll put the book down here next to your computer. ○ They have been living here in England for a long time.

hereafter /həˈrɛrθər/ adv from this time on; from this place on (formal)

hereby /hɪˈbɛri/ adv used to emphasise what you are saying (formal)

hereditary /həˈredɪtəri/ adj 1. passed from parent to child biologically 2. passed from parent to child as a legal right ○ a hereditary title

hereditary peer /həˈredɪtəri pɪər/ noun a member of the nobility whose title will be inherited by a child or other relative

heredity /həˈredɪti/ noun the occurrence of physical or mental characteristics in children which are inherited from their parents

heresy /həˈrɛsɪ/ noun a wrong opinion or belief, especially wrong religious belief. Synonym dissident (NOTE: The plural is heresies.)

heretic /həˈrɛtɪk/ noun a person who holds wrong religious beliefs

heretical /həˈrɛtɪkl/ adj referring to heresy. Synonym unorthodox

heritage /ˈhɛrɪtɪdʒ/ noun the national treasure passed from one generation to the next. Synonym inheritance

heritage attraction /ˈhɛrɪtɪdʒ æˈtrækʃən, ˈhɛrɪtɪdʒ əˈtræksən/ heritage museum /ˈhɛrɪtɪdʒ muˈzɪəm, ˈhɛrɪtɪdʒ mjuˈzɪəm/ heritage park /ˈhɛrɪtɪdʒ pɑrk/ noun a tourist facility which is based on a country’s historical or cultural background

hermetic /hɪˈmɛtɪk/ adj which does not allow air to get in or out. Synonym airtight

hermit crab /ˈhɜːmɪt krɑb/ noun a crab that lives in empty sea shells

hernia /ˈhɛrniə/ noun a medical condition in which an organ bulges through a hole or weakness in the wall which surrounds it

hero /ˈhɜːroʊ/ noun 1. a brave man ○ The hero of the fire was the firefighter who managed to rescue the children from an upstairs room. 2. the male main character in something such as a book, play or film ○ The hero of the story is a little boy. Antonym villain (NOTE: The plural is heroes.)

heroic /hɪrˈɔʊrɪk/ adj like a hero. Synonym daring

heroically /hɪrˈɔʊrɪkli/ adv like a hero

heroes /hɪrˈɔrəks/ plural noun very brave actions

heroin /həˈrɔɪn/ noun a strong addictive illegal drug made from poppies (NOTE: Do not confuse with heroine.)

heroin /həˈrɔɪn/ noun 1. a brave woman ○ The heroine of the accident was a passing cyclist who pulled the children out of the burning car. 2. the main female character in something such as a book, play or film ○ The heroine of the film is a school teacher. (NOTE: Do not confuse with heroine.)

heroism /həˈrɔɪzəm/ noun bravery (NOTE: No plural)

heron /həˈrɔːn/ noun a tall, usually grey, water bird with a long neck and long legs

herpes /həˈpiz/ noun a disease caused by a virus, which causes small blisters

herring /ˈhɛrɪŋ/ noun a small silver sea fish ○ She had grilled herrings for dinner. (NOTE: The plural can be herrings or herring: a shoal of herring.)

hers /hɜːz/ pron belonging to her ○ That watch is hers, not mine. ○ She introduced me to a friend of hers she introduced me to one of her friends
herself /ɪrˈsɛlf/ prn referring to a female subject ○ The manageress wrote to me herself. ○ Did your sister enjoy herself? ○ She’s too young to be able to dress herself. ○ She lives all by herself she lives all alone ○ She did not by herself she did it with no one to help her. ○ Now she’s eight, we let her go to the shops all by herself.
hertz /ˈhɜːtəs/ noun the standard unit of frequency of radio waves (NOTE: no plural)
he's /hez/ short form he has, he is hesitating /ˈhez(ə)tiŋ/ adj hesitating; not decided yet. Synonym cautious hesitate /ˈhezɪteɪt/ verb to be slow to speak, because you are unable to decide ○ She’s hesitating about whether to accept the job. ○ He hesitated for a moment and then said ‘no’. hesitation /ˈhezɪteɪʃn/ noun the act of waiting and not deciding heterogeneous /ˌhɛtəˈrəʊdʒiənəs/ adj of varied sorts. Antonym homogeneous heterosexuality /ˌhɛtərəˈseksʃjuəlɪtɪ/ noun the fact of being heterosexual het up /ˈhɛt ʌp/ adj excited or nervous (informal). Synonym agitated Antonym laid-back hew (literary) (NOTE: hewing – hewed – hewn. Do not confuse with hue.) hexagon /ˈheksgɑːn/ noun (in geometry) a shape with six sides hexagonal /ˈheksgəˈneɪʃən/ adj with six sides hey /hɛ/ interj showing a greeting or surprise ○ Hey, you! What are you doing there? ○ Hey! That’s my chair! heyday /ˈheɪdeɪ/ noun a time of greatest success, popularity or power. Synonym prime hey presto /ˈhɛɪ ˈprɛstəʊ/ adv words used by magicians when carrying out magic tricks ○ HGV abbr heavy goods vehicle hi /haɪ/ interj showing a greeting ○ Hi! I’m your tour leader. ○ Hi, Mary! How are you today? ○ Say hi to her from me. hiatus /ˈhætɪəs/ noun a gap or interruption. Synonym pause (NOTE: The plural is hiatuses.) hibernate /ˈhɪbərnt/ verb (of an animal) to sleep during the winter, either completely unconscious or semi-conscious hibernation /ˈhɪbərˌneɪʃn/ noun the action of spending the winter asleep hick /hɪk/ noun a stupid person from the country (informal insult) ○ Some hick came up and asked me the way. ○ adj backward (informal) ○ He comes from some hick town. hickory /ˈhɪkəri/ noun an American tree like a walnut hiding /ˈhɪdɪŋ/ noun a secret reason for doing something which will be to your advantage ○ hide /haid/ verb 1. to put something where no one can see or find it ○ She hid the presents in the kitchen. ○ They kept some gold coins hidden under the bed. ○ Someone has hidden my car keys. 2. to put yourself where no one can see or find you ○ They hid in the bushes until the police car had gone past. ○ Quick! Hide behind the door! (NOTE: hiding – hid – has hidden /ˈhɪd(ə)n/) ○ n noun 1. the thick skin of a large animal, treated to make leather ○ a real hide wallet ○ How many hides are needed to make that leather sofa? 2. a place where birdwatchers can sit to watch birds without being seen by them ○ Birdwatchers set up hides all round the lake hide-and-seek /ˈhaid ənd ˈsiːk/ noun a children’s game, in which one person hides and the others try to find him or her hide away /ˈhaid əˈweɪ/ verb to go to a place where you can be away from other people hideaway /ˈhaidəˌweɪ/ noun a place where you can stay away from other people hideous /ˈhaidəs/ adj very ugly hide-out /ˈhaidəut/ noun a secret place where you cannot be found hiding /ˈhaidɪŋ/ noun 1. the action of putting yourself where no one can find you ○ He stayed in hiding for three days until the soldiers left the village. ○ They decided to go into hiding for a time until the police called off their search. 2. a beating ○ He’ll get a hiding from his father when he’s caught. hiding place /ˈhaidɪŋ ˈplɛs/ noun a place where you can hide hierarchical /ˌhɪkəˈrɪkl(ə)l/ adj arranged in ranks ○ hierarchy /ˈhɪkərəksi/ noun 1. arrangement in ranks ○ There is a strict hierarchy in the army. 2. the people in the upper ranks of an organisation ○ The party hierarchy met to elect a new leader. ○ The church hierarchy has condemned the attack hi-fi /haɪˈfɪ/ noun 1. a very accurate reproduction of sound by equipment such as a CD player and amplifier ○ The company is a leading manufacturer of hi-fi audio equipment. 2. a set of equipment for playing CDs or cassettes or for listening to the radio ○ He played the CD on his hi-fi.
high /haɪ/ adj 1. reaching far above other things. Everest is the highest mountain in the world. 2. The new building is 20 storeys high. 3. The kitchen has a high ceiling. 4. The door is not high enough to let us get the wardrobe into the bedroom. 5. High is used with figures: The mountain is 1000 metres high. High also refers to things that are a long way above the ground: a high mountain, high clouds. For people and thin things like trees use tall: a tall man.) 2. large in quantity. 3. the high level of unemployment in the country. 4. He earns a high income. 5. High prices put customers off. 6. The car shakes when going at high speeds. 7. The price of petrol is higher every year. 8. important 9. She’s a high official in the ministry. 10. He was quite high up in the police force when he retired. 4. (of meat) which has been kept until it is beginning to rot and has a strong flavour. 5. (v) high on drugs intoxicated by drugs (informal) 6. Some of the teenagers were high on drugs when they were arrested. 7. adv above; up in the air. 8. The sun rose high in the sky. 9. The bird flew higher and higher. (NOTE: higher – highest) 1. a high point 2. sales have reached an all-time high sales are higher than they have ever been before. 2. an area of high pressure in the atmosphere. 3. a state of intoxication produced by a drug or by drinking alcohol. 4. highbrow /ˈhaɪbrəʊ/ adj with a high intellectual content. Antonym lowbrow 5. high chair /ˈhai tʃeə/ noun a baby’s chair at a level with a table, sometimes with a tray in front of the baby. 6. high-class /ˈhaɪ klaːs/ adj of very high quality 7. High Commissioner /ˈhæɡ əm ɪʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. an ambassador of a Commonwealth country 2. the Canadian High Commissioner in London. 2. the top official of the United Nations. 3. the High Commissioner for Refugees. 8. High Court /ˈhɑːkɔːt/ noun the main civil court in England and Wales. 9. Higher /ˈhaɪər/ noun (in Scotland) an examination in various subjects taken in fifth or sixth year at secondary school. 10. higher education /ˈhæɪər ə dʒi ˈe dʒiːoʊ/ noun education in universities and colleges. 11. high fidelity /ˈhaɪ fɪ ˈdeltri/ adj full form of hi-fi. 12. high five /ˈhaɪ ˈfɛv/ noun a greeting in which two people each raise an arm and slap palms. 13. high-flyer /ˈhaɪflaɪər/ noun a person who has great potential and ambition 14. high-flying /ˈhaɪflaɪən/ adj 1. which is flying high in the sky. 2. High-flying aircraft leave trails of vapour. 2. who has great potential and ambition. 3. a high-flying business executive. 4. high-grade /ˈhaɪ grɛd/ adj of a very good quality. 5. high ground /ˈhaɪ ɡraʊnd/ noun an area of ground which is higher than the rest. 6. the moral high ground a position where one side in an argument feels that they are right in principle. 7. By attacking corruption, the prime minister has tried to occupy the moral high ground. 8. high-handed /ˈhaɪhændıd/ adj with no respect for other people or customs. Synonym bossy 9. high heels /ˈhaɪ ʰiːlz plural noun very high thin heels, on women’s shoes. 10. You are not allowed to walk on the polished floor of the museum in high heels. 11. Highland /ˈhaɪlænd/ adj from the Scottish Highlands. 12. highlander /ˈhaɪlændər/ noun a person who comes from the Scottish Highlands. 13. Highland flying /ˈhaɪlænd fɪlɪŋ/ noun a wild Scottish dance. 14. highlands /ˈhaɪlændz plural noun a mountain region 1. the Malaysian Highlands. 2. the Scottish Highlands. Antonym lowlands. 15. high-level /ˈhaɪlɛvəl/ adj important; composed of important people. 16. highlight /ˈhaɪlət/ noun the most important or interesting event. 17. The highlight of our tour of Greece was our visit to the Parthenon. 18. verb 1. to draw attention to something. 19. The report highlights various problems. 20. to make part of a text stand out from the rest. 21. The headings are highlighted in bold. 1. The report highlights various problems. 22. highlighter /ˈhaɪlətər noun a marker pen; a coloured felt pen used to highlight text. 23. highlight /ˈhaɪlət/ plural noun 1. a selection of the best parts of a sporting event which are repeated on TV. 2. highlights of this afternoon’s game. 24. streaks in your hair which have been dyed a pale colour. 25. characters which stand out from the text on a screen by being brighter than the rest. 26. highly /ˈhaɪli/ adv greatly 27. highly priced meals. 28. The restaurant has been highly recommended. 29. Their employees are not very highly paid. 30. he thinks highly of her he admires her very much. 31. high mass /ˈhaɪ mæs plural noun a Roman Catholic mass with full ceremony. 32. highness /ˈhaɪnəs plural noun used as a form of address to a member of the royal family. (NOTE: When speaking directly and formally to a member of the royal family, say Your Royal Highness. The plural highnesses is...
high-pitched /ˈhaɪtʃɪpt/ adj making a shrill sound

high point /ˈhaɪptənt/ noun the best moment

high-powered /ˈhaɪpɔʊrd/ adj very powerful. Synonym successful

high-profile /ˈhaɪprəfl/ adj who is often in the news

high-ranking /ˈhaɪræŋkɪŋ/ adj with a high rank in an organisation

high-rise /ˈhaɪrəz/ adj with many storeys

high road /ˈhaɪrəʊd/ noun a main road

high school /ˈhaɪskjuːl/ noun 1. a secondary school, from grade 9 to grade 12 ○ He’s in grade 10 or tenth grade at high school.

high season /ˈhaɪsiːzn/ noun a period when there are lots of travellers and when fares are high, usually the period from July to September. Compare low season, off season

high-speed /ˈhaɪspɪd/ adj which runs or operates at a very high speed

high-spirited /ˈhaɪspɜːtɪd/ adj lively. Antonym lethargic

high spot /ˈhaɪspɒt/ noun the most enjoyable part of an entertainment

high street /ˈhaɪstriːt/ noun the most important street in a village or town, where shops and banks are (NOTE: often written High St. The US term is Main Street.)

high tea /ˈhaɪtiz/ noun (in the North of England and Scotland) an early evening meal

high tech /ˈhaɪtek/ adj referring to high technology

high technology /ˈhaɪteknələdʒɪ/ noun advanced technology as used in industry, e.g. the use of electronics and robots

high tide /ˈhaɪtɪd/ noun the points when the level of the sea is at its highest or at its lowest. Antonym low tide

high-up /ˈhaɪəp/ noun an important person (informal). Synonym boss

high water /ˈhaɪwɔːtə/ noun a point when the level of the sea or of a river is at its highest

high-water mark /ˈhaɪwɔːtmɑrk/ noun a line showing where the high tide reaches

highway /ˈhaɪweɪ/ noun a main public road ○ A footbridge was built over the highway.

Highway Code /ˈhaɪweɪ kəʊd/ noun the rules for driving on the road

hijack /ˈhaɪdʒæk/ noun the act of taking control of a vehicle by force ○ The plane hijack was organised by a group of opponents to the government. ■ verb to take control of a vehicle by force ○ The bandits hijacked the lorry and killed the driver. ○ They hijacked an aircraft and ordered the pilot to fly to Moscow.

hijacker /ˈhaɪdʒækər/ noun a person who hijacks a vehicle

hijacking /ˈhaɪdʒækɪŋ/ noun the act of taking control of a vehicle by force

hike /haɪk/ noun 1. a vigorous walk ○ We went for a 10-mile hike in the mountains. 2. an increase ○ an increase in prices ○ Petrol companies have hiked up their prices.

hiker /haɪkər/ noun a person who goes for long walks in the country for pleasure. Synonym walker

hiking /ˈhaɪkɪŋ/ noun the practice of going for long walks for pleasure

hilarious /ˈhaɪlərəs/ adj very funny

hilarity /ˈhaɪlərɪti/ noun laughter and joking. Synonym amusement

hill /hɪl/ noun 1. a piece of high land, but lower than a mountain (informal) ○ The hills are covered with spring flowers. ○ If you climb to the top of the hill you will get a good view of the valley.

hillside /ˈhɪlzaɪd/ noun the sloping side of a hill

hilltop /ˈhɪltaʊp/ noun the top of a hill. Synonym summit

hilly /ˈhɪli/ adj with many hills (NOTE: hillier – hilliest)

hilt /hɪlt/ noun 1. a sword handle ○ He stood for the photograph with his hand on the hilt of his sword. 2. to the hilt completely or totally ○ We’re backing him to the hilt. ○ The company is up to the hilt in debt.

him /hɪm/ pron referring to a male ○ Tell him there’s a letter waiting for him. ○ Have you spoken to him today? ○ That’s him! – The man with the beard.

himself /ˈhɪmsɛlf/ noun himself ○ Do your brother enjoy himself? ○ He lives all by himself.

hind legs /hand `legz/ plural noun the back legs of an animal
hindquarters /ˈhæntkwɔːɜːr/ plural noun the back part of a four-legged animal.
Synonym back. Antonym front
hindrance /ˈhɪndrəns/ noun something which hinders without let or hindrance without any obstacle. The police have orders to let anyone through without let or hindrance.

hindsight /ˈhɛndsaɪt/ noun the act of realising something too late, after it has happened. Antonym foresight with (the benefit of) hindsight knowing what we know now. With the benefit of hindsight, I see now that we made a disastrous decision.

Hindu /ˈhɪndu/ adjective referring to Hinduism. We visited the new Hindu temple in North London. noun a person who follows Hinduism. The Hindus worship several gods.

Diwali Hinduism /ˈhɪndʊzɪəm/ noun the main religion of India, in which people worship several gods

hinge /ˈhɪndʒ/ noun a piece of metal used to hold something, e.g. a door, window or lid, so that it can swing open and shut. Thai hinge squeaks and needs some oil. They lifted the door off its hinges.

verb to hinge on something to depend on something. Everything hinges on her being free on Friday evening.

hinged /ˈhɪndʒd/ adjective attached with hinges

hint /hɪnt/ noun 1. a hidden suggestion or clue. He didn’t give a hint as to where he was going on holiday. I don’t know what to give her for her birthday—have you any hints? to drop a hint to make a suggestion. She’s been dropping hints about what she wants for her birthday. to take a hint to accept a suggestion. He took the hint and offered to pay for the lamp he broke. 2. a very small quantity. There’s just a hint of garlic in the soup. a piece of advice. She gave me some useful hints about painting furniture.

verb to say something in a way that makes people guess what you mean. She hinted that her sister was pregnant.

Synonym suggest

hinterland /ˈhɪntəlænd/ noun an area inland from a sea port or around a large town.

Synonym vicinity. Antonym heartland

hip /hɪp/ noun 1. the part of the body at the top of your thighs. The tailor measured him round the hips. 2. the joint where the thigh bone pivots at the top of the leg.

adj very up-to-date and fashionable (slang). That’s a very hip shirt she’s wearing.

hip hop /ˈhɪp ˈhɑːp/ noun a kind of popular culture which started among African-Americans and which involves rap and graffiti art.

hippo /ˈhɪpəʊ/ noun same as hippopotamus (NOTE: The plural is hippos.)
hit /hɪt/ verb 1. to knock something or someone ○ The car hit the tree. ○ She hit him on the head with a bottle. ○ She hit the ball so hard that we can’t find it. ○ I hit my head on the cupboard door. ○ to hit the town to go and have a night out (informal) ○ Come on, let’s hit the town. 2. to damage someone or something; to affect someone or something badly ○ The company has been hit by the recession. 3. to cause someone to realise something ○ It suddenly hit her that now she was divorced she would have to live alone. ○ to hit on an idea to get a good idea ○ We hit on the idea of taking him to a concert as a birthday present 4. to reach a figure or target ○ Our sales hit a record high last month. ○ New cases of asthma hit two thousand last week. (NOTE: hitting – hit) ■ noun 1. someone or something that is very popular, e.g. a song, film or performer ○ The song rapidly became a hit. ○ The play was a West End hit. ○ She was a hit with the old people’s club. 2. a blow or knock ○ Just one more hit on the nail and that will be enough. 3. the action of visiting a site on the Internet ○ How many hits did we have on our website last week? hit-and-miss /hɪt ən ’mɪs/ adj not carefully prepared; not properly planned. Synonym haphazard hit-and-run /hɪt ən ’rən/ noun an accident in which a driver knocks someone down and does not stop to give help hit-and-run driver /hɪt ən ’rən ’dru:vər/ noun a driver who knocks someone down and does not stop to give help ○ hit back /hɪt ’bæk/ verb 1. to hit someone who has hit you ○ The muggers hit him so hard that he collapsed before he could hit them back. 2. to do something as a reaction to something ○ When the supermarket chain lowered their prices, the other chains hit back by lowering prices too. ○ He hit back at the inspectors, saying that their report was biased. hitch /hɪtʃ/ noun an unexpected temporary problem ○ There’s a hitch, and the wedding has been postponed. ○ without a hitch with no trouble or problems ○ The party went off without a hitch. Synonym snag ■ verb 1. to hitch something up to pull something up ○ He hitched up his trousers. 2. to attach one thing to another ○ The caravan was hitched to the car. hitch-hike /hɪt ’hɑːk/ verb to stand by the road and signal to passing drivers, showing that you want a free ride to a place hitch-hiker /hɪt ’hɑːkər/ noun a person who hitch-hikes hiterto /hɪt ’tɔr/ until now (formal) hit list /hɪt ’lɪst/ noun a list of people who deserve to be punished (informal) hit man /hɪt ’mæn/ noun a person employed to kill or to hurt someone. Synonym assassin (NOTE: The plural is hit men.) hit off /hɪt ’ɒf/ verb to hit it off with someone to get on well with someone (informal) hit-or-miss /hɪt ɔr ’mɪs/ adj same as hit-and-miss hit out at /hɪt ’aʊt ət/ verb to criticise someone or something fiercely hit squad /hɪt ˈskwɒd/ noun a group of gunmen who are ordered to kill people (slang). Synonym task force hitter /hɪtə/ noun a person who hits a ball hard when playing a sport such as cricket HIV / ’hɪv/ noun the virus which causes AIDS. Full form human immunodeficiency virus hive /hvaɪ/ noun 1. a box for bees to make a nest in, which makes it easier for the beekeeper to gather the honey ○ Take the honeycomb carefully out of the hive. ○ The beekeeper opened one of the hives and took out a honeycomb. 2. to be a hive of activity to be a place where people come and go, or where people are very busy ○ The school was a hive of activity on Prize Day. ■ verb ○ to hive something off to split off part of a large company to form a smaller company ○ The new managing director hived off the retail sections of the company. hives /haɪvz/ plural noun a skin disorder which causes white, pink or red patches which itch or sting HIV positive / ’hɪv ’pɑːsɪv/ adj having the HIV virus hiya / ’hɪə, ’hɪə/ interj showing a greeting him /him/ interj showing a pause while the speaker thinks about something HM abbr 1. Her Majesty 2. His Majesty hoard /hɔːd/ noun a store of something, e.g. food or money, which has been collected ○ They discovered a hoard of gold coins in the field. ■ verb to buy and store supplies in case of need ○ Squirrels hoard nuts for the winter. ○ Everyone has started hoarding fuel in case supplies run out. Synonym save. Antonym throw away (NOTE: Do not confuse with horde.)
hoarding /ˈhɔːdɪŋ/ noun 1. the act of buying stocks of something, e.g. food or money, in case supply may be difficult 2. a fence made of rough planks, used to close a building site temporarily 3. a large advertising board in a street.

hoarfrost /ˈhɔəfrɒst/ noun a white frost, which covers things

hoarse /ˈhɔːrəs/ adj (of a voice) which sounds rough (NOTE: Do not confuse with horse.).

hoary /ˈhoʊri/ adj very old 1. a hoary old chestnut or joke an old joke that everyone knows

hoax /ˈhɔks/ noun a trick played on someone as a joke or to annoy him or her 1. The police and fire brigade arrived but the bomb was just a hoax. 2. The ambulance answered a hoax telephone call. (NOTE: The plural is hoaxes.) 1. verb to trick someone as a joke 2. to hoax the inhabitants of the village into thinking he was a famous scientist.

hobby /ˈhɒbi/ noun a favourite thing which you do in your spare time. Synonym pastime (NOTE: The plural is hobbies.)

hobo /ˈhɑbəʊ/ noun US A tramp; a person who wanders from place to place doing odd jobs, but with nowhere permanent to live (NOTE: The plural is hoboes.)

hock /ˈhɒk/ noun 1. the lower part of a pig’s leg, used as food 2. We had boiled hock for dinner 2. any white wine from the Rhine valley in Germany 3. We opened a bottle of hock

hockey /ˈhɒki/ noun 1. a team game played on grass, where you try to hit a small ball into your opponents’ goal using a long stick which is curved at the end 2. He played in the hockey team at school. (NOTE: The US term is field hockey.)

hodgepodge /ˈhɒdʒpɒdʒ/ noun US a mixture of all sorts of items (NOTE: The British term is hotchpotch.)

hoed /ˈhəʊd/ noun a garden tool with a long handle and small sharp blade, used to break up the surface of soil or cut off weeds 1. Use a sharp hoe to remove the weeds between your peas. 2. verb to cultivate land with a hoe 3. You must hoe the vegetable patch regularly to keep the weeds down. 4. The gardener was hoeing around the strawberries.

hogs /ˈhɑɡs/ noun 1. a castrated male pig 2. US any pig 3. Hogs are traded on the Chicago exchange.

hob /ˈhɑb/ noun 1. a flat top on a cooker 2. Our new cooker has a ceramic hob 3. a tramp; a person who wanders from place to place doing odd jobs, but with nowhere permanent to live 3. office equipment 4. to possess something 5. to be prevented from doing your job by something 6. A Company cannot expand and be hobbled by government regulations.

hob /ˈhɒb/ verb 1. to attach a horse’s legs together 2. to hobble the horse so that it couldn’t run away. 3. to be hobbled by something to be prevented from doing your job by something 4. Companies cannot expand and be hobbled by government regulations.

hobby /ˈhɒbi/ noun a favourite thing which you do in your spare time. Synonym pastime (NOTE: The plural is hobbies.)

hob /ˈhɑb/ noun US 1. a flat top on a cooker 2. Our new cooker has a ceramic hob 3. a tramp; a person who wanders from place to place doing odd jobs, but with nowhere permanent to live (NOTE: The plural is hoboes.)
still hold about half the country. (NOTE: holding – held (held) 1. the bottom part of a saucepan or an aircraft, in which cargo is stored. 2. You can’t take all that luggage with you, it has to go in the hold. 3. the action of gripping something. 4. He lost his hold on the ladder. 5. Keep tight hold of the bag, we don’t want it stolen. 6. to get hold of someone to find someone you need by telephone. 7. I tried to get hold of the doctor but he was out. 8. to get hold of something to find something which you want to use. 9. Do you know where I can get hold of a ladder? 10. to take hold to take control of something. 11. The fire took hold rapidly. 12. to take hold of something to grip something. 13. To take hold of my hand. 14. the action of having a strong influence over someone. 15. She has some sort of hold over her husband.

holdall 1. noun a soft bag for carrying things such as clothes when travelling

hold back 1. noun to tell someone something. 2. She held back important information from the police. 3. not to go forward. 4. Most of the crowd held back until they saw it was safe.

hold down 1. noun something which holds things. 2. one of the conditions of the job is that you hold down a job to manage to do a difficult job.

holder 1. noun a person who holds something. 2. She is a British passport holder or the holder of a British passport. 3. He is the world record holder in the javelin.

holding 1. noun an investment owned by a company which owns shares in other companies.

hold on 1. verb to hold something tightly. 2. She held on to the rope with both hands. 3. Hold on to your purse in the crowd. 4. Hold on tight, we’re turning! 5. to wait. 6. Hold on a moment, I’ll get my umbrella. 7. Do you want to speak to the manager? 8. Hold on, I’ll find him for you.

hold out 1. noun something held to be served. 2. He held out his hand but she refused to shake it. 3. to resist against someone or something. 4. The castle held out for ten weeks against a huge enemy army.

hold over 1. verb to postpone something. 2. to lift or support something or someone. 3. He held up his hand. 4. He held the little boy up so that he could see the procession.

hold up 1. verb to stand or remain in a position. 2. to make someone or something late. 3. The planes were held up by fog. 4. Government red tape is holding up the deal. 5. to attack and rob someone. 6. Six gunmen held up the security van.

hollow out 1. verb to hollow out something. 2. to get hold of something. 3. to find something which you want to use. 4. Do you know where I can get hold of a ladder? 5. to take hold to take control of something. 6. The fire took hold rapidly. 7. to take hold of something to grip something. 8. To take hold of my hand. 9. the action of having a strong influence over someone. 10. She has some sort of hold over her husband.

hole 1. noun an opening or a space in something to get hold of something. 2. You’ve got a hole in your sock. 3. an opening or a space in the side of something to get hold of something. 4. It’s a hole in the ground. 5. a hole in the wall. 6. the deal.

hole-in-the-wall 1. noun a machine in the outside wall of a bank where customers can get money from their account.

hold on 1. verb to hide from someone or something. (slang) 2. verb to keep someone or something away.

holiday 1. noun a period when you do not work, but rest, go away and enjoy yourself. 2. When are you taking your holiday? 3. or When are you planning to go on holiday? 4. He’s going to Spain on holiday. 5. We always spend our holidays in the mountains. 6. How many days’ holiday do you have each year? 7. The job carries five weeks’ holiday.

holidaymaker 1. noun a person who is on holiday. 2. Antonym resident

holler 1. verb to shout. 2. Antonym whisper

hollowness 1. noun the state of being holy. 2. used as a form of address to the Pope. 3. His Holiness, the Pope

holistic 1. adjective dealing with a medical or social problem as a whole rather than looking at one aspect of it. 2. The committee has been calling for a more holistic approach to learning.

hollandaise sauce 1. noun a sauce for meat, fish or vegetables, made of egg yolks, butter, lemon juice and sometimes vinegar.

holster 1. noun a holster for a gun. 2. verb to holster a gun.

holiday

holiness

holistic

hollandaise sauce

holster

holler

holiness

holster
holly (noun) a small evergreen tree with shiny dark green prickly leaves and bright red berries

Hollywood (noun) a town in California, the centre of the American film industry

holocaust (noun) total destruction, especially by fire or nuclear war. A nuclear holocaust would cause unimaginable suffering.

Holocaust (noun) the mass killing of the Jews during the Second World War.

NOTE: always written with a capital letter.

home (noun) to do as if you were in your own home

homely adj. simple but pleasant

homework noun the work you have to do at home

hometown noun the place where you usually live or where you were born.

home office noun the British Government department dealing with internal matters, such as the police and prisons (NOTE: the department is run by the Home Secretary). In other countries this department is usually called the Ministry of the...
wards your home

2. self rather than by another country

ball, the base where the batter stands to hit

of a project, when it is almost finished

. In the USA, he is

Minister of the Interior

belongs to

the person or organisation that the website

first page of a website, which gives details of


home plate

the first page of a website, which gives details of

the person or organisation that the website

belongs to

the website


Charge of the Home Office

healthy person the symptoms of the condition

being treated

homeopath

403 honestly

Interior: in the USA it is called the Department of the Interior.)

homeopath /ˈhəʊməˈθeɪpəθ/ noun a person who practices homeopathy

homeopathic /ˈhəʊməʊpæθɪk/ adj referring to homeopathy

homeopathy /ˈhəʊməʊpəθi/ noun a treatment which involves giving very small amounts of a substance which would give a healthy person the symptoms of the condition being treated

homeowner /ˈhəʊməʊnə/ noun a person who owns a flat or house

home page /ˈhəʊm pɛɪdʒ/ noun the first page of a website, which gives details of the person or organisation that the website belongs to

home plate /ˈhəʊm plɛt/ noun in baseball, the base where the batter stands to hit the ball

home rule /ˈhəʊm rʊl/ noun a system of government in which a country is ruled by itself rather than by another country

home run /ˈhəʊm rʌn/ noun in baseball, a score made when a batter manages to touch all three bases and return to the home plate without stopping

Home Secretary /ˈhəʊm ˈsɛkrət(ə)r/ noun the British government minister in charge of the Home Office (NOTE: In other countries, this minister is usually called the Minister of the Interior. In the USA, he is the Secretary of the Interior.)

homesick /ˈhəʊmʊski/ adj feeling sad because you are away from home

homesickness /ˈhəʊmʊskɪns/ noun a feeling of being homesick

homestead /ˈhəʊmstɛd/ noun a farm-house and land. Synonym farm

home straight /ˈhəʊm ˈstrɛt/ noun 1. (on a racetrack) the last straight part of the track before the finish. 2. the last part of a project, when it is almost finished. 3. Cheer up, we’re in the home straight now!

town /ˈhəʊmtɔn/ noun the town where you live or where you were born

home truths /ˈhəʊmtʃɔz/ plural noun unpleasant facts about someone, which someone else tells him or her. 1. I had to tell her a few home truths.

homeward /ˈhəʊmweəd/ adj towards home. 1. The homeward trip always seems shorter.

home bound heading towards your home. 2. After many delays we were homeward bound at last.

homework /ˈhəʊmwɜrkw/ noun work which you take home from school to do in the evening. 1. Have you finished your maths homework? 2. I haven’t got any homework today, so I can watch TV. (NOTE: no plural)

homeworker /ˈhəʊmwɜrkər/ noun a person who works at home for a company

homicidal /ˈhəʊmɪˌsædɪl/ adj likely to kill someone. Synonym murderous. Antonym harmless

homicide /ˈhəʊmjʊˌsæd/ noun murder; the killing of someone. Synonym killing

homing device /ˈhəʊmɪŋ dɛvər/ noun a device on a missile which guides it to the target

homing pigeon /ˈhəʊmɪŋ ˈpɪdʒən/ noun a pigeon trained to return to the place where it usually lives

hominy /ˈhəʊmɪnɪ/ noun US cooked maize seeds

homogeneous /ˌhəʊməˈdʒiːnɪəs/ adj all of the same type

homogenisation /ˌhəʊmˌɔːnəˈzeɪʃən/, homogenization noun a treatment of milk so that the cream does not separate

homogenised milk /ˌhəʊmˌɔːnəsɪzd ˈmɪlk/ noun milk which has been treated so that the cream is evenly mixed through the liquid

homograph /ˌhəʊməˈɡrɑːf/ noun a word which is spelt the same as another, but which has a different meaning or pronunciation

homonym /ˌhəʊməˈnɔːm/ noun a word spelt and pronounced the same as another but which has a different meaning

homophobia /ˌhəʊməˈfəʊbiə/ noun a fear of and hostility towards homosexuals

homophobic /ˌhəʊməˈfəʊbɪk/ adj showing fear of and hostility towards homosexuals

homophone /ˌhəʊməˈfəʊn/ noun a word which is pronounced the same as another, but which is spelt differently or has a different meaning

homosexual /ˌhəʊməˈsɛksjuəl/ noun, adj (a person) who is attracted to people of the same sex

homogenisation /ˌhəʊməˈnɔːzɪʒən/, homogenization noun a treatment of milk so that the cream does not separate

honourable /ˈhəʊnərəbl/ adj

honest /ˈhəʊnst/ adj 1. not telling lies and treating people fairly. 2. I wouldn’t buy a car from that garage – I’m not sure they’re completely honest. 2. truthful. 3. He was honest with the police and told them what he had done.

honestly /ˈhəʊnəstli/ adv 1. in an open and honest way. 2. used to express a feeling of be-
honesty /ˈhɒnɪsti/ noun 1. truthfulness □ I admire him for his honesty in saying the job was too difficult for him. □ in all honesty speaking truthfully □ In all honesty I don’t think we’ll be able to finish the job on time.

2. a garden plant with purple flowers, and silver seed cases, used as a winter decoration

honey /ˈhʌni/ noun 1. a sweet substance produced by bees □ I like honey on toast. □ Greek cakes are often made with honey.

2. a name used for a person you love □ Hey, honey, come and look at this! □ Honey, don’t get mad at me!

honeysuckle /ˈhʌnɪsʌkl/ noun a climbing plant with scented white, pink, yellow or cream flowers

honk /hɒŋk/ noun the noise made by a goose or by a car horn. Synonym hoot □ verb to make a noise like a goose or with a car horn □ Geese flew overhead, honking loudly. □ He honked as he drove past.

honorable /ˈhɒnərəbl/ adj 1. not paid a salary □ She’s the honorary secretary of the society.

2. a title which shows respect □ He’s the honorary president of the company.

honour /ˈhɒnər/ noun 1. the practice of acting according to what you think is right □ He’s a man of honour.

2. a sign of respect □ It is an honour for me to be invited here today.

3. Your Honour a way of addressing a judge □ verb 1. to respect or pay respect to someone □ to honour the dead □ to give someone an award as a mark of respect □ He was honoured by the university.

3. to do what you promised □ He honoured the agreement and gave the staff a pay rise.

4. □ to honour a cheque (of a bank) to pay the sum written on the cheque (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is honor.)

honourable /ˈhɒnərəbl/ adj 1. who or which can be respected □ He lived the rest of his life in honourable retirement. □ He did the honourable thing and resigned.

(NOTE: The US spelling is honorable.) 2. a title used when one MP addresses another in Parliament □ The Honourable Member for Putney would do well to remember the conditions in his constituency. (NOTE: usually shortened to Hon. in this meaning)

honestly /ˈhɒnɪslɪ/ adv in a way which you can respect (NOTE: The US spelling is honorably.)

honoured /ˈhɔːnəd/ adj pleased and proud (NOTE: The US spelling is honored.)

honours degree /ˈhɔːnəz dɪˈɡriː/ noun a university degree, showing a high level of study. Abbr Hons

Hons abbr honours degree

hooch /huːtʃ/ noun 1. a bit of metal for hanging things on □ Hang your coat on the hook behind the door.

2. a very small piece of bent metal, attached to a line for catching fish □ The fish ate the worm but didn’t swallow the hook. □ to get someone off the hook to get someone out of a difficult situation □ She got him off the hook by lying to his boss. 3. (in boxing or cricket) a blow or stroke made with your arm bent □ to hang something on a hook or attach something with a hook □ She hooked the curtains back to let in more light. 2. (in cricket) to hit the ball with your arm bent □ He hooked the next ball over the heads of the fielders.

hooked /hʊkt/ adj 1. shaped like a hook □ He had dark eyes and a hooked nose.

2. □ hooked on something very fond of something (informal) □ He’s hooked on science fiction.

hooker /ˈhʊkər/ noun 1. a player in the centre of a rugby scrum, who has to try to kick the ball backwards □ The English hooker got the ball and from there they scored a try.

2. a prostitute; a woman who receives money for sexual intercourse □ hookers standing on street corners

hooky /ˈhʊki/ noun (informal) □ to play hooky US not to go to school □ They didn’t
hooligan /ˈhʊlɪgən/ noun a wild young man (informal). Synonym criminal
hooliganism /ˈhʊlɪɡənɪzəm/ noun violent behaviour

hoop /hʊp/ noun a ring, often a large one (NOTE: Do not confuse with whoop.)

hooray! /ˈhuərəi/ interj showing enthusiasm ○ Hooray, it’s the first day of the holidays! ○ Hip, hip, hooray!

hoot /hʊt/ noun 1. a call made by an owl ○ the ghostly hoot of the owl in the night ○ hoots of laughter loud laughter ○ His imitation of Elvis provoked hoots of laughter. 2. the sound of a car horn ○ The sudden hoot of a car horn made her jump. 3. not to care a hoot or not to give a hoot about something not to worry about something at all (informal) ○ I don’t care a hoot about the meeting – I’m staying in to watch TV. ■ verb 1. (of an owl) to make a loud cry ○ An owl hooted in the distance. 2. to hoot with laughter to laugh wildly ○ He had the audience hooting with laughter. 2. to sound a car horn ○ He hooted at the sheep to get them to move.

hoover /ˈhuːvr/ trademark a type of vacuum cleaner ○ We need a bigger Hoover – this one isn’t powerful enough. ■ verb to clean something such as a carpet with a vacuum cleaner ○ She was hoovering the dining-room.

hooves /ˈhuːvz/ /ˈhʊf/ plural noun 1. a little jump ○ Magnies walk in a series of little hops. 2. to catch someone on the hop to catch someone unexpectedly (informal) 2. a short flight ○ It’s only a short hop from London to Paris. 3. the bitter dead flower of a climbing plant, used in making beer ○ Hops are used to give the bitter flavour to British beer.

hoop /ˈhuːp/ verb 1. to want and expect something to happen ○ We all hope our team wins. ○ She’s hoping she will soon be able to drive a car. 2. I hope it doesn’t rain. 3. I hope so I want it to happen ○ Are you coming to the party? – Yes, I hope so. □ I hope not I don’t want it to happen ○ It’s going to rain tomorrow, isn’t it? – I hope not! □ to hope for something to want something to happen ○ We are hoping for a change in the weather, it’s raised every day this week so far. 2. to expect to do something ○ The chairman hopes to be at the meeting tomorrow. ○ They said they hoped to be back home by 6 o’clock. ○ I had hoped to go to the party but in the end I couldn’t. ■ noun the fact of wanting and expecting something to happen ○ Our only hope is that she will get better soon. ○ They have given up all hope of rescuing any more earthquake victims. ○ in the hope that something happens wanting something to happen ○ I rang in the hope that you might have a table free for tonight.

hop-for /ˈhəpt ˈfoːr/ adj needed and expected

hopeful /ˈhəʊp(ə)fl/ adj confident that something will happen ○ We are hopeful that the company will accept our offer. ■ noun a person who hopes to get something, e.g. a job or a place in a team ○ We are looking at six young hopefuls for the England team. ○ hopefully /ˈhəʊp(ə)flɪ/ adv 1. confidently ○ He looked hopefully at the list of lottery winners. 2. let us hope ○ Hopefully, the rain will stop in time for the picnic.

hopes-for /ˈhəʊps ˈfɔːr/ adj 1. with no hope ○ The invoices are in a hopeless mess. □ to be a hopeless case to be unlikely to get any better 2. no good ○ She’s hopeless at tennis. ○ He’s hopeless when it comes to mending cars.

hopelessly adv /ˈhəʊp(ə)lɪsli/ with no hope ○ We got hopelessly lost looking for the British Museum. ■ adj very much ○ The company is hopelessly in debt.

hopper /ˈhɒpər/ noun a large funnel for channelling something, e.g. flour or sand

horde /ˈhɔːrd/ noun a large crowd. Synonym throng (NOTE: Do not confuse with hoard.)

horizon /ˈhɔːrɪzn/ noun the line where the earth and the sky meet. Synonym skyline

horizons /ˈhɔːrɪznz/ plural noun to broaden someone’s horizons to increase someone’s range of interests and experiences ○ Travel broadens your horizons

horizontal /ˌhɔːrɪˈzɒnt(ə)l/ adj flat; level with the ground. Antonym vertical

horizontally /ˌhɔːrɪˈzɒnt(ə)li/ adv lying flat

hormonal /ˈhɔːrnəl/ adj referring to hormones

hormone /ˈhɔːrnən/ noun a substance produced by glands in the body and carried to other parts of the body by the bloodstream to stimulate certain cells into action
hormone replacement therapy

hormone replacement therapy /ˌhɔrˈməʊn riˈpleɪsmənt ˈθerəpi/ noun a treatment to relieve the symptoms of the menopause by supplying oestrogen and thus reducing the risk of osteoporosis. Abbreviation HRT

horn /hɔːrn/ noun 1. a sharp pointed bone growing out of an animal’s head. ○ That bull’s horns look very dangerous. 2. a warning device on a car to sound a horn to make a warning noise with a horn. ○ Sound your horn when you come to the corner.

horoscope /ˈhɔrəskəʊp/ noun a forecast of what will happen, according to the stars

horrendous /ˈhɔrəndəs/ adj horrible and unpleasant

horrible /ˈhɔrəbl/ adj awful or terrible ○ The victims of the fire had horrible injuries. ○ He’s a horrible little boy. ○ We had a horrible meal at the restaurant. Synonym unpleasant. Antonym pleasant

horribly /ˈhɔrəblɪ/ adv very badly

horse /hɔːr/ adj bad and unpleasant ○ horrific /ˈhɔrɪfɪk/ adj which makes you shocked. Synonym appalling. Antonym wonderful

horriﬁed /ˈhɔrɪfɪd/ adj frightened or shocked

horriﬁc /ˈhɔrɪfɪk/ adj frightening or shocking

horror /ˈhɔrər/ noun 1. the fact of feeling of being very frightened ○ He couldn’t hide his horror at hearing the news. ○ She has a horror of spiders. ○ Everyone watched in horror as the planes collided. 2. a naughty child ○ That boy is a little horror.

horror ﬁlm /ˈhɔrər fɪlm/ noun horror movie /ˈhɔrə. muːvɪ/ noun a frightening ﬁlm, with ghosts, dead bodies, etc.

horror-striken /ˈhɔrə ˈstrɪkən/, horror-struck /ˈhɔrə ˈstrʌk/ adj very frightened

horse /hɔːs/ noun a large animal used for riding or for pulling vehicles ○ She was riding a black horse. ○ The coach was pulled by six white horses. ○ He’s out on his horse every morning. ○ straight from the horse’s mouth from a very reliable source (informal) ○ It’s straight from the horse’s mouth – the manager told me so himself. ○ look

horse around /hɔːs əˈraʊnd/, horse about /hɔːs əˈbaʊt/ verb to play roughly

horseback /ˈhɔrəbæk/ noun ○ on horseback riding on a horse ○ There were ten po-

lice officers on horseback outside the football ground

horse chestnut /hɔːs ˈtʃɛstnət/ noun 1. a tree with large leaves and upright or pink flowers that produces large shiny brown seeds. 2. a large shiny brown nut from a horse chestnut tree which is not edible. Also called conker

horse-drawn /ˈhɔːsrdrɔn/ adj pulled by a horse

horsepower /ˈhɔːspɔːrp/ noun a unit for measuring the power of a motor engine

horse-riding /ˈhɔːsrɪdɪŋ/ noun the practice of riding horses for pleasure

horseshoe /ˈhɔːzʃuː/ noun an iron shoe nailed to the hard part of a horse’s hoof, also used as a sign of luck

hospice /ˈhɒspis/ noun a hospital which cares for terminally ill patients

hospital /ˈhɒspəl/ noun a place where sick or hurt people are looked after ○ She was taken ill at work and sent to hospital. ○ When is she due to go into hospital? ○ He was in hospital for several days after the accident.

hospitalisation /ˈhɒspəlɪzaʃən/, hospitalization noun the act of sending someone to hospital

hospitalise /ˈhɒspəlaɪz/ verb to put someone in hospital

hospitality /ˈhɒsplətɪ/ noun a welcome to guests
host

host /həʊst/ noun 1. a person who has invited guests ◆ The host asked his guests what they wanted to drink. 2. the landlord of a hotel or inn, also sometimes of a restaurant ◆ the host of the 'King's Head' 3. the person who introduces and talks to the guests on a TV or radio show ◆ He was a chat show host on Saturday evening TV. 4. a person or animal that parasites live on 5. ◆ a host of a large number of ◆ We face a host of problems.  ◆ verb 1. to act as host at a party ◆ The company hosted a reception for two hundred guests. ◆ She hosted a party for the visiting diplomats. 2. to be the centre where something takes place ◆ Barcelona hosted the Olympic Games. 3. to organise and manage websites for other people

hostage /ˈhɒstɪdʒ/ noun a person who is captured and held by someone or an organisation, which threatens to kill him or her unless certain demands are met. Synonym captive

hostel /ˈhɒstəl/ noun a cheap place where people can live

hostelry /ˈhɒstəlri/ noun an inn (humorous or old) (NOTE: The plural is hosteries.)

hostess /ˈhɒstɪs/ noun a woman who has invited guests (NOTE: The plural is hostesses.)

hostile /ˈhɒstɪl/ adj 1. referring to an enemy ◆ Hostile forces are moving towards the capital. 2. showing a dislike of someone ◆ The crowd seemed hostile, so the President decided not to go on his planned walkabout. 3. hostile questioning asking questions which attack the person being asked

hostilities /ˈhɒstɪlɪtiz/ plural noun war

hostility /ˈhɒstɪlɪtɪ/ noun opposition  ◆ The board’s hostility towards the plan. (NOTE: no plural)

hot /hɒt/ adj 1. very warm; with a high temperature ◆ The weather is very hot in June, but August is the hottest month. 2. (of food) very highly spiced ◆ This curry is particularly hot. 3. He chose the hottest dish on the menu. Antonym mild 4. ◆ to make things hot for someone to make difficulties for someone (informal) 5. ◆ to be hot and bothered to be annoyed and nervous about something 6. ◆ to sell like hot cakes to sell very fast (informal) 7. This new toy is selling like hot cakes. 8. ◆ to get into hot water to get into trouble ◆ He got into hot water with the local authority after he built a garage without permission. 9. ◆ in the hot seat having to take decisions ◆ I pity the club treasurer—he’s really in the hot seat. 10. ◆ in hot pursuit chasing someone actively ◆ The rebels retreated into the mountains with the government forces in hot pursuit. 11. hotly (NOTE: hotter – hottest) ◆ hot air ◆ hot ěs noun useless talk (informal). Synonym nonsense

hot-air balloon /hɒt ˈeə boʊˈlʌn/ noun a very large balloon which rises into the air as the air inside it is heated, with people travelling in a basket attached underneath

hotbed /ˈhɑtbed/ noun a place where a lot of something takes place ◆ a hotbed of crime

hot-blooded /hɒt ˈblʌdɪd/ adj with a violent temper; easily excited. Synonym passionate. Antonym cold-blooded

hot chocolate /hɒt ˈtʃɒklæt/ noun a drink made from chocolate powder and hot milk

hotchpotch /ˈhɒt ˈpɒtʃ/ noun a mixture of all sorts of items (NOTE: The US term is hodgepodge.)

hot cross bun /hɒt ˈkrɒs bʌn/ noun a small spicy cake with a cross on it, eaten at Easter

hot dog /hɒt ˈdɒɡ/ noun a snack made of a hot frankfurter sausage eaten in a roll of bread

hotel /ˈhɒtəl/ noun a building where travellers can rent a room for the night, eat in a restaurant or drink in a bar ◆ They are staying at the Grand Hotel, which is the only five-star hotel in town. ◆ I’ll meet you in the hotel lobby. ◆ All the hotel rooms in the town are booked.

hotelier /ˈhɒtelɪər/ noun a person who owns or manages a hotel

hot flush /hɒt ˈflʌʃ/ noun a sudden hot feeling in the upper body which is a typical symptom of the menopause in women

hotfoot /hɒt ˈfʊt/ adv running fast. Synonym immediately. Antonym slowly

hothead /ˈhɒtɛd/ noun a person who acts without thinking of the consequences

hothouse /ˈhɒθaʊs/ noun a greenhouse

hot key /hɒt ˈki/ noun a computer key that you press as a quick way to perform a set of actions

hotline /ˈhɒtlain/ noun 1. a direct emergency phone line between two heads of government ◆ The President called the Prime Minister on the hotline. 2. a phone line for giving urgent messages or for placing urgent orders ◆ We get thousands of orders on our Christmas hotline. ◆ Call the ticket hotline for reservations.

hotly /ˈhɒtlɪ/ adv 1. angrily ◆ He hotly denied the reports which had been published in the newspapers. 2. close behind ◆ The enemy fled, hotly pursued by government troops.

hotplate /ˈhɒtplɛt/ noun a flat heated surface on a cooker

House of Commons noun a part of a Parliament 4. A well-known brand of household goods which are used in a house 2. A subject which is difficult to deal with. [NOTE: The plural is houses /ˈhausz/.)

hour noun 1. A period of time which lasts sixty minutes. 2. A fixed rate for each hour worked. 3. The amount of money paid for an hour worked. 4. The minimum hourly rate is £5.60. 5. A building in which someone lives. 6. Their collection of old cars is housed in a barn. 7. Has been asked if we can house three students for the summer term.

house arrest noun to be under house arrest to be under police guard. 2. A person who does not go out to work but stays at home to look after his house and family. 3. A person who looks after a house. Synonym housekeeper, a chauffeur and two gardeners.

hourly adjective happening every hour. 2. A person employed to look after the rooms. 3. A person employed to look after the rooms. 4. An important finance house has financed the deal. 5. A bar, pub or restaurant. 6. The showing of a film, play, etc. (NOTE: The plural is houses /ˈhausz/.)

hourly-paid adjective workers paid at a fixed rate for each hour worked.

house boat noun a boat moored on a river, arranged for living in, not for travelling.

hourglass noun a device for timing, with two glass containers joined with a narrow neck, one full of sand, which takes exactly one hour to trickle down to fill the other.

hourly noun hourly rate the amount of money paid for an hour worked. 2. They get on well in our street look the same.

hourly rate the amount of money paid for an hour worked.

hourly work noun work of looking after a house. Synonym housekeeper, a chauffeur and two gardeners.

House of Lords.

house arrest noun to be under house arrest to be under police guard. 2. A person who does not go out to work but stays at home to look after his house and family. 3. A person who looks after a house. Synonym housekeeper, a chauffeur and two gardeners. 4. A part of a Parliament The British Parliament is formed of the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The American Congress is formed of the House of Representatives and the Senate. 5. A bar, pub or restaurant.

House of Commons noun the lower house of the British Parliament (NOTE: Members of the House of Lords.)
House of Lords
House of Commons are called Members of Parliament or MPs.

House of Lords /ˈhaus əv ‘lɔdz/ noun the upper house of the British Parliament
House of Representatives /ˈhaus əv repərˈzɛnsətətivz/ noun the lower house of the US Congress (NOTE: Members of the House of Representatives are called Congressmen.)

howse plant /ˈhaus plɑnt/ noun a plant that is grown indoors and not in a garden

dancing room

1. How are you doing? /ˈhau ər juː / noun a woman who does not go out to work but stays at home to look after her house and family (NOTE: The plural is housewives /ˈhauswaɪvz/)

2. House wine /ˈhaus wain/ noun a special wine selected by a restaurant, cheaper than other wines on the wine list

3. Housework /ˈhauswɜːrk/ noun the work of keeping a house or flat clean (NOTE: no plural)

4. How different it is from what I remember! /ˈhau əd ɪf ɪt ɪz frəm wɒt aɪ ˈrɛməmbr/ interj a general greeting or Hi Robert! How are you doing? — Fine, thanks! (NOTE: In this meaning a detailed reply is not expected.) 2. used for asking someone about the state of their health or How are you today? — The doctor asked me how I was.

5. How are you? /ˈhau ər juː / how are you? /ˈhau ər juː / interj 1. a general greeting or Hi Robert! How are you doing? — Fine, thanks! (NOTE: In this meaning a detailed reply is not expected.) 2. used for asking someone about the state of their health or How are you today? — The doctor asked me how I was.

6. How do you do? /ˈhau ə juː ‘dʌz / interj 1. a general greeting or Hi Robert! How are you doing? — Fine, thanks! (NOTE: In this meaning a detailed reply is not expected.) 2. used for asking someone about the state of their health or How are you today? — The doctor asked me how I was.

7. How much is their house? /ˈhau mʌt ɪz ðər ˈhaus/ how much? /ˈhau mʌt/ interj 1. a general greeting or Hi Robert! How are you doing? — Fine, thanks! (NOTE: In this meaning a detailed reply is not expected.) 2. used for asking someone about the state of their health or How are you today? — The doctor asked me how I was.

8. How old is your little boy? /ˈhau əl ɪz ɜr aɪt lɪtəl bɔɪ/ how old? /ˈhau əl/ interj 1. a general greeting or Hi Robert! How are you doing? — Fine, thanks! (NOTE: In this meaning a detailed reply is not expected.) 2. used for asking someone about the state of their health or How are you today? — The doctor asked me how I was.

9. How far is it to the church? /ˈhau fær ɪz ðət ʧɜːtʃ/ how far? /ˈhau fær/ interj 1. a general greeting or Hi Robert! How are you doing? — Fine, thanks! (NOTE: In this meaning a detailed reply is not expected.) 2. used for asking someone about the state of their health or How are you today? — The doctor asked me how I was.

10. How are you doing? /ˈhau ər juː / How are you doing? /ˈhau ər juː / interj 1. a general greeting or Hi Robert! How are you doing? — Fine, thanks! (NOTE: In this meaning a detailed reply is not expected.) 2. used for asking someone about the state of their health or How are you today? — The doctor asked me how I was.

11. How do you mean? /ˈhau də juː / How do you mean? /ˈhau də juː / interj 1. a general greeting or Hi Robert! How are you doing? — Fine, thanks! (NOTE: In this meaning a detailed reply is not expected.) 2. used for asking someone about the state of their health or How are you today? — The doctor asked me how I was.

12. How do you mean? /ˈhau də juː / How do you mean? /ˈhau də juː / interj 1. a general greeting or Hi Robert! How are you doing? — Fine, thanks! (NOTE: In this meaning a detailed reply is not expected.) 2. used for asking someone about the state of their health or How are you today? — The doctor asked me how I was.

13. How much is their house? /ˈhau mʌt ɪz ðər ˈhaus/ how much? /ˈhau mʌt/ interj 1. a general greeting or Hi Robert! How are you doing? — Fine, thanks! (NOTE: In this meaning a detailed reply is not expected.) 2. used for asking someone about the state of their health or How are you today? — The doctor asked me how I was.

14. How much is their house? /ˈhau mʌt ɪz ðər ˈhaus/ how much? /ˈhau mʌt/ interj 1. a general greeting or Hi Robert! How are you doing? — Fine, thanks! (NOTE: In this meaning a detailed reply is not expected.) 2. used for asking someone about the state of their health or How are you today? — The doctor asked me how I was.

15. How much is their house? /ˈhau mʌt ɪz ðər ˈhaus/ how much? /ˈhau mʌt/ interj 1. a general greeting or Hi Robert! How are you doing? — Fine, thanks! (NOTE: In this meaning a detailed reply is not expected.) 2. used for asking someone about the state of their health or How are you today? — The doctor asked me how I was.

16. How much is their house? /ˈhau mʌt ɪz ðər ˈhaus/ how much? /ˈhau mʌt/ interj 1. a general greeting or Hi Robert! How are you doing? — Fine, thanks! (NOTE: In this meaning a detailed reply is not expected.) 2. used for asking someone about the state of their health or How are you today? — The doctor asked me how I was.
hls

hrs abbr hours
HRT abbr hormone replacement therapy
HTML noun a system of codes used to prepare a document for the World Wide Web
hub /hʌb/ noun 1. the centre of a wheel ○ The spokes of a wheel meet at the hub. 2. the centre of some activity, especially business activity ○ Frankfurt is hoping to take the place of the City of London as the financial hub of Europe. 3. a central airport, where domestic flights connect with international flights ○ Chicago is the airline’s American hub.

hubbub /ˈhʌbəb/ noun the confused sound of voices. Antonym silence

hub cap /ˈhʌb kæp/ noun a metal or plastic plate covering the hub of a car’s wheel
huddle /ˈhʌdəl/ verb to crowd together, or to be crowded together ○ The refugees huddled in the shade of some trees. ○ The children were huddled together in one room. ○ noun 1. to go into a huddle to get together to discuss something ○ The players went into a huddle to discuss tactics.

hue /hjuː/ noun a colour (informal) ○ The garden is filled with flowers of every hue. (NOTE: Do not confuse with hew.)

hue and cry /ˈhjuː ən/ noun 1. an excited chase after someone. 2. a loud protest. Synonym uproar

huff /hʌf/ noun □ in a huff in a bad temper (informal) ○ She went off in a huff.

huffy /ˈhʌfi/ adj bad-tempered

hug /hʌɡ/ verb an action of throwing your arms around someone ○ She ran to the little girl and gave her a huge hug. 1. to throw your arms around someone ○ The players hugged each other when the goal was scored. 2. to hold something very tightly ○ The little girl was hugging a blue blanket. 3. to keep very close to something ○ The road hugs the foot of the mountain. ○ She drove along slowly, hugging the pavement. (NOTE: hugging—hugged)

hugely /ˈhʌdʒli/ adv very large ○ Huge waves battered the ship. ○ The concert was a huge success. ○ Failing the test was a huge disappointment for him.

human rights

hulking /ˈhʌlkɪŋ/ adj big and awkward (informal). Synonym bulky. Antonym dainty

hulking /ˈhʌlkɪŋ/ noun the main body of a ship ○ The liner is in dry dock for repairs to her hull. ○ verb to take peas out of their pods, or take the green leafy tops off strawberries ○ If you hull the peas I’ll get the potatoes ready.

human /ˈhjuːmən/ noun a low buzz ○ A loud hum came out of the beehive. Synonym whine ○ verb 1. to make a low buzz ○ Bees were humming around the hive. 2. to sing without words ○ If you don’t know the words of the national anthem, you can always hum the tune. (NOTE: humming—hummed)

human /ˈhjuːmən/ adj referring to people ○ he’s only human he can make mistakes like anyone else ○ I know there’s a mistake in the exam question – examiners are only human, after all!

human being /ˈhjuːmən ˈberɪŋ/ human /ˈhjuːmən/ noun a person

human /ˈhjuːmən/ adj kind to people or animals. Synonym compassionate. Antonym cruel

humanely /ˈhjuːmənlɪ/ adv in a humane way

human error /ˈhjuːmən ˈɛrə/ noun a mistake made by a person, and not by a machine

human interest /ˈhjuːmən ˈɪntrəst/ noun the power to make people interested or sympathetic

humanism /ˈhjuːmənɪzəm/ noun a concern with humans as opposed to religious ideas

humanist /ˈhjuːmənɪst/ noun a person who is concerned with humans as opposed to religious ideas

humanitarian /ˈhjuːmənətəriən/ adj helping other human beings

humanity /ˈhjuːmənəti/ noun 1. all people ○ a crime against humanity 2. great kindness ○ She showed great humanity to the refugees.

humankind /ˈhjuːmənkiŋd/ noun all human beings

humanly /ˈhjuːmənlɪ/ adv □ humanly possible possible with the maximum effort ○ We did everything humanly possible to rescue the survivors.

human nature /ˈhjuːmən ˈnɛtrə/ noun natural feelings which are found in all people

human race /ˈhjuːmən ˈreɪs/ noun all human beings, regarded as a group

human resources /ˈhjuːmən ˈrɪzərs/ plural noun the employees of a company, seen as a group

human rights /ˈhjuːmən ˈrɪ츠/ plural noun rights which each member of society should enjoy, such as freedom of speech and freedom of movement ○ Demonstrators are protesting against abuses of human rights in various parts of the world.
Now that we are over the hump we can perhaps discuss discounts again. ■ verb to carry something on your shoulder (informal) ○ We spent all morning humping sacks of sand.

**hump-backed bridge** /ˈhʌmp bækˈbrɪdʒ/ noun a little bridge which rises and falls very steeply

**hump-backed** /ˈhʌmp bækˈdɪdʒ/ adj having a hump

**hump-backed camel** /ˈhʌmp bækˈkæməl/ noun an animal which has a hump in the back of a person or animal

**hump** /ˈhʌmp/ noun 1. a raised part on the back of a person or animal ○ Arabian camels have only one hump, while Bactrian camels have two. 2. a small raised part in the ground ○ They have built humps in the road to slow down the traffic. 3. an awkward situation ○ The detective acted purely on a hunch.

**hunch** /hʌntʃ/ noun 1. a feeling that something is going to happen ○ I’ve got a hunch that we will win. ○ The detective acted purely on a hunch. Synonym feeling (NOTE: The plural is hunches.) ■ verb to bend forward ○ We hunched down behind the wall to get out of the wind. Antonym straighten

**hunchback** /ˈhʌntʃbæk/ noun a person with a hunched back (offensive)

**hunch** /hʌntʃ/ noun 1. a feeling that something is going to happen ○ I’ve got a hunch that we will win. ○ The detective acted purely on a hunch. Synonym feeling (NOTE: The plural is hunches.) ■ verb to bend forward ○ We hunched down behind the wall to get out of the wind. Antonym straighten

**hundred** /ˈhʌndrd/ noun the number 100 ○ The church is over a hundred years old. ○ My grandfather will be a hundred next month. ○ Do I have to tell you a hundred times to stop that noise? ■ hundreds of very many ○ Hundreds of birds were killed by the cold weather. ○ Hundreds of people caught flu last winter. ○ They came in their hundreds to visit the grave.

**hundredweight** /ˈhʌndrdwɛt/ noun a weight of dry goods, equal to 112 pounds or approximately 50 kilos

**hungry** /ˈhʌŋgri/ adj wanting to eat ○ to die of hunger to die because you do not have enough to eat ○ He was dying of hunger when they found him.

**hunger strike** /ˈhʌŋgər strək/ noun a continuing refusal to eat, as a form of protest

**hungry** /ˈhʌŋgri/ adj wanting to eat ○ You must be hungry after that game of football. ■ I’m not very hungry – I had a big lunch. ○ Hurry up with the food – we’re getting hungry. ○ to go hungry not to have enough to eat ○ Students had to go hungry when their grants were not paid. (NOTE: hungrier – hungriest)

**hunger** /ˈhʌŋgər/ noun 1. a strong athletic man ○ He

**hark** /hɑrk/ noun 1. a rough piece of something ○ We each had a hunk of bread and a bowl of soup. 2. a strong athletic man (informal) ○ Sophie came to the party with that gorgeous hunk of hers.
hunky /ˈhʌŋki/ adj attractively strong and athletic (informal)

hunt /hənt/ verb 1. □ to hunt for something to search for something  ○ We’re hunting for a cheap flat.  ○ They came to London in the week after Christmas, hunting for bargains. 2. to chase wild animals for food or sport  ○ We took the dogs out hunting rats.  ○ Our cat is not very good at hunting mice.  ○ They go to Scotland to hunt deer. (NOTE: You hunt animals, but you hunt things.) □ noun 1. a search  ○ The hunt for new offices has just started. 2. a group of people who meet together with dogs to hunt foxes  ○ The hunt will assemble at 10.00 a.m.

hunter /ˈhʌntər/ noun a person who hunts □ collective noun a pack of dogs or a group of people who hunt together □ plural noun many people are opposed to fox hunting 1. Many people are opposed to fox hunting. 2. The island is a fabulous hunting ground for a place where wild animals are hunted 1. a hunting ground □ plural noun 2. a place where things fast ○ to hunt something quickly ○ to hunt for something fast ○ She hurried across the room.  ○ You’ll have to hurry if you want to catch the last post.  ○ There’s no need to hurry – we’ve got plenty of time. 2. to make someone do something fast ○ Don’t hurry me. I like to take my time.

hurry /ˈhəri/ verb 1. to go or do something faster  ○ Hurry up – we’ll be late for the film.  ○ Can’t you get the cook to hurry up?  I’m getting hungry! 2. to make someone do something faster, or to make something happen faster  ○ Can you hurry up that order?  The customer wants it tomorrow.

hurriedly /ˈhərɪdlɪ/ adv in a hurry, or too quickly

hurried /ˈhərɪd/ adj done in a rush, or too quickly

hurly-burly /hərˈlɪ bəˈlɜri/ noun a commotion or Eastern Pacific Ocean hurricane □ noun a tropical storm with strong winds and rain in the Caribbean or Eastern Pacific Ocean (NOTE: In the Far East called a typhoon; in the Indian Ocean called a cyclone.)

hurry up /ˈhəri ʌp/ verb 1. to go or do something faster  ○ Hurry up – we’ll be late for the film.  ○ Can’t you get the cook to hurry up?  I’m getting hungry! 2. to make someone do something faster, or to make something happen faster  ○ Can you hurry up that order?  The customer wants it tomorrow.

hurriedly /ˈhərɪdlɪ/ adv in a hurry, or too quickly

hurried /ˈhərɪd/ adj done in a rush, or too quickly

hurry /ˈhəri/ noun □ in a hurry doing things fast  ○ The waiters are always in a hurry.  ○ Can’t you drive any faster?  – We’re in a hurry to catch our plane!  ○ He wants the report in a hurry.  ○ what’s the hurry? why are you going so fast?  ○ What’s the hurry?  It’s only two o’clock and the plane doesn’t leave until nine.  □ there’s no hurry you do not need to do it fast  ○ There’s no hurry for the figures – we do not need them until next week. □ noun 1. a hurry □ plural noun things fast ○ to hurry something something faster ○ to hurry something up to hide something so that no one knows about it ○ They tried to hurry up the scandal.  □ to hurry someone up to make someone keep quiet about something ○ We rushed him up with a bribe.

hushed /ˈhʌʃt/ adj quiet, so as not to make too much noise
hush-hush

hush-hush /ˈhʌʃ/ adj secret (informal)
hush money /ˈhʌʃ ˈmʌni/ noun money paid as a bribe to prevent someone talking about something (informal)
husk /hʌsk/ noun the dry outside coating of cereals or nuts ○ Take the husks off peanuts before you roast them. ■ verb to remove the husk from seeds or nuts ○ We all sat in front of the house husking corn.
husky /ˈhʌski/ adj 1. hoarse, but in an attractive way ○ She spoke in a low husky voice. 2. (of a young man) tall and strongly built ○ A group of husky students cheered when they saw her. (NOTE: The plural is huskies.)
hussy /ˈhʌsi/ noun an immoral and indecent woman (dated, insulting) (NOTE: The plural is hussies.)
hustle /ˈhʌstl/ noun a movement of people ○ the hustle of the commuters trying to get home on the Underground ■ verb to hurry someone along roughly ○ The police tried to hustle the crowd of protesters away. ○ Don’t hustle me – I’m going as fast as I can!
hustle and bustle /ˈhʌstləndˈbʌstl/ an ‘hʌstl(ə)/ noun great activity
hustler /ˈhʌstlə/ noun a person who works energetically to achieve something

hut /hʌt/ noun a small rough wooden house
hutch /hʌtʃ/ noun a box or cage for animals such as rabbits
hyacinth /ˈhaɪəsɪnθ/ noun a bulb which produces spikes of bright pink, white or blue scented flowers
hybrid /ˈhaɪbrɪd/ adj, noun a cross between two varieties of plant or animal ○ She is well known for growing hybrid roses.
hydraulic /ˈhaɪdrəlɪk/ adj worked by fluid pressure
hydroelectric /ˈhaɪdrəˌɪlɛktrɪk/ adj referring to hydroelectricity ○ a hydroelectric power station ○ a power station producing electricity by water power
hydroelectricity /ˈhaɪdrəˌɪlɛktrɪtɪ/ noun electricity from water power
hydrofoil /ˈhaɪdrəˌfɔɪl/ noun a type of boat which skims fast over the surface of the water
hydrogen /ˈhaɪdɹəˌɡɛn/ noun a common gas which combines with oxygen to form water
hyena /ˈhɪənə/ noun an African animal like a large wild dog
hygiene /ˈhaɪdʒɪn/ noun the science of being and keeping things clean
hygienic /ˈhaɪdʒɪnɪk/ adj clean and free of germs

hymn /ˈhɪm/ noun a religious song, usually sung in church
hype /haɪp/ noun an excessive claim in advertising ○ No one really believes all the hype surrounding the pop group. ○ There was a lot of hype about the festival and in the end it turned out to be very small. Synonym publicity ■ verb to make excessive claims in publicity ○ The show was hyped (up) in all the newspapers. Synonym publicise
hyper- /ˈhaɪpər/ prefix higher, or to a greater degree
hyperactive /haɪpəˈrektrɪv/ adj very active
hyperbole /haɪpəˈbəʊli/ noun an exaggerated statement. Synonym exaggeration. Antonym understatement
hyperlink /ˈhaɪpərˈlɪŋk/ noun a link in hypertext
hypermarket /haɪpəˈmɑrkɪt/ noun a very large supermarket, usually on the outskirts of a large town
hypersensitive /haɪpəˈsɛnsɪtɪv/ adj 1. very easily upset or insulted 2. having a strong physical reaction to a drug or other substance
hypertension /haɪpəˈtenʃən/ noun high blood pressure; a condition where the pressure of the blood in the arteries is too high
hypertext /haɪpəˈtekst/ noun a system of storing computer files that gives the user direct access to related electronic information
hyperventilate /haɪpəˈvəntɪlət/ verb to breathe so fast or deeply that you start to feel dizzy ○ hypen /ˈhaɪpən/ noun a printing sign (—) used to show that two words are joined or that a word has been split
hypenate /haɪpəˈneɪt/ verb to put a hyphen between two words; to divide a long word into two parts with a hyphen, or to show that a word has been split at the end of a line
hypenated /haɪpəˈneɪtɪd/ adj (of a word) spelled with one or more hyphens
hypenation /haɪpəˈneɪʃən/ noun the act of putting hyphens between words or between parts of a word
hypnosis /haɪpˈnɒzɪs/ noun a state like sleep, but caused artificially, where the patient can remember forgotten events in the past or will do whatever the hypnotist tells him or her to do
hypnotherapy /haɪpˈnəʊθərəpi/ noun the treatment of a patient by hypnosis
hypnotic /haɪpˈnɒtɪk/ adj referring to hypnosis ○ Hypnotic treatment can be successful for deeply traumatised patients.
hypnotise /haɪpəˈnaɪz/, hypnotize verb to make someone go into a state where he or
she appears to be asleep and will do anything the hypnotist suggests. Synonym **fascinate**

**hype\(n\)tism /hɪp\(n\)\(t\)ɪz\(m\)/ noun the act of hypnotising people

**hype\(n\)tist /hɪp\(n\)\(t\)ɪst/ noun a person who practises hypnosis

**hypoallergenic /ˌhaɪpəˈælər\(g\)ɛnɪk/ adj unlikely to start off an allergic reaction

**hypochoondriac /ˌhaɪpəˈkɒndrɪək/ noun a person who is always worried about his or her health

**hypocrisy /ˌhaɪpəˈkrɒski\(ə\)/ noun pretending to be what you are not. Synonym **insincerity**

Antonym **sincerity**

**hypocrite /ˌhaɪpəˈkrɪt/ noun a person who says one thing and acts in a different way

**hypocritical /ˌhaɪpəˈkrɪtɪk\(ə\)/ adj referring to hypocrisy. Synonym **insincere**. Antonym **genuine**

**hypodermic needle /ˌhaɪpəˈdræmɪk ˈnɪdl/ noun a needle or syringe for injecting liquid under the skin

**hypotenuse /ˌhaɪpəˈtænju\(z\)/ noun the long side of a right-angled triangle

**hypothermia /ˌhaɪpəˈθɜrmiə/ noun a state where the temperature of the body is dangerously low

**hypothesis /ˌhaɪpəˈθɛsɪs/ noun something which is probably true, though it cannot be proved (NOTE: The plural is **hypotheses** /ˌhaɪpəˈθɛsɪz/)

**hypo\(t\)hetical /ˌhaɪpəˈθɛtɪkl/ adj suggested as possible, but not an actual happening

**hysterectomy /ˌhaɪstəˈrektəmi/ noun the surgical removal of a woman’s womb, either to treat cancer or because of some other problem

**hysteria /haɪˈstɪriə/ noun a neurotic state, where the patient is in a fit of panic or excitement. Antonym **calm**

**mass hysteria nervous excitement which affects crowds of people at the same time**

**amid scenes of mass hysteria the pop group came onto the stage.

**hysterical /haɪˈstɜrɪkl/ adj 1. referring to hysteria o He burst into hysterical laughter. o Hysterical fans tried to climb onto the stage. 2. very funny o The video of the wedding was hysterical.

**hysterically /haɪˈstɜrɪklɪ/ adv in a hysterical way

**hysterics /haɪˈstɜrɪks/ plural noun 1. an attack of hysteria o He went into hysterics when he saw his daughter covered in blood. 2. laughter which you cannot control o The children were in hysterics as they watched the clown tearing up pieces of paper.
floating on the sea

icebox /'aɪsbɔks/ noun 1. a box containing ice to keep food or drink cool ○ We took the drinks to the picnic in an icebox. 2. US same as refrigerator (dated)

ice-breaker /'aɪsbreɪkə/ noun 1. a specially strengthened boat used to break up ice in the sea 2. a game at the start of a party or other event with a lot of people, to help everyone to get to know one another

ice cap /'aɪskəp/ noun a thick layer of ice and snow that never melts, such as at the North and South Poles or on the top of some high mountains

ice-cold /'aɪskəld/ adj extremely cold

ice cream /'aɪs krɪm/ noun a frozen dessert made from cream and flavouring such as fruit

ice cream cone /'aɪs krɪm kɔn/ noun a hollow cone of biscuit, inside which ice cream is served. Also called ice cream cornet

ice hockey /'aɪskə həki/ noun a form of hockey played on ice using a hard rubber disc called a puck (NOTE: The US term is hockey.)

ice lolly /'aɪzlɒli/ noun a mixture of water and flavouring, frozen until solid with a stick in it (NOTE: The plural is ice lollies. The US term is popsicle.)

ice pack /'aɪspæk/ noun a bag of ice placed on your forehead to cure a headache, etc.

ice rink /'aɪs rɪŋk/ noun a special area for ice skating, or for playing ice hockey, etc.

ice skate /'aɪsk eɪkt/ noun a boot with a steel blade fitted to the bottom for skating on ice ○ verb to glide over ice on ice skates

ice skating /'aɪsk eɪstækɪŋ/ noun the activity of skating on ice, as opposed to roller skating

ice up /'aɪs ʌp/ verb to become covered with ice

icing /'aɪsɪŋ/ noun a covering of sugar and flavouring, spread over a cake or biscuits

icon /'aɪkɒn/ noun 1. a little picture used as a symbol on a computer screen ○ Click
twice on the icon of a key to enter the program. To print your text, point your cursor at the printer icon and click twice. A picture of Christ or a saint in the Eastern Christian church. There is an exhibition of Russian icons in the British Museum. The icon of the Virgin Mary is carried in procession round the church. A person who is admired as a good example of a certain type. She has become something of a feminist icon.

iconoclast /aɪˈkɒnəklæst/ noun a person who goes against a tradition that many people believe in. Synonym: conservative.

icy /aɪsɪ/ adj 1. covered with ice. Be careful, the pavement is icy. 2. very cold, like ice. Icy rain fell as we started our walk.

ideal /ˈaɪdəl/ noun 1. the act of saying who someone is by giving their name, personal details, etc. The bank manager asked him for identification. 2. to have an idea that to think that. I have an idea that the buses don't run on Sundays. 3. a plan which you make in your mind. Some of his ideas were really original. I've had an idea – let's all go for a picnic! That's a good idea!

idealism /aɪdəˈlɪzəm/ noun 1. a person who aims at achieving an ideal. Idealist /aɪˈdɪlist/ noun 1. a person who aims at achieving an ideal. She's an idealist, and is upset when anyone suggests a solution which is less than perfect. An impractical person. He's too much of an idealist to be a government minister.

idealist /aɪˈdɪlist/ adj aiming at an ideal; too perfect
idiomatic /ɪˈdɪmætɪk/ adj referring to a natural colloquial way of speaking a language

idiosyncrasy /ˌɪdɪəsɪŋkraˈsi/ noun a particularly odd way of behaving. Synonym characteristic (NOTE: The plural is idiosyncrasies.)

idiosyncratic /ˌɪdɪəsɪŋkraˈtɪk/ adj odd or peculiar; particular to one person. Synonym idiosyncratic

idiot /ˈɪdɪət/ noun 1. a person who behaves in a stupid way (sense1) 2. a person with low intelligence (dated offensive)

idiotic /ɪˈdɪətɪk/ adj stupid

idly /ˈɪdli/ adv 1. lazily ○ He sat idly turning over the pages of the magazine. 2. without being involved ○ You can’t stand idly by and watch a man making a mess of his life.

idol /ˈɪdəl/ noun 1. the statue of a god which is worshipped ○ The tribesmen danced in front of their idols. 2. a star performer who is worshipped by fans ○ The England captain is many boys’ footballing idol. 3. a favourite person ○ My cousin Jimmy was my great idol when I was small. (NOTE: Do not confuse with idle.)

idolatry /aɪˈdoʊlətri/ noun the practice of worshipping idols

idolise /ɪdəlɪz/ verb to worship someone very much. Synonym worship.

Antonym disdain

idiyll /ɪˈdɪəl/ noun a scene of peace and happiness in the country (literary)

idiolic /ɪˈdɪəlɪk/ adj happy and pleasant in a romantic way ○ If... conj 1. showing what might happen ○ If he’s going to be late, he should send me a text to warn me. ○ If it freezes tonight, the paths will be slippery tomorrow. ○ If I’m in London, I’ll come and see you. ○ If he had told me you were ill, I’d have come to see you in hospital. ○ If I won the lottery, I would take a long holiday. 2. asking questions ○ Do you know if the plane is late? ○ I was wondering if you would like to have some tea. 3. although ○ He is nice, if rather lazy. ○ noun a question which is not certain ○ He’ll catch the plane if he gets up in time – and that’s a very big if!

iffy /ɪˈfi/ adj doubtful, not at all certain

idiotic /ɪˈdɪətɪk/ adj stupid

ignominious /ɪɡˈnəmɪnɪəs/ adj shameful (formal). Synonym humiliating

ignominy /ɪɡˈnəməni/ noun disgrace (formal). Synonym humiliation

ignorance /ɪɡˈnɔrəns/ noun a state of not knowing ○ to keep someone in ignorance of something not to tell someone about something ○ The soldiers were deliberately kept in ignorance of the dangers facing them.

ignorant /ɪɡˈnɔrənt/ adj 1. not knowing anything 2. stupid ○ If you’re feeling ill you ought to see a doctor. ○ to fall ill to become ill ○ She felt seriously ill and we thought she was going to die. ○ to be taken ill to become ill suddenly ○ He was taken ill while on holiday in Greece. adv not sufficiently or very well ○ He was ill prepared for the journey. ○ ill at ease embarrassed, not comfortable ○ She seemed ill at ease when we started talking about the missing money. ○ He felt ill at ease in his new suit.

ill-advised /ɪl ədˈvɑzd/ adj not sensible, or not a good idea. Synonym foolish

ill-conceived /ɪl ˈkɑnˌsɛvɪd/ adj foolish or badly planned

illegal /ɪlˈɡeɪl/ adj against the law ○ It is illegal to serve alcohol to people under 16.

illegal immigrant /ɪlˈɡeɪl ɪmˈɡrənt/ noun a person who has entered a country illegally and wants to settle there

illegality /ɪlˈɡeɪlətɪ/ noun the quality of being illegal

illegally /ɪlˈɡeɪli/ adv against the law

illegible /ɪlˈlɛdʒəbl/ adj (of writing) which cannot be read. Antonym legible

illegitimate /ɪlˈlɛdʒɪtəm/ adj 1. born to parents who are not married to each other ○
ill-equipped /ɪl ɪˈkwɪpt/ adj not having the right equipment or preparation

illuminate /ɪˈljuːmənɪt/ verb 1. to make something bright with lights. The pitch was illuminated by giant floodlights. The town looked magical, illuminated with strings of lights along the edge of the sea. To explain something to make it clearer. His talk illuminated several points which I hadn’t understood before. To draw coloured pictures in a manuscript. The manuscript was illuminated with pictures from the Bible. Illuminating /ɪˈljuːmɪnətɪŋ/ adj interesting and educational, particularly in the case of something that explains or emphasises facts that were previously difficult to understand.

illumination /ɪˌljuːməˈneɪʃən/ noun 1. the state of being brightly lit, or the act of lighting something brightly. The action of giving information about something. I turned to the encyclopedia for illumination. 3. a coloured illustration in a manuscript. The chapter illuminations are real works of art. Illusion /ɪˈljuːʒən/ noun an impression which is not true. To have no illusions about something. To think that something is true when it is not. He seems to be under the illusion that he is indispensable.

illusory /ɪˈljuːsəri/ adj not real, which is an illusion. Synonym deceptive.

illustrate /ɪˈljuːstrɪt/ verb 1. to put pictures into a book. The book is illustrated with colour photographs of birds. To show examples of something. The article illustrates his views on the way the company should develop. An example of. This poem illustrates the sort of style I prefer. Illustration /ɪˌljuːstrəʃən/ noun 1. a picture in a book. The book has 25 colour illustrations. An example. His daughter’s birthday party is a good illustration of the way he likes to spend money. Illustrative /ɪˌljuːstrətɪv, ɪˈljuːstrətɪv/ adj which illustrates; which is an example. Synonym descriptive.

illiterate /ɪˈlɪlətrət/ noun a lack of knowledge in a particular area. Illicit /ɪˈlɪklɪt/ adj against the law; not legal. Synonym illegal (NOTE: Do not confuse with illicit). Ill-informed /ɪl ɪnˈfɔːmd/ adj having a lack of knowledge in a particular area.

illness /ɪˈlɪns/ noun a medical condition which makes you unwell. She developed a serious illness. A lot of the staff are absent because of illness. (NOTE: The plural is illnesses.) Illogical /ɪlˈdʒɪləɡɪkəl/ adj not sensible; not reasonable. Illogicality /ɪˈlɪləɡɪkəlɪtɪ/ noun the quality of being illogical.

ill-treat /ɪl ˈtrɪt/ verb to treat animals, children, etc. badly. Synonym abuse. Antonym look after.

ill-equipped /ɪl ɪˈkwɪpt/ adj not having the right equipment or preparation.

ill-equipped /ɪl ɪˈkwɪpt/ adj not having the right equipment or preparation.
imaginable
imaginable /ɪˈmeɪdʒəb(ə)l/ adj which you can imagine. Synonym conceivable.
Antonym unimaginable
imagine
imagine /ɪˈmeɪdʒ(ə)n/ v1 to picture things in your mind ○ She let her imagination run riot in her stories for children. v2 to use your imagination to imagine what is possible ○ Try and use your imagination – think of the money we could make. v3 to let your imagination get the better of you and show a lack of concentration or get involved in, something ○ He let his imagination get the better of him and imagine what is possible.
imagination
imagination /ɪˈmeɪdʒən(ə)ʃ(ə)n/ noun the ability to picture things in your mind ○ She had a very good imagination. ○ The bag is made of imitation leather.
immature
immature /ɪˈmeɪtʃər/ adj not fully developed or grown ○ The nurses all wore immaculate drivings.
immeal
immemal /ɪˈmɪdʒəməl/ adv very soon ○ He wrote an immediate letter of complaint.
immediately
immediately /ɪˈmɪdʒəmətli/ adv very soon ○ You didn’t expect an immediate reply; did you? ○ Your order will receive immediate attention.
immeasurable
immeasurable /ɪˈmɪdʒərəb(ə)l/ adj too large to be measured.
immense
immense /ɪˈmɛns/ adj very big, enormous. Synonym huge
Antonym tiny
immersely
immersely /ɪˈmɛnslɪ/ adv very much. Synonym hugely
immensity
immensity /ɪˈmɛnsəti/ noun a huge size (NOT: no plural)
immerse
immerse /ɪˈmɜːs/ v1 to plunge something into a liquid ○ To sterilise the bottle, immerse it in the boiling water until it was completely immersed. v2 ○ to immerse yourself in something to concentrate on, or get fully involved in, something ○ He immersed himself in the study of Latin literature.
immersed
immersed /ɪˈmɜːst/ adj immersed in fully involved in ○ The whole family is immersed in politics. ○ He’s immersed in his job.
immersion
immersion /ɪˈmɜːʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. the act of immersing ○ She does a very good imitation of the Queen. 2. a copy made of something ○ beware of imitations be careful not to buy low quality goods which are made to look like other more expensive items ○ not genuine ○ It’s not real leather, just imitation. ○ The bag is made of imitation leather. Synonym mock
immisculate
immisculate /ɪˈmækʃjʊlət/ adj 1. extremely clean or tidy ○ The car looked absolutely immaculate – there wasn’t a spot of dirt on it. ○ The nurses all wore immaculate white uniforms. ○ The last house we visited was in immaculate condition, while all the others needed a lot of repairs. 2. perfect; with no errors ○ She did an immaculate driving test.
immisculately
immisculately /ɪˈmækʃjʊlətli/ adv 1. extremely tidy ○ It suddenly started to rain, and the immaculately dressed guests had to run from the garden into the house. 2. perfectly ○ She danced her solo immaculately.
immaterial
immaterial /ɪˈmætʃərɪəl/ adj not relevant. Synonym irrelevant
immature
immature /ɪˈmeɪtʃər/ adj 1. not mature; still developing ○ Two immature swans followed their parents across the lake. 2. not sensible; not adult ○ I wish she would grow up and stop being so immature!
immeasurable
immmeasurable /ɪˈmeɪkʃərəb(ə)l/ adj too enormous to be measured.
immeasurable
immmeasurable /ɪˈmeɪkʃərəb(ə)l/ adv too enormous to be measured.
immeasurable
immmeasurable /ɪˈmeɪkʃərəb(ə)l/ noun the quality of being immediately present.
immediately
immediately /ɪˈmɪdʒəmətli/ adv very soon ○ He wrote an immediate letter of complaint. ○ Your order will receive immediate attention. 2. closest, or right next to you ○ He had to share his programme with his immediate neighbour.
immediately
immediately /ɪˈmɪdʒəmətli/ adv very soon afterwards ○ He got my letter, and wrote back immediately. ○ As soon as he heard the news he immediately phoned his wife.
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immmeasurable /ɪˈmeɪkʃərəb(ə)l/ adj too large to be measured.
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immersed /ɪˈmɜːst/ adj immersed in fully involved in ○ The whole family is immersed in politics. ○ He’s immersed in his job.
immersion
immersion /ɪˈmɜːʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. the act of plunging something into a liquid ○ Total immersion in the acid bath will remove all traces of paint. 2. ○ immersion, immersion heater a heater inside a water tank ○ If you want a bath you’ll have to switch the immersion on.
immigrant
immigrant /ɪˈmɪɡrənt/ noun a person who comes to a country to live. Synonym settler.
Antonym emigrant
immigrate
immigrate /ɪˈmɪɡreɪt/ verb to come to live in a new country. Synonym settle. Antonym emigrate
immortal  

immortal /imˌərəˈtəl/ adj 1. very good, either temporarily or permanently 2. something which cannot be changed, or which does not change 1. immortal /imˌərəˈtəl/ adj 1. who never dies 2. very famous; which will very likely be remembered 2. Roman emperors were believed to be immortals 2. very famous; which will always be remembered 1. that immortal line from 'Casablanca': 'play it again, Sam' 2. And now, another song from the immortal Frank Sinatra. 3. a noun a famous person who will always be remembered 1. W.G. Grace, and other cricket immortals 3. immortalize /imˌərəˈzai/ verb to make someone or something be immortalised 3. immortalize /imˌərəˈzai/ verb an electronic device that prevents a vehicle from being stolen by stopping the engine from working 3. immovable /imˈərəvəbl/ adj not moving; not able to move 3. immobile /imˈərəbl/ adj not moving; not able to move 3. immobilise /imˌərəˈblize/ verb to stop something moving. Synonym retard 3. immobility /imˌərəˈblitē/ noun the state of not moving. Antonym mobility 3. immiseriser /imˌərəˈbiːzər/ noun an electronic device that prevents a vehicle from being stolen by stopping the engine from working 3. immoral /imˈərəməl/ adj not following the usual principles of good behaviour 3. immorality /imˌərəˈmilē/ noun the state of being immoral 3. immovable /imˌərəˈvabl/ adj which cannot be moved 3. immune /imˈjuːm/ adj 1. protected against infection 2. I seem to be immune to colds – I just never have any. This injection should make you immune to yellow fever. 2. legally protected against, or not liable to something 3. She believed she would be immune from prosecution. (NOTE: You are immune to a disease, and from prosecution.) 3. immune system /imˈjuːm ˌsistem/ noun a complex network of cells which protects the body from disease 3. immunisation /imˈjuːneɪˈzeɪʃ(ə)n/ immu- 3. immunisation /imˈjuːneɪˈzeɪʃ(ə)n/ immu- 3. immunise /imˈjuːnaiz, immunize verb to give someone immunity to a disease (NOTE: You immunise someone against a disease.) 3. immunity /imˈjuːnəti/ noun 1. the ability to resist attacks of a disease because of antibodies produced in your body 2. The injection will give immunity to malaria for six months. 2. immunity from or against arrest protection against being arrested 1. When he offered to give information to the police, he was granted immunity from prosecution. 3. immutable /imˈjuːmətəbəl/ adj which cannot be changed, or which does not change (formal), unchangeable 3. imp /imp/ noun 1. a naughty child 2. The little imp – he's put glue on my chair! 2. a small devil 1. When you go into the cathedral, look out for the little imp carved high up near the chair. 3. impact noun /imˈpækt/ 1. a forceful effect 1. The TV documentary had an strong impact on the viewers. 2. a forceful bump 2. The car was totally crushed by the impact of the collision. 1. on impact as soon as it hit 2. The plane burst into flames on impact with the ground 3. verb /imˈpækt/ to impact on something to have a strong effect on something 2. The fall in the value of the currency will impact strongly on the stock market. 3. impair /imˈpɛr/ verb to damage something so that it does not work properly 3. impaired /imˈpɛrd/ adj damaged or not very good, either temporarily or permanently 3. impairment /imˈperəmənt/ noun damage to or poor functioning of something, particularly a physical or mental ability 3. impale /imˈpəl/ verb to jab a sharp object through the body. Synonym pierce 3. impart /imˈpɑrt/ verb to pass on information; to communicate something to someone 2. The news imparted a sense of excitement to the meeting. 3. impartial /imˈpærəl/ adj not biased 3. impartiality /imˈpærəltē/ noun the state of being impartial. Synonym neutrality. 3. impassable /imˈpæsəbl/ adj which you cannot go through or across 3. impassion /imˈpæʃ(ə)n/ noun a state where two sides cannot agree 3. impassioned /imˈpæʃ(ə)n/ noun showing very deep feelings. Synonym emotional 3. impassive /imˈpæsviv/ adj showing no expression of feelings
impassively

impassiveness /im'pæsɪvnl/ adv in an impassive way

impatience /ɪm'peɪʃəns/ noun a lack of patience

impatient /ɪm'peɪʃ(ə)nt/ adj unable to wait for something; always in a hurry to do something ○ We were all impatient for the film to start. ○ He's very impatient with anyone who works slowly.

impartially /ɪm'pær(ə)ltl/ adv in a hurried way; not patiently

impeccable /ɪm'pɛkb(ə)l/ adj perfect.
Antonym flawed

impecunious /ɪm'pɛkʃənəs/ adj poor; not having any money (formal).

impede /ɪm'piːd/ verb to stop someone or something going forwards.

impediment /ɪm'pɛdɪmənt/ noun an obstacle; a situation which stops something happening ○ Is there any just impediment why these two people should not be joined together in matrimony? ○ He finds that not having a car is no impediment to his job as a salesman.

impel /ɪm'pel/ verb to force someone to do something (formal). (NOTE: impelling – impelled)

impending /ɪm'pendɪŋ/ adj which will happen soon.
Synonym imminent.
Antonym far-off.

impenetrable /ɪm'pɛntrəb(ə)l/ adj which you cannot go through or into, or see through

imperative /ɪm'pærətɪv/ adj urgent; which has to be done ○ It is imperative that a reply be given immediately.

imperfect /ɪm'pɛfɪkt/ adj not perfect or not complete ○ It's an imperfect world we live in. ○ We only have an imperfect understanding of the origins of the universe.

imperious /ɪm'pɛriəs/ adj (of a person) not bothered by something ○ She seems quite imperious to the noise of children all around her. ○ Not all authors are as imperious to criticism as she is. ○ (of a substance) which does not allow liquids to go through ○ These rocks are imperious to water.

impetuosity /ɪm'pɛtʊsəs/ noun energy which encourages rapid progress forward
impinge 422 imposing

**impinge** /ɪmˈpɪndʒ/ verb □ to impinge on something to affect something, usually badly (formal)  act of putting something into effect.

**impish** /ɪmˈpɪʃ/ adj wicked, like a naughty imp. Synonym = mischievous

**implacable** /ɪmˈpleɪkəb(ə)l/ adj strong; which cannot be satisfied or changed. Antonym = kind

**implacably** /ɪmˈpleɪkəbli/ adv in an implacable manner.

**implant** noun /ɪmˈplænt/ a thing which has been fixed inside a person’s body ○ She has had silicone breast implants. ■ verb /ɪmˈplænt/ 1. to fix something inside a person’s mind very deeply ○ A love of his native country was implanted in him from a very early age. 2. to fix something inside a person’s body ○ Surgeons implanted a pacemaker in his chest.

**implausible** /ɪmˈplæsəbl/ adj difficult or impossible to believe

□ implement noun /ɪmˈplɪmənt/ a tool or instrument ○ The plumber brought an implement for bending pipes. ■ verb /ɪmˈplɪmənt/ to put something into effect ○ The changes must be implemented immediately. Synonym = carry out

□ implementation /ɪmˈplɪməntʃiən/ noun the act of putting something into effect

**implicate** /ɪmˈplɪkət/ verb □ to implicate someone in something to suggest that someone is connected with a crime or something morally wrong ○ The documents seemed to implicate his boss in the scandal.

□ implication /ɪmˈplɪkəʃiən/ noun 1. the possible effect of an action ○ What will be the implications of the election results for public spending? 2. an involvement with a crime or something that is morally wrong ○ The newspaper revealed his implication in the affair of the stolen diamonds. 3. a suggestion that something such as a criticism is true although it has not been expressed directly ○ I resent the implication that I knew anything about the report in advance.

**implicit** /ɪmˈplɪkst/ adj 1. which is not definitely said, but is suggested ○ It was implicit in his tone of voice that he wasn’t going to agree. ○ Implicit in the inspectors’ report was the possibility that the restaurant might have to close permanently. 2. complete and unquestioning ○ He has implicit faith in his teacher’s advice.

□ implicitly /ɪmˈplɪktli/ adv without asking questions

**implied** /ɪmˈplɔd/ adj which has been suggested. Synonym = indirect

**implode** /ɪmˈplɔd/ verb to burst inwards

**implore** /ɪmˈplɔr/ verb to ask someone in an emotional way to do something (formal). Synonym = beg

**imply** /ɪmˈplai/ verb to suggest something without actually saying it □ He implied that he knew where the papers had been hidden. ○ The lawyer implied that the witness had not in fact seen the accident take place.

**impolite** /ɪmˈpələt/ adj rude; not polite. Synonym = rude. Antonym = polite

**import** noun /ˈɪmport/ □ import controls rules limiting goods which can be brought into a country ○ Import controls on foreign makes of car have been lifted. ■ verb /ˈɪmˈpɔrt/ 1. to bring goods into a country ○ The company imports television sets from Japan. ○ This car was imported from France. Antonym = export

□ importance /ˈɪmˈpɔrtəns/ noun seriousness; a serious effect or influence ○ Do not attach too much importance to what he says. ○ The bank attaches great importance to the deal.

□ important /ˈɪmˈpɔrtənt/ adj 1. which matters very much ○ It’s important to be in time for the interview. ○ I have to go to London for an important meeting. ○ He left a file containing important papers in the taxi. 2. (of a person) in a high position ○ He has an important job. ○ She’s an important government official. ○ He was promoted to a more important position.

□ importantly /ˈɪmˈpɔrtəntli/ adv in an important way ○ She strutted around importantly. ■ referring to something that is important ○ He understood the facts, and, more importantly for a teacher, he was able to explain them.

**importation** /ɪmˈpɔrtəʃiən/ noun 1. the act of importing something ○ The importation of certain wild animals is prohibited. 2. goods imported ○ Importations from Africa are subject to customs checks.

**import duty** /ɪmˈpɔrt ˈdjuːti/ noun tax paid on goods brought into a country

**importer** /ɪmˈpɔrtər/ noun a person or company that imports goods. Synonym = trader

**import licence** /ɪmˈpɔrt ˈlɪns/ noun a document which allows goods to be imported

**imports** /ɪmˈpɔrnts/ plural noun goods which are brought into a country for sale

□ impose /ɪmˈpəuz/ verb 1. to ask someone to pay a fine or tax ○ The judge imposed a fine on the shoplifter. ○ The government imposed a 10% tax increase on electrical items. 2. to put something into action ○ They have tried to impose a ban on smoking. 3. □ to impose on someone to cause someone trouble or inconvenience ○ I hope it’s not imposing on you too much, but I need to have the report today.

□ imposing /ɪmˈpəuzɪŋ/ adj grand or solemn. Synonym = impressive
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>imposition</td>
<td>1. The action of making people pay a tax or of laying down conditions ○ The imposition of a tax on tea 2. An unfair duty or punishment ○ She felt it was something of an imposition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impression</td>
<td>1. To make someone admire or respect someone or something ○ Her rapid response to the request impressed her boss. ○ She was impressed by his skill with the paintbrush. ○ The military government organised the display to impress the neighbouring states.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impracticable</td>
<td>1. It is impossible to do all this work in two hours. ○ Getting skilled staff is becoming impossible. 2. (Of a person or situation) awkward and difficult ○ That child is completely impossible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impress</td>
<td>1. To make someone admire or respect someone or something ○ I must impress on you just how urgent this is.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>imprisonment</td>
<td>1. To be or labour under an impression to have a wrong impression; to assume something which is not the case ○ He was labouring under the impression that air fares were cheaper in Europe than in the USA ○ To get the impression that to sense that; to have a feeling that ○ I got the impression that she wanted us to leave.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impresario</td>
<td>1. A French art movement, where painters tried to create an impression of how something really looked, using light and colour but without painting it in exact detail ○ The Impressionists worked mainly in Paris in the late nineteenth century.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>impresarios</td>
<td>A mark made by something pressed down 2. The name and address of the publisher or printer, which must appear on most printed matter ○ The scene of devastation remained indelibly imprinted on her memory.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>imprison</td>
<td>1. To make someone admire or respect someone or something ○ Her rapid response to the request impressed her boss. ○ She was impressed by his skill with the paintbrush. ○ The military government organised the display to impress the neighbouring states. 2. To impress something on someone to make someone understand something ○ I must impress on you just how urgent this is.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**impracticable** - adj: something which cannot be done ○ It’s impossible to do all this work in two hours. ○ Getting skilled staff is becoming impossible. 2. (Of a person or situation) awkward and difficult ○ That child is completely impossible.

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**impression** - n: the act of pretending to be someone else (formal). Synonym deception

**impostor** - n: the state of being unable to do anything when faced with a problem ○ the imposition of the authorities in the face of widespread looting.

**impossible** - adj: something which cannot be done ○ It’s impossible to do all this work in two hours. ○ Getting skilled staff is becoming impossible. 2. (Of a person or situation) awkward and difficult ○ That child is completely impossible.

**impossible** - adj to such an extent that something is impossible

**impotent** - adj: the physical inability to have sex ○ The military government organised the display to impress the neighbouring states.

**impotence** - n: the physical inability to have sexual intercourse

**impose** - v: to make someone or something poor

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**imposing** - adj: something which cannot be captured. Antonym vulnerable

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imprisonment /ɪmˈprɪznɪnt/ noun the act of putting or keeping someone in prison. Synonym custody □ term of imprisonment the period of time which a prisoner has to spend in prison ○ He was sentenced to the maximum term of imprisonment.

improbable /ɪmˈprəbəbl/ adj not probable, not likely. Antonym likely

improptu /ɪmˈprɔpʃət/ adj done without any rehearsal or practice ○ He gave an impromptu interview on his doorstep. Synonym unprepared. Antonym prepared □ adv without any rehearsal or practice ○ They gave her five minutes’ notice to speak impromptu in front of six hundred delegates.

improper /ɪmˈprɔprəl/ adj 1. not according to the normal rules of society or of an organisation ○ It was a quite improper use of our company name. 2. rude or shocking ○ The old man made some very improper suggestions to the girl. 3. used in a wrong way ○ The improper use of a drug can cause serious damage to health.

improperly /ɪmˈprɔprəli/ adv not done in the correct way

impropriety /ɪmˈprɔprəti/ noun the quality of being socially wrong, or an act which is socially wrong □ improve /ɪmˈpru:v/ verb 1. to make something better ○ We are trying to improve our image with a series of TV commercials. ○ to improve on something to try to do better than something ○ She tried to improve on her previous performance. 2. to get better ○ The general manager has promised that the bus service will improve. ○ It poured down all morning, but in the afternoon the weather improved a little.

improvement /ɪmˈpru:vment/ noun 1. a process of making something better or becoming better ○ There has been no improvement in the train service since we complained. 2. a thing which is better ○ They carried out some improvements to the house. ○ We are planning some home improvements such as a new kitchen. ○ The new software is a great improvement on the old version.

improvisation /ɪmˈprɔvəˌzeɪʃən/ noun the process of making something without any proper preparation

improvise /ˌɪmprəˈviz/ verb 1. to do or to make something without any proper planning ○ Without a tent, we improvised a shelter using leaves and branches. 2. to speak without having any text to read from ○ Having forgotten the notes for her speech she had to improvise as best as she could.

impudence /ɪmˈpjuːdn/ noun the quality of being rude or cheeky. Synonym impertinence. Antonym respect

impudent /ɪmˈpjuːdənt/ adj rude and without showing respect. Synonym bold.

impulse /ɪmˈpʊls/ noun 1. a sudden feeling or decision ○ He had a sudden impulse to take the car and drive to France. ○ to do something on impulse to do something because you have just thought of it, not because it was planned 2. a shock which makes something move or work ○ Electrodes attached to his head measure brain impulses. ○ Neurons are cells in the nervous system which transmit nerve impulses.

impulse buying ○ impulsive /ɪmˈpʊlsɪv/ adj acting because of a sudden decision, without thinking. Antonym cautious

impatiently /ɪmˈpjuːtɪnətlɪ/ adv without thinking

impunity /ɪmˈpjuːtnɪt/ noun with impunity without risk of punishment ○ No one can flout the law with impunity.

impure /ɪmˈpjuər/ adj which is impure. Antonym pure

impurity /ɪmˈpjuːrəti/ noun a substance which is impure. Antonym purity [NOTE: The plural is impurities.]

in /ɪn/ prep, adv 1. showing place ○ He lives in the country. ○ In Japan it snows a lot during the winter. ○ She’s in the kitchen. ○ He’s still in bed. ○ Don’t stand outside in the pouring rain. 2. at home, in an office, at a station ○ Is the boss in? ○ He isn’t in yet. ○ My husband usually gets in from work about now. ○ The train from Birmingham is due in at 6.30. 3. showing time ○ In autumn the leaves turn brown. ○ On holiday there was nothing to do in the evenings. ○ She was born in 1999. ○ He ate his meal in five minutes. ○ We went for a skiing holiday in January. 4. showing time in the future ○ I’ll be back home in about two hours. ○ She should arrive in twenty minutes’ time. 5. showing a proportion or ratio ○ One in ten of the children wears glasses. □ noun ○ the ins and outs of something the complicated details ○ He knows all the ins and outs of trading on the Internet. □ adj fashionable ○ Round dark glasses are the in thing this summer. Antonym out ○ to be in for something ○ in for to be about to get something ○ I think we’re in for some bad weather. ○ She’s in for a nasty shock. ○ to be in on something 1. to know something such as a secret ○ Who else was in on the secret? 2. to be involved in planning or discussing something

inability /ɪnˈæbɪlɪti/ noun being unable to do something
inaccessible /ɪnˈækərəsəbl/ adj 1. impossible to reach or to get to. They live in a farm which is inaccessible by car. 2. The explorers were lost in an inaccessible mountain region. 3. The valley is inaccessible to motorists. 2. difficult to read or understand. He writes in a rather inaccessible style.


inaccessibly /ɪnˈækərəsəbli/ adv not accessible.

inactivity /ɪnˈækтив/ n a lack of activity, not doing anything.


inadmissibility /ɪnˈædɪmɪsəbɪlɪtɪ/ n the state of not being admitted. 2. evidence which is not admissible.


inadvisable /ɪnədˈvaɪzəbl/ adj (of a plan or idea) unwise or foolish. Synonym: incautious.

inanimate /ɪnəˈmænɪmt/ adj not alive. Synonym: lifeless.

inapplicable /ɪnəˈplɪkəbl/ adj not suitable, not fitting the circumstances. Synonym: unsuitable. Antonym: applicable.


inarticulate /ɪnəˈtɪk.juːlət/ adj 1. not speaking clearly. Synonym: inarticulate.

inarticulately /ɪnəˈtɪk.juːli/ adv not speaking clearly.

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inarticulate /ɪnəˈtɪk.juːlət/ adj 1. not speaking clearly. Synonym: inarticulate.

incapacity /ɪnˈkeɪpəsətɪ/ n 1. a lack of ability to do something. 2. a physical or mental disability.
incestuous /ˈɪnsɛstjuːs/ adj referring to incest.

incest /ˈɪnsɛst/ noun the offence of a person’s having sexual intercourse with a close relative, e.g., their daughter, son, mother, or father.

incense /ˈɪnsɛns/ noun /ˈɪnsɛns/ powder which when burnt gives a strong smell. Verb: incense (verb) to make someone angry. Synonym: enraged.

incense round the shrine. Incendiary /ɪnˈsɛndəri/ adj which causes fire. Incendiaries /ɪnˈsɛndəriəz/ n noun a bomb which causes fire (formal). Many thousands of incendiaries were dropped on London during the Blitz. Synonym: troublemaker (Note: The plural is incendiaries.)

incite /ɪnˈsaɪt/ verb to encourage something. Synonym: incendiary.

incite someone to something: a sharp front tooth.

incident /ɪnˈsɪdənt/ noun 1. something which happens. Last year six hundred incidents of oil pollution were reported. 2. an unusually violent action or disturbance. There were several incidents during the demonstration.

incidental /ɪnˈsɪdent/ adj 1. happening in connection with something else, but not important. Breaking the Olympic record was almost incidental – winning the gold medal was the important thing. 2. incidental to something resulting from something by chance. The discovery of penicillin was incidental to research on moulds. Noun: an unimportant expense which happens in connection with something else. Take some cash to cover incidentals.

incidentally /ɪnˈsɪdentəli/ adv by the way.

incinerate /ɪnˈsɪmərət/ verb to destroy something by burning. Synonym: burn.

incinerator /ɪnˈsɪmərətər/ noun a furnace for burning rubbish.

incision /ɪnˈsɪʃən/ noun a cut in a patient’s body made by a surgeon.

incisive /ɪnˈsɪsɪv/ adj very perceptive, sharp or cutting. Synonym: incisive.

incisor /ɪnˈsaɪzər/ noun a sharp front tooth used for cutting food.

incite /ɪnˈsaɪt/ verb to encourage something. To incite someone to something to encourage or persuade someone to do something bad. He was accused of inciting racial hatred.

incite someone to something: a sharp front tooth used for cutting food.

incident noun /ˈɪnˌsɪdənt/ a crime of encouraging, persuading or advising someone to commit a crime. Synonym: provocation.

incitement to racial hatred the offence of encouraging people, by words or actions or writing, to attack others because of their race. Synonym: deterrent to incitement to racial hatred the offence of encouraging people, by words or actions or writing, to attack others because of their race.

inclination /ɪnˈklɪnəʃən/ noun 1. a tendency. After a big lunch he had a strong inclination to go to sleep. 2. a slope, or angle. 

inclination noun /ˈɪnklɪnən/ a angle. A steep incline leads to the garage.

inclined newspaper reporters to try to forecast the result of the general election.

inclined to do something likely to do
inclined
something ○ She is inclined to try to excuse everything her son does. ○ Our washing machine is inclined to overheat.

inclined /ɪnˈklɪnd/ adj 1. sloping ○ An inclined plane gives easy access to the warehouse. 2. likely to do something ○ She is inclined to get very annoyed when anyone criticises her golf strokes.

include /ɪnˈkluːd/ verb to count someone or something along with others ○ The waiter did not include service in the bill. ○ The total is £140 including insurance and handling charges. ○ There were 120 people at the wedding if you include the children.

including /ɪnˈkluːdnɪŋ/ prep taking something together with something else ○ including not counting not counting ○ There were thirty people at the lunch, not including the children.

inclusion /ɪnˈkluːʒən/ noun the act of counting someone or something in among others

inclusive /ɪnˈkлюːsɪv/ adj 1. which counts something in with other things ○ The bill is not inclusive of VAT. 2. (giving figures or dates) referring to a period of time or a passage of writing that includes the first and last items mentioned ○ The conference runs from the 12th to the 16th inclusive. ○ For the next lesson, you need to study pages 23 to 31 inclusive.

incognito /ɪnˈkɒgnɪt/ adv, noun ○ to travel incognito to travel using a false name or identity

incoherent /ɪnˈkɒhərənt/ adj not able to speak in a way which makes sense ○ income /ɪnˈkʌm/ noun money which you receive, especially as pay for your work, or as interest on savings ○ Their weekly income is not enough to live on. Antonym expenditure

income tax /ɪnˈkʌmtɛks/ noun a tax on money earned as wages or salary

incoming /ˈɪn,kʌmɪŋ/ adj 1. arriving or coming in 2. recently elected or appointed ○ The chairman welcomed the incoming committee. ○ The incoming government has the job of trying to deal with the worsening economic situation. Antonym outgoing

incoming call /ˈɪn,kʌmɪŋ kɔl/ noun a phone call that someone receives from someone outside the building

incoming mail /ˈɪn,kʌmɪŋ meil/ noun mail which comes into an office

incomings /ˈɪn,kʌmɪŋz/ plural noun money which is received

incomparable /ɪnˈkʌmprəbl/ adj which cannot be compared to anything else. Synonym unequalled. Antonym ordinary

incompatibility /ɪnˌkɒmpətəˈbɪləti/ noun the quality of being incompatible with another person or thing

incompatible /ɪnˈkʌmpətɪb(ə)l/ adj ○ incompatible with something not able to live, work, or fit together, or with something else ○ The two computer systems are incompatible. ○ John and Susan are quite incompatible: I don’t know how they can stay married. ○ His behaviour is quite incompatible with his position as a manager.

incompetence /ɪnˌkʌmpətəns/ noun a lack of competence. Synonym ineptitude

incompetent /ɪnˌkʌmpətənt/ adj 1. who cannot work well, who is not able to do something ○ She was dismissed for being incompetent. 2. not legally able to do something ○ He is incompetent to sign the contract because he is not a director of the company.

incomplete /ɪnˈkʌmplɪkt/ adj not complete, not finished

incomprehensible /ɪnˌkʌmpərəˈhb(ə)l/ adj which cannot be understood. Synonym unintelligible. Antonym understandable

inconceivable /ɪnˈkʌnsəvəbl/ adj very unlikely, which cannot be imagined. Synonym unimaginable. Antonym imaginable

inconclusive /ɪnˈkʌnkləsɪv/ adj without any definite result. Synonym indecisive

incongruous /ɪnˈkɒnɡruəs/ adj which does not fit with the rest, which seems out of place. Antonym consistent

inconsistent /ɪnˌkɒnsɪstənt/ adj not important. Synonym unimportant

inconsiderate /ɪnˌkʌnsɪdərət/ adj not thinking of other people. Synonym selfish. Antonym caring

inconsistencies /ɪnˌkʌnsɪstənˈsiːz/ plural noun 1. a lack of consistency ○ the inconsistency in the way the results are measured 2. something which is not consistent ○ His evidence was full of inconsistencies. (Note: The plural is inconsistencies.)

inconsistent /ɪnˌkɒnsɪstənt/ adj 1. ○ inconsistent with which does not follow from or agree with something else ○ His evidence in court was inconsistent with his earlier statement to the police. ○ Owning a night club is inconsistent with being a priest. 2. whose behaviour changes often and is unpredictable ○ He’s inconsistent – sometimes he works hard, sometimes he doesn’t. ○ The team’s form has been inconsistent of late.

inconspicuous /ɪnˌkʌnspɪˈkjuəs/ adj not at all obvious. Synonym unobtrusive. Antonym obvious
inconspicuously

increasing

incumbent

increased

increased

increasing

increasing

increas...
incur

bent. || adj (formal) || it is incumbent on you it is your responsibility || It is incumbent on you to seek advice before you buy a house. || It is incumbent on everyone to check the facts before making an accusation.

incur || inkər || verb 1. to get into a position where you have to pay or are in danger || The company has incurred considerable losses in the USA. || He incurred many debts during his time at college. 2. || to incur the anger or wrath of someone to make someone very annoyed || She incurred the anger of the authorities by demonstrating outside the parliament building. || to incur a risk to run a risk || If you put all your money into doubtful investments, you incur the risk of losing everything.

incurable || inkjuərəbl || adj 1. (of a patient) who will never be cured || 2. (of an illness) which cannot be cured || He has an incurable disease of the blood. || Treatment in a hospice is often better for patients with incurable illnesses. 3. who cannot change || He’s an incurable optimist – he always thinks everything will turn out fine. || noun a person who will never be cured || a hospital for incurables.

incursively || inkjuərəbli || adv in a way which cannot be changed

incursion || inkjuərəns || noun an attack on another country’s territory

indebted || indətəd || adj owing something to someone. Antonym ungrateful

indecent || indəsənt || adj 1. rude, offensive || He was prosecuted for indecent exposure. 2. not polite || As soon as the speeches ended, there was an indecent rush to find something to eat.

indecision || indəsənʃən || noun hesitating, not being able to decide

indecisive || indəsəsərv || adj 1. without any positive result || The result of the election was indecisive as no party had a majority. 2. who cannot decide anything || He was criticised for being indecisive.

indeed || indəd || adv 1. (for emphasis) greatly, really || Thank you very much indeed for inviting me to stay. || They have been very kind indeed to their daughter. 2. in fact || They are very poor – indeed they have no money at all. || interj a word showing indignation || She called me stupid. – Indeed! The check of it! || It wasn’t you who scratched my car was it? – Indeed not!

 indefatigable || indfətəɡəbl || adj who does not become tired

indefensible || indfənʃəbl || adj which cannot be defended or excused

indefinable || indfənəbl || adj which cannot be defined or explained. Synonym indescribable

indefinite || indfənət || adj without a definite end || He has been suspended for an indefinite period, pending an inquiry.

indefiniteness || indfənətəns || noun a moment which cannot be defined or explained.

indefinite article || indfənət || ‘ərtikəl || noun the ‘a’ or ‘an’ in English, or a word with a similar use in another language

indefinitely || indfənətli || adv for an indefinite period

indebted || indbəd || adj which cannot be removed

indebtedly || indbədli || adv in a way which cannot be removed. Synonym permanently.

Antonym temporarily

indelicate || indələkt || adj rude and embarrassing. Synonym tactless.

Antonym polite

ingredient || inˈdɛməntri || noun compensation for a loss or a wrong (NOTE: The plural is indemnities.)

indent || inˈdent || verb to start a line several spaces in from the left-hand side of the page

indentation || inˈdentəʃən || noun 1. a mark or hole in a surface 2. an inward cut in a straight edge 3. a space at the beginning of a line 4. the act of indenting something

independence || inˈdɛpendəns || noun 1. freedom || The colony achieved independence ten years ago. || Scotland is aiming for independence in the next few years. 2. not needing or not relying on anyone else || She’s eighteen and is looking forward to a life of independence from her family.

Independence Day || inˈdɛpendəns dæ ˈdeɪ || noun July 4th, the National Day of the USA, which commemorates the country’s independence

independent || inˈdɛpendənt || adj 1. free, not ruled by anyone else || Slovenia has been independent since 1991. 2. not owned by a group, not run by the state. || The big chains are squeezing the independent bookshops out of the market. 3. of independent means with enough income to be able to live without working || a man of independent means 4. not needing or not relying on anyone else || She’s eighteen and wants to be independent of her family. || noun 1. a candidate who does not belong to a political party || He stood in the general election as an independent. 2. a shop which is owned by a person and is not part of a chain. || Supermarkets have a bad effect on the small independents.

independently || inˈdɛpendəntli || adv separately

independent school || inˈdɛpendənt skəʊl || noun a private school, not run by the state
in-depth /ˈɪndɪpθ/ adj very serious and thorough
indescribable /ɪndɪˈskriːəbəl/ adj which cannot be described
indestructible /ɪndɪˈstrɛktəb(ə)l/ adj which cannot be destroyed
indeterminate /ˌɪndɪtəˈmiːnət/ adj 1. not exact or clear 2. not having a predictable result
index /ˈɪndeks/ 1. a list, usually in alphabetical order, showing the references in a book ○ Look up the references to London in the index. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is indices.) 2. a regular report which shows rises and falls in prices, unemployment, etc. ○ The economic indices look very promising at the moment.
index card /ˈɪndɛks kɑrd/ noun a card used to make a card index
index finger /ˈɪndɛks ˈfɪŋər/ noun the first finger, next to the thumb
indian /ˈɛndiən/ adj 1. referring to India ○ Indian cooking is famous for its curries. 2. referring to one of the original peoples of America ○ The traditional Indian skills of hunting and tracking ○ in Indian file in line, one behind the other ○ The children walked into the assembly in Indian file. noun 1. a person from India ○ Many Indians and Pakistanis emigrated to Britain in the 1960s. 2. a person from one of the peoples who lived in North, Central and South America before the arrival of Europeans (NOTE: now usually called Native Americans) 3. an ordinary worker, as opposed to a manager ○ the company suffers from having too many chiefs and not enough Indians the situation in the company is that there are lots of managers, but not enough people to do the actual work
Indian elephant /ˈɛndiən ˈɛlfənt/ noun an elephant found in India and South-East Asia, slightly smaller than the African elephant, and used as a working animal in forests
Indian subcontinent /ˈɛndiən ˈsʌbˈkɔntɪnənt/ noun the land area occupied by Bangladesh, India and Pakistan
Indian summer /ˈɛndiən ˈsʌmər/ noun a period of hot weather in autumn ○ indicate /ɪndɪkˈteɪt/ verb to show ○ Can you indicate the position of the enemy camp on this map? ○ The latest figures indicate a fall in the number of unemployed men.
indication /ɪndɪˈkeɪʃn/ noun a sign
indicative /ɪndɪˈveɪtɪv/ adj that shows or indicates something ○ Repeated attacks on tourists are indicative of a general breakdown of law and order in the country. Synonym revealing noun the form of a verb showing that the action actually took place or is taking place ○ The indicative is used chiefly to make statements of fact.
indicator /ɪndɪˈkeɪtər/ noun 1. something which indicates how good or bad, hot or cold, etc. something is ○ The inflation rate is a good indicator of the strength of the economy. 2. a flashing light on a car which shows which way the driver is going to turn ○ His left indicator was flashing and then he turned right! 3. same as indicator panel
indicator panel /ɪndɪˈkeɪtər ˈpændəl/ noun a large board which shows details of plane or train departures and arrivals
indict /ɪndɪkt/ verb to charge someone with a crime (formal). Synonym accuse.
Antonym exonerate
indictable /ɪndɪˈdætəb(ə)l/ adj being, or causing someone to be, charged with a crime (formal)
indictment /ɪndɪˈdɛntmənt/ noun a written statement of the details of the crime with which someone is charged (formal)
indifference /ˈɪndɪfərəns/ noun a lack of interest in something
different /ˈɪndɪfərənt/ adj 1. not caring, not interested ○ The world cannot remain indifferent to the problems of the starving refugees in central Africa. 2. not particularly good, not special ○ In view of the school’s indifferent exam results, the governors have set up a review of teaching practice. ○ They served us a bottle of very indifferent champagne.
indigenous /ɪnˌdɪɡəˈnəs/ adj born in or belonging to a place. Synonym native. Antonym immigrant
indigent /ɪndɪˈdʒɛnt/ adj very poor (formal). Antonym wealthy
indigestible /ɪndɪˈdɛʒɪstəbl/ adj which causes pain because the stomach cannot digest it
indigestion /ɪndɪˈdɛʒənʃn/ noun a pain caused when your stomach has difficulty in digesting food. Synonym heartburn
indignant /ɪnˈdʒɪntənt/ adj feeling offended or angry because of an unfair situation
indignation /ɪndɪˈɡɛnəʃn/ noun the state or feeling of being indignant. Synonym anger. Antonym delight
indignity /ɪnˈdɪɡnətɪ/ noun a shameful action which causes embarrassment. Synonym humiliation
indigo /ˈɪndɪɡoʊ/ noun 1. a blue dye 2. a deep blue colour ○ My denim shirt started off indigo but has faded to light blue.
indirect 

indirect /ˌindaɪˈrek(t)/ adj not direct ○ The taxi took us to the airport by a very indirect route.

indirectly /ˌindaɪˈrek(t)li/ adv not directly

indirect object /ˌindaɪˈrek(t)ˈɛbjɛkt/ noun a person or thing to whom or which an action is done

indirect speech /ˌindaɪˈrek(t) ˈspɛktʃ/ noun the reporting of what someone has said

indirect tax /ˌindaɪˈrek(t) ˈtæks/ noun a tax, such as VAT or a sales tax, that is added to the price of goods and not paid directly to the government

indirect taxation /ˌindaɪˈrek(t) ˈtæksɪˈtʃərən/ noun taxes such as VAT, which are added to the price of goods and not paid directly to the government

indiscreet /ˌindaɪˈskrisət/ adj very obvious, not discreet

indiscretion /ˌindaɪˈskrɪʃən/ noun 1. being careless about what you do or say ○ the minister’s indiscretion in talking to the journalist 2. doing something mildly immoral ○ We must forget his youthful indiscretions.

indiscriminate /ˌindaɪˈskrɪmɪnət/ adj widespread, not choosing carefully

indispensable /ˌindaɪˈspensəb(ə)l/ adj which you cannot do without

indisposed /ˌindaɪˈspəuzd/ adj slightly ill

indisposition /ˌindaɪˈspəzsəˈʃən/ noun a slight illness (formal)

indisputable /ˌindaɪˈspjuətəb(ə)l/ adj which cannot be argued about (formal). Antonym debatable

indistinct /ˌindaɪˈstrekt/ adj vague or unclear

indistinguishable /ˌindaɪˈstɪŋkwɪʃəb(ə)l/ adj ○ indistinguishable from something which cannot be told apart from something ○ To some people margarine is indistinguishable from butter.

individually /ˌindaɪˈvɪdjuəlɪ/ adv separately, singly. Synonym separately

indoctrinate /ˌindaɪˈdɔkrɪnɪt/ verb to teach political or religious ideas and force someone to accept them. Synonym instruct

indoctrination /ˌindaɪˈdɔkrɪntʃən/ noun the process of indoctrinating someone

indolence /ˌindaɪˈlɛns/ noun laziness

indolent /ˌindaɪˈlɛnt/ adj lazy. Antonym energetic

indomitable /ˌɪndəʊˈmɪtəb(ə)l/ adj which cannot be beaten. Antonym submissive

indoors /ˈɪndɔːrs/ adj inside a building. Antonym outside

indubitably /ˌɪndəʊˈbɪtəb(ə)l/ adv certainly, without any doubt ○ I induce /ɪndjuːs/ verb 1. to persuade someone to do something ○ Do you think an extra 10% will induce them to sign the contract? ○ They induced him to steal the plans by offering him a large amount of money. 2. to make something, such as the birth of a child, happen ○ The baby was ten days late, so had to be induced.

inducement /ˌɪndjuːˈmɛnt/ noun a thing which helps to persuade someone to do something. Synonym stimulus

induction /ˈɪndʌkʃən/ noun 1. the process of starting a new person in a new job ○ Induction for all trainees will take place over two weeks in May. 2. the installation of a new priest ○ His induction into the church will take place next Sunday. 3. the creation of electricity in an object by placing it near a magnet or near something which is electrically charged ○ An induction coil is made of coils of wire and changes the voltage passing through it.

indulge /ɪndjuːlʒ/ verb 1. to indulge in to enjoy yourself doing something ○ I like to indulge in a sauna once in a while. 2. to give someone little luxuries ○ She always indulges her little grandson with sweets and presents. ○ to indulge yourself to give yourself a little luxury ○ I love Greek cakes, but I don’t often get the chance to indulge myself.

indulgence /ɪndjuːˈləns/ noun a pleasant activity, especially eating or drinking

indulgent /ɪndjuːˈlɛnt/ adj kind, too generous towards someone. Synonym permissive

industrial /ɪnˈdəstrial/ adj referring to the production of goods ○ The Midlands is the main industrial region in Britain.

industrial action /ɪnˈdəstrial /ˈæksʃən noun a strike or protest by workers

industrial dispute /ɪnˈdəstrial dɪˈspɔrət/ noun an argument between management and workers
industrial espionage /ɪnˈdɪstrɪəl ɪˈspənədʒ/ noun the practice of spying on another company (NOTE: no plural)
industrial estate /ɪnˈdɪstrɪəl ɪˈstεt/ noun an area of land near a town specially for factories and warehouses
industrialization /ɪnˈdɪstrɪələˌzeɪʃən/ noun the changing of an economy from being based on agriculture to being based on industry
industrialise /ɪnˈdɪstrɪəlaɪz/, industrialize verb to set up industries in a country where there were none before
industrialised /ɪnˈdɪstrɪəlɪzd/, industrialized adj heavily affected by industrial development
industrialist /ɪnˈdɪstrɪəlɪst/ noun an owner or director of a factory. Synonym manufacturer
industrially /ɪnˈdɪstrɪəlɪ/ adv by an industrial process
industrial park /ɪnˈdɪstrɪəl park/ noun an area especially for factories and warehouses
industrial relations /ɪnˈdɪstrɪəl riˈleɪʃənz/ plural noun the relations between management and workers ○ He carried out a study of industrial relations over the last 10 years. ○ We aim to promote good industrial relations.
industrial Revolution /ɪnˈdɪstrɪəl ˌrevəˈljuːʃən/ noun the development of industry during the 19th century in western Europe and the United States
industrial tribunal /ɪnˈdɪstrɪəl trəˈbɪnəl/ noun a court which decides in disputes between employers and workers
industrious /ɪnˈdɪstrɪəs/ adj who works steadily and hard. Synonym diligent. Antonym indolent ə industry /ɪnˈdɪstrɪ/ noun production companies, or other types of commercial activity ○ Oil is a key industry. ○ The car industry has had a good year. ○ The government is helping industry to sell more products abroad. ○ The tourist industry brings in a lot of foreign currency. (NOTE: The plural is industries.)
inebriated /ɪnˈɛbriətɪd/ adj drunk
inedible /ɪnˈɛdɪbl/ adj which you cannot eat. Synonym unedible. Antonym edible
inefficient /ɪnˈɛfɪʃnt/ adj which does not have any effect. Synonym unsuccessful. Antonym successful
ineffecual /ɪnˈɛfɪʃkʃuəl/ adj 1. which does not have the right effect ○ Her ineffectual attempts to open the door. 2. weak, unable to show any authority ○ He’s a nice man but quite ineffectual as a salesman.
inefficiency /ɪnˈɛfɪʃnɪst/ noun an inefficient way of working
inefficient /ɪnˈɛfɪʃnt/ adj not efficient
inelegible /ɪnˈɛlɪdʒəbl/ adj who is not qualified for something or to do something
ineuctable /ɪnˈɛnktəbl/ adj which cannot be avoided (literary). Synonym unavoidable. Antonym avoidable
inept /ɪnˈɛpt/ adj not able to do much; lacking any skill. Synonym incompetent
ineptitude /ɪnˈɛptɪtjuːd/ noun stupidity or silliness; being unable to do something. Synonym incompetence ə inequity /ɪnˈɛkwɪti/ noun the state of not being equal. Synonym disparity. Antonym parity
inequality /ɪnˈɛkwələti/ noun unfairness (formal)
inert /ɪnˈɜːrt/ adj not able to move ○ The fallen jockey lay inert on the ground.
inertia /ɪnˈɜːtrɪə/ noun the development of industry which does not have the right effect. Synonym ineffectual. Antonym successful
inevitable /ɪnˈɛvətəbl/ adj must happen, which cannot be avoided ○ It was inevitable that the younger children would want to leave home. Synonym unavoidable. Antonym avoidable ə inevitably /ɪnˈɛvətəbli/ adv naturally, of course
inevocable /ɪnˈɛvəkəbl/ adj which you cannot avoid. Synonym inevitable. Antonym avoidable
inevocability /ɪnˈɛvəkəˈbɪləti/ noun the state of being inevitable ə inevitable /ɪnˈɛvətəbl/ adj which must happen, which cannot be avoided ○ It was inevitable that the younger children would want to leave home. Synonym unavoidable. Antonym avoidable ə inevitably /ɪnˈɛvətəbli/ adv naturally, of course
inept /ɪnˈɛpt/ adv by an industrial process
inedible /ɪnˈɛdɪbl/ adj which you cannot eat. Synonym unedible. Antonym edible
inefficient /ɪnˈɛfɪʃnt/ adj not efficient
inexplicable /ɪnˈspɪkləbəl/ adj which cannot be explained. Synonym unaccountable.

inexplicably /ɪnˈspɪkləbli/ adv in a way which cannot be explained.

inextricable /ɪnˈstrɪkəbl/ adj which is very complicated, very closely connected.

infallible /ɪnˈfæləbl/ adj 1. always correct, which always works. No one has yet invented an infallible testing system.

infamous /ɪnˈfeɪməs/ adj 1. famously bad.

infantry /ɪnˈfæntri/ noun soldiers who fight on foot (NOTE: no plural).

infant /ɪnˈfænt/ noun a very young child.

infantile /ɪnˈfæntɪl/ adj referring to a small child; childish.

infamy /ɪnˈfæmi/ noun great wickedness.

infancy /ɪnˈfænsi/ noun 1. young childhood.

in its infancy in the very early stages of development. In 1910, the aircraft industry was still in its infancy.

infant school /ɪnˈfænt skjuːl/ noun a school for little children from 4 years old.

infatuated /ɪnˈfeɪtʃətɪd/ adj wildly in love with.

infatuation /ɪnˈfeɪʃuən/ noun a great passion for someone or something new.

infected /ɪnˈfekt/ verb to pass on a disease or infection.

infection /ɪnˈfekʃn/ noun a disease which spreads from one person to another. Her throat infection keeps coming back.

infected /ɪnˈfekt/ adj 1. (of a disease) which can be passed from one person to another. This strain of flu is highly infectious.

infectious /ɪnˈfektʃəs/ adj 1. (of a disease) which can be passed from one person to another. Chickenpox is infectious, so children who have it must be kept away from others.

infantry /ɪnˈfæntri/ noun soldiers who fight on foot (NOTE: no plural).

infatuated /ɪnˈfeɪtʃətɪd/ adj wildly in love with.

infatuation /ɪnˈfeɪʃuən/ noun a great passion for someone or something new.

infected /ɪnˈfekt/ verb to pass on a disease or infection.

inference /ɪnˈfɛrsən/ noun an understanding or conclusion. To draw an inference from to infer, to deduce that something is probably true. What inference can we draw from his reaction?

inferior /ɪnˈfɪərɪər/ adj 1. not as large as.

superior

superiority complex /ɪnˈfɪərɪərti ‘kɒmplɛks/ noun a feeling that you are not as good as others. Synonym inadequacy.

infamous /ɪnˈfeɪməs/ adj 1. very annoying.

inferior /ɪnˈfɪərɪər/ adj 2. not as good as something or someone else.

inferior numbers meant they could not attack the castle.

inferior /ɪnˈfɪərɪər/ adj 2. in an inferior way.

inferiority complex /ɪnˈfɪərɪərɪti ‘kɒmplɛks/ noun a feeling that you are not as good as others. Synonym inadequacy.

infertility /ɪnˈfɪərərɪtɪ/ noun the state of being less important, less intelligent, not as good as something or someone else.

infinitesimal /ɪnˈfɪnɪtəsɪməl/ adj tiny, very small. Synonym tiny.

infinitesimally /ɪnˈfɪnɪtəsɪməlɪ/ adv very much more.

Synonym markedly. Antonym slightly.
inflated /ɪnˈflektɪd/ adj (of words) whose endings change to indicate the plural, the gender, etc.
inflection /ɪnˈfleksn/ noun the ending of a word which changes to indicate the plural, the gender, etc.
inflexible /ɪnˈfleksəb(ə)l/ adj, which cannot be bent or changed. The rules on this point are quite inflexible. Negotiation is pointless if everyone maintains an inflexible position.
infinitive /ɪnˈfɪnɪtɪv/ noun the basic form of a verb, usually shown by using ‘to’
influenza /ɪnˈfljuːznə/ noun an infectious disease like a bad cold, with fever and aching muscles (NOTE: usually shortened to flu)
often or criminals, sometimes someone who gives information to the police about a crime.

2.

The guide gave us an informal talk on the history of the castle. 2. (of language) used when talking to friends, but not used on formal occasions.

informality /ˌɪnfəˈmeɪtɪl/ noun the lack of any special ceremony. Antonym formality

informally /ˌɪnfəˈmeɪtəli/ adv unofficially, not formally.

informant /ɪnˈfɔrmand/ noun a person who informs or who gives information to someone.

informative /ˌɪnfəˈmeɪtɪv/ adj which tells you a lot, which provides a lot of information.

information /ɪnˈfɔrmeɪʃn/ noun the process of storing and then finding data in a computer.

informative /ˌɪnfəˈmeɪtɪv/ adj which tells you a lot, which provides a lot of information.

inert /ɪnɜːt/ adj not frequent, not happening very often. Antonym frequent.

infringe /ɪnˈfrɪŋg/ verb to break a law or a right or to infringe a copyright to copy a published text illegally. We reserve the right to prosecute people who infringe our copyrights.

infringement /ɪnˈfrɪŋgmənt/ noun the breaking of a law or a right.

infuriate /ɪnˈfjuərɪət/ verb to make someone very angry. Synonym enraged. Antonym calm.

informal 435

has done something wrong. He met the police secretly and informed on his colleagues.

informal /ˈɪnfərml/ adj 1. relaxed, not formal. 2. Dress casually – the party will be informal. 3. The guide gave us an informal talk on the history of the castle.

infringement /ˌɪnfəˈmeɪtɪm/ noun the breaking of a law or a right.

infuriate /ɪnˈfjuərɪət/ verb to make someone very angry. Synonym enraged. Antonym calm.

infuriating /ˌɪnfəˈrɪətɪŋ/ adj which makes you very annoyed. Synonym maddening.

infuse /ɪnˈfjuːz/ verb 1. to soak in hot water to make a drink. 2. Leave the lime flowers to infuse for five minutes. 2. to pour hot water on tea, flowers, etc., to make a drink. 3. Put a pinch of China tea in the cup and infuse it in hot water for four or five minutes. 3. to infuse something into someone or something to fill someone or something with a certain feeling (formal). His speech infused the meeting with great enthusiasm.

infusion /ɪnˈfjuːʒn/ noun 1. an addition of something new which will help. 2. The football club needs an infusion of capital to buy new players. 3. What we need is an infusion of original ideas. 2. a drink made by pouring boiling water onto a dry substance such as tea or flowers. My grandmother drinks a herbal infusion every evening before bed to help her get to sleep.

ingenious /ɪnˈdʒiːniəs/ adj very clever (NOTE: Do not confuse with ingenious.)

ingeniously /ɪnˈdʒiːniəsli/ adv in a very ingenious way.

ingenuities /ɪnˈdʒiːnjuːtiz/ noun skill in inventing new things.

ingenious /ɪnˈdʒiːniəs/ adj naive, not trying to hide anything (NOTE: Do not confuse with ingenious.)

ingest /ɪnˈjest/ verb to take into the body as if it were food. Antonym vomit.

ingot /ˈɪŋɡət/ noun a bar of gold or silver. Synonym slab.

ingrained /ˈɪŋɡreɪnd/ adj deeply fixed. Synonym deep-rooted.

ingratiate /ɪŋˈɡrætʃeɪt/ verb to ingratiate yourself with someone to make yourself liked by someone.

ingratiating /ɪŋˈɡrætʃiətɪŋ/ adj which will help make someone like you.

ingratitude /ɪŋɡrætɪˈtjuːd/ noun not being grateful. Synonym rudeness. Antonym gratitude.

ingredient /ˈɪŋɡrɛndʒənt/ noun a material which goes to make something.

inhalt /ɪnˈhæbɪt/ verb to live in a place.

inhabit /ɪnˈhæbɪt/ verb to live in a place.

inhabitable /ˌɪnˈhæbɪtəbəl/ adj which can be lived in. Synonym habitable.

inhabitant /ɪnˈhæbɪtənt/ noun a person who lives in a place.

inhabited /ɪnˈhæbɪtɪd/ adj lived in, especially by humans.

inhalaion /ˌɪnˈhæləʃən/ noun the action of breathing in.

inhale /ɪnˈheɪl/ verb to breathe in, to draw something into your lungs when breathing. Antonym exhale.
inhaler 436 injure

inhaler /ɪnˈhɛlər/ noun a small device for administering medicine which can be inhaled.

inherent /ɪnˈhɜːrənt/ adj natural, which belongs to someone or something naturally.

Synonym characteristic

inherently /ɪnˈhɜːrəntli/ adv naturally part of something

inherit /ɪnˈhɜːrɪt/ verb 1. to receive money or property from a person who has died o When her grandfather died she inherited the shop. 2. to take over a client or a problem from someone o When they bought the shop they inherited a lot of financial problems.

inheritance /ɪnˈhɜːrɪtəns/ noun property which is received from a dead person.

inheritor /ɪnˈhɜːrɪtər/ noun a person who receives something from a person who has died (NOTE: usually called an heir).

inhibit /ɪnˈhɪbɪt/ verb to prevent an action happening o to have an inhibiting effect on someone or something to stop something happening o if the teacher keeps looking over my shoulder at what I’m doing it has an inhibiting effect on my work.

inhibited /ɪnˈhɪbɪtɪd/ adj not being able to express yourself freely or to do what you want to do. Synonym self-conscious.

uninhibited

inhibition /ɪnˈhɪbɪʃn/ noun the action of some mental influence which prevents normal reactions. Antonym spontaneity.

inhospitable /ɪnˈhɒspɪtəb(ə)l/ adj not welcoming.

in-house /ɪnˈhuːs/ adj, adv working inside a company’s building in-house training training given to staff at their place of work.

inhuman /ɪnˈhjuːmən/ adj cruel, not human.

inhumane /ɪnˈhjuːmən/ adj not humane; barbarous. Antonym humane.

inhumanity /ɪnˈhjuːmənəti/ noun the cruel treatment of people or animals. Synonym cruelty.

inimical /ɪnɪˈmɪk(ə)l/ adj unfriendly, which does not encourage.

inimitable /ɪnɪˈmɪtəb(ə)l/ adj which cannot be imitated. Synonym unique.

 initializing – initialed The US spelling is initializing – initialized.

initially /ɪnˈnjuːʃlɪ/ adv at the beginning

initials /ɪnˈnjuːʃlz/ plural noun the first letters of a person’s names.

initiate /ɪnˈnjuːteɪt/ verb 1. to start something o He initiated the new project last year. 2. to introduce someone into something secret, to show someone the basic information about something o He initiated her into the secrets of digging for gold.

initiation /ɪnˈnjuːteɪʃn/ noun 1. an introduction to a new group of people o New members of the society have to undergo an initiation. 2. Freshmen protested at the initiation ceremony they had to go through.

injured

inject /ɪnˈdʒɛkt/ verb 1. to force a liquid into something under pressure o The nurse injected the drug using a needle and syringe. o He injected himself with a drug. 2. to put something new into something o to inject some cash into a company o Come on, let’s try to inject some life into these rehearsals! o injection /ɪnˈdʒɛktʃn/ noun 1. the act of injecting a liquid into the body o The doctor gave him a cholecyst injection. 2. a liquid which is to be injected o The clinic has ordered another batch of flu injections.

injunction /ɪnˈdʒʌŋkʃn/ noun 1. a court order forcing someone to stop doing something or not to do something o He got an injunction preventing his ex-wife from selling his car. o The company applied for an injunction to stop their rivals marketing a product which was similar to theirs. 2. an instruction, order o The children were given strict injunctions not to open the door. o Most people ignored the government’s injunction to spend less and save more.

injure /ɪnˈdʒʊr/ verb to hurt o He injured his spine playing rugby. o Two people were injured in the bank hold-up. o When the goal-keeper was injured they sent on a substitute.

Antonym heal.
inner circle /ˌɪnəˈsɜːrkl/ noun a small group of people closely associated with an important person such as a president.

innermost /ˌɪnəˈmɒst/ adj 1. utmost; extreme. 2. deepest, most private. Synonym inmost.

innocence /ɪˈnɒsəns/ noun freedom from guilt or blame.

innocent /ɪˈnɒsənt/ adj 1. not guilty. He was found to be innocent of the crime. 2. not having any experience or particular knowledge. She’s quite innocent when dealing with TV reporters. Synonym inoffensive.

innocuous /ɪˈnɒkʃəs/ adj harmless. Synonym inoffensive.

innovate /ɪnəˈveɪt/ verb to introduce changes or new methods.

innovation /ˌɪnəˌveɪʃən/ noun a new invention, a new way of doing something.

innuendo /ɪnjuˈɛndəʊ/ noun wrong, but without giving direct details. Synonym insinuation.

innovation /ɪnəˈveɪʃən/ noun.

innoculate /ɪnəˈkjʊlət/ verb to inoculate someone against a disease to stop someone catching a disease by injecting him
inoculation

or her with a vaccine. The baby was inoculated against diphtheria.
inoculation /ˌɪnəˈkjuːləʃn/ noun 1. inoculation against a disease an injection to stop you catching a disease. Has the baby had a diphtheria inoculation? Make sure you have the right inoculations before you go to the Far East.
inoffensive /ˌɪnəˈfensɪv/ adj harmless. Synonym innocuous. Antonym offensive
inopportune /ɪnˈɒpərənt/ adj at the wrong time, at an awkward moment. Antonym opportune
inordinate /ɪnˈɔːrdənət/ adj more than is usual. Synonym excessive. Antonym moderate
inordinately /ɪnˈɔːrdənətli/ adv much too much

in-patient /ɪnˌpɪərətnt/ noun a person who stays in hospital for treatment. Antonym outpatient

input /ɪnˈpʊt/ noun 1. an electric current which goes into a piece of equipment. Plug the input cable into the computer. 2. data fed into a computer. The input from the various branches is fed automatically into the head office computer. 3. a contribution to a discussion. Thank you very much for your input during the seminar. 4. verb to put data into a computer. Have you inputted or input the addresses into the database? Synonym enter (NOTE: inputting – inputted or input)
inquest /ɪnˈkwɛst/ noun a legal inquiry into how someone died. Synonym investigation

inquire /ɪnˈkwɪər/ verb 1. to ask questions about something. The chef inquired if anything was wrong with the meal. She phoned the travel agent to inquire about air fares to Australia. She inquired about my mother’s health. 2. to ask for more details inside the office or shop. To investigate, to try to find out about something. The police are inquiring into his background. The social services are inquiring about the missing girl. (NOTE: also spell inquire)
inquiring /ɪnˈkwɪərɪŋ/ adj interested in finding out information

inquiry /ɪnˈkwɪərɪ/ noun 1. a formal investigation into a problem. A government inquiry into bribery in the police force. A public inquiry will be held about plans to build another airport. 2. a question about something. I refer to your inquiry of May 25th. All inquiries should be addressed to this department. He made an inquiry about trains to Edinburgh. (NOTE: also spell enquire. The plural is inquiries.)
inquisition /ɪnˈkwɪzəʃn/ noun 1. asking very thorough questions, usually using threats or force. They were put through an inquisition by the detectives. 2. a Roman Catholic organisation in the 15th to 17th centuries that punished people whose beliefs were different from those that were expected

inquisitively /ɪnˈkwɪzɪtɪvli/ adv inquiringly
inquisitiveness /ɪnˈkwɪzɪtɪvɪnəs/ noun being inquisitive

inroads /ɪnˈrəʊdz/ noun 1. to make inroads into something to use up or deal with a large part of something. Defending the court case has made considerable inroads into our funds. I’ve finished painting the kitchen and I hope to start making inroads into the bathroom tomorrow. 2. She finished writing Chapter 3 last week and is making good inroads into Chapter 4.
nisan÷ /ɪnˈsɛnəli/ adj with a mental disorder
insanitary /ɪnˈsæntəri/ adj not clean. Antonym hygienic

insanity /ɪnˈsæntɪli/ noun a severe mental disorder or illness. Synonym foolishness. Antonym common sense

insect /ˈɪnsekt/ noun a small animal with six legs and a body in three parts. A butterfly is a kind of insect. Insects have eaten the leaves of the cabbages. She was stung by an insect.
insect repellent /ˈɪnsekt rɛˈpelənt/ noun a chemical which keeps insects away

insecure /ˌɪnsər ˈkjʊər/ adj 1. not safe. She felt insecure when walking down the High Street alone at night. 2. not firmly fixed. Be careful! that scaffolding looks insecure.
insecurity /ˌɪnsərˈkjʊərəti/ noun a feeling of not being safe
insensible /ɪnsɛnsɪb(ə)lz/ adj 1. not conscious 2. with no feeling
insensitive /ɪnsɛnsɪtɪv/ adj not worrying how other people feel, not sensitive to other people’s feelings
insesepcraboil adj 1. which cannot be separated o In my experience, discs are inseparable from noise and drugs. 2. (of people) always together o The twins are absolutely inseparable, they do everything together.
insert verb /ɪnˈsɛrt/ to put something inside o She inserted another sentence into the letter. o Insert a coin into the slot. noun /ɪnˈsɛrt/ a paper which is put inside something o The wedding invitation card had an insert with a map showing how to get to the church.
insertion /ɪnˈsɛrʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. the action of putting something in o The insertion of the words ‘not likely’ changes the meaning of the phrase completely. 2. words added to a text o The editors have made so many insertions that the book is a lot longer. 3. the action of putting an advertisement into a magazine or newspaper o The ad is charged at £50 per insertion.
insenadj noun a small piece which is put into something larger, such as a small picture inside a larger one o adj with something fixed into it
inshore /ɪnˈʃɔr/ adv on the water, but near the coast
Inside /ɪnˈsaɪd/ adv indoors (informal) o Come on inside – it’s cold in the street. o It rained all afternoon, so we just sat inside and watched TV. o Is there anyone there? O The house seems quite dark inside. Antonym outside prep 1. in o There was nothing inside the bottle. o She was sitting inside the car, reading a book. o I’ve never been inside his office. 2. within o inside two hours in less than two hours noun a part which is in something o I know their office from the outside, but what is the inside like? o The meat isn’t cooked – the inside is still quite red. Synonym interior. Antonym outside adj 1. which is inside something o He put his wallet into his inside pocket. 2. which is indoors o The office has an inside garage.
inside lane /ɪnˈsaɪd ˈleɪn/ noun a track nearest the side of the road, used by slow-moving vehicles, or by vehicles planning to turn off the road
inside leg /ɪnˈsaɪd ˈlɛg/ noun the measurement of an inside trouser leg seam
inside out /ˌɪnˌsaɪd ˈaʊt/ adv 1. turned with the inner part facing outwards o He put his pyjamas on inside out. 2. to know something inside out to know something very well o She knows Central London inside out.
insider /ˈɪnˌsaɪdər/ noun a person who works in an organisation and therefore knows secret information
insider dealing /ˌɪnˌsaɪdər dɪˈliŋ/ noun the illegal buying or selling of shares by people who have inside information about a company
inside /ɪnˈsaɪd/ plural noun the interior of something, especially your stomach
inside lane /ˈɪnˌsaɪd ˈleɪn/ adj working secretly to do harm. Synonym sinister. Antonym harmless
insignia /ˌɪnˈsaɪniə/ plural noun badges, chains or other decorations which symbolise the special position someone holds o He wore the insignia of a chief magistrate.
insignificance /ˌɪnˌsaɪnɪfɪkəns/ noun being insignificant
insignificant /ˌɪnˌsaɪnɪfɪkənt/ adj very small and unimportant. Antonym significant
insincerely /ˌɪnˌsaɪnɪsəri/ noun a lack of honesty. Synonym dishonesty. Antonym sincerity
insinuate /ɪnˌsaɪnjuːt/ verb 1. to suggest by hinting at something in an unpleasant way o The finance director seemed to be insinuating that the boss was incompetent. 2. to insinuate yourself to work your way gradually into a favourable position o He managed to insinuate himself into the MD’s good books.
insinuation /ɪnˌsaɪnjuˈeɪʃ(ə)n/ noun an indirect and unpleasant comment (NOTE: usually used in the plural)
insipid /ɪnˈsɪpɪd/ adj 1. with no particular taste o They served us some insipid tomato soup. 2. with no excitement o Her fiancé is a very insipid young man. o The film is beautifully shot, but it’s a pity the story is so insipid.
insist verb /ɪnˈsɪst/ to state firmly o He insisted that he had never touched the car. o She insisted that she should be paid compensation for the delay. o to insist on something to state firmly that something must be done or given o She insisted on (being given) a refund. o I insist on an immediate explanation.
insistence /ˈɪnˌsaɪstəns/ noun firm demands for something. Synonym persistence
insistent /ˈɪnˌsaɪstənt/ adj stating or demanding something firmly
insistently /ˈɪnˌsaɪstəntli/ adv in a firm or demanding way
in so far as

3. in so far as /ɪn 'soə ɪn 'æzi, insofar as con] to the extent that

insolence /ɪn'zɔləns/ noun rudeness and lack of respect. Synonym impudence. Antonym respect

insolent /ɪn'sɔlənt/ adj rude and lacking in respect. Synonym impudent. Antonym respectful

insoluble /ɪn'zɔləbl/ adj 1. (of a substance) which will not dissolve in water 2. (of a problem) which cannot be solved

insolvency /ɪn'sɔlvənsi/ noun not able to pay debts. Synonym bankruptcy. Antonym solvency

insolvent /ɪn'sɔlvənt/ adj (especially of a business) not able to pay debts. Antonym solvent ○ the company was declared insolvent the company was officially stated to be unable to pay its debts

COMMENT: ‘Insolvency’ and ‘insolvent’ are unstable.

instep /ɪn'step/ noun US an example ○ There have been several instances of bullying in our local school. ○ In this instance, we will pay for the damage. ○ For instance as an example ○ Why don’t you take up a new sport – golf, for instance?

instant /ɪn'stænt/ noun a moment or second ○ For an instant, he stood still and watched the policemen. ○ immediate ○ A savings account can give you instant access to your money.

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install /ɪn'stel/ verb to put a person into a job, a machine into a workshop, etc. ○ It took the plumber a week to install the new central heating system.

installation /ɪnstə'leɪʃən/ noun 1. putting a machine in place ○ The installation of the central heating took six days. 2. a group of machines which have been put in place ○ The harbour installations are very modern. ○ The fire seriously damaged the oil installations.

installation plan /ɪn'stel'mɑːnt plen/ noun US the system of buying something by paying money regularly each month until the whole price has been paid (NOTE: The British term is hire purchase.) ○ instalment /ɪn'stel'mɑːnt/ noun 1. a payment of part of a total amount of money, which is made regularly ○ They are paying for the kitchen by monthly instalments. ○ You pay £25 down and twelve monthly instalments of £20. 2. a part of something which is being broadcast or delivered in parts ○ The next instalment of the thriller will be shown on Monday evening. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is installment.)

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instigate

instigate /ɪnˈstreɪɡ/ verb to make something happen. Synonym bring about

instigation /ɪnˈstreɪɡən/ noun 1. the process of making something happen ○ We await the instigation of criminal proceedings against those responsible for the violence. 2. □ at someone’s instigation when someone suggests it ○ At the instigation of the store manager, the opening times were changed.

instigator /ɪnˈstreɪɡətə/ noun a person who stirs up trouble or who makes something happen

instill /ɪnˈstɪl/ verb to put an idea into someone’s mind gradually (NOTE: instilling – instilled) The US spelling is instill.)

instinct /ɪnˈstɪŋkt/ noun something which you have from birth and have not learnt ○ Many animals have a hunting instinct. □ by instinct from a feeling which you have inside you ○ She seems to know by instinct if we have bought any chocolates. ○ He seemed to feel by instinct that the plane was dangerous.

instinctive /ɪnˈstɪŋktɪv/ adj (of a reaction) natural

instinctively /ɪnˈstɪŋktɪvli/ adv because of something which you feel inside you.

instruct /ɪnˈstrɛkt/ verb (of a teacher) to give information to a lawyer and to ask him to start working for you □ to instruct a barrister (of a solicitor) to give a barrister all the details of a case which he will need in court

instruction /ɪnˈstrɛkʃən/ noun 1. the process of teaching, or the facts and skills taught 2. the profession of teaching 3. an order or a command

instructional /ɪnˈstrɛkʃənl/ adj which teaches (formal)

instruction manual /ɪnˈstrɛkʃən,menjuːl/ noun a book which tells you how something should be used

instructive /ɪnˈstrɛktɪv/ adj which gives a lot of information. Synonym informative

instructor /ɪnˈstrɛktə/ noun a teacher, especially of a sport. Synonym teacher

instrument /ɪnˈstrɛnt/ noun a piece of equipment ○ The technical staff have instruments which measure the output of electricity.

instrumental /ɪnˈstrɛməntl/ adj 1. □ instrumental in doing something responsible, playing an important part in getting something done ○ The mayor was instrumental in getting our building proposals passed by the planning committee. 2. referring to a musical instrument ○ I prefer instrumental music to choral music.

instrumentalist /ɪnˈstrɛməntlɪst/ noun a person who plays a musical instrument. Compare vocalist. Synonym musician

instrumentation /ɪnˈstrɛməntəʃən/ noun 1. the process of arranging a piece of music for several instruments ○ Tim wrote the lyrics and Andrew was responsible for the instrument arrangement. 2. technical equipment ○ We were impressed by the advanced instrumentation of the new fighter.

instrument panel /ɪnˈstrɛment,ˈpænəl/ noun a flat part of a car in front of the driver, with dials which show speed, etc.

insubordinate /ɪnˌsəbərdənət/ adj not obeying orders. Synonym disobedient. Antonym obedient

insubordination /ɪnˌsəbərdərəˈneɪʃən/ noun the act of not obeying orders. Synonym disobedience. Antonym obedience

insubstantial /ɪnˌsəbˈstænʃəl/ adj 1. not very solid or strong 2. not seeming real insufferable /ɪnˈsafrəbəl/ adj which you cannot bear. Synonym excruciating

insufficient /ɪnsəˈfɪʃənt/ adj not enough. Synonym inadequate. Antonym surplus

insufficiently /ɪnsəˈfɪʃəntli/ adv not enough

insular /ˈɪnʃələr/ adj 1. thinking only of your own local interests ○ Opponents of the UK joining the euro were accused of being
Energy. 2. interest in anything other than your own local interests.
sister  /ˈnʌsɪə/ verb to prevent heat or cold or sound escaping or entering
insulation /ˌɪnʃjəˈleʃn/ noun 1. the process of preventing heat or cold or sound escaping or entering  2. materials used to insulate something  3. the material which insulates something  4. a device which insulates something  5. The high voltage electric cables must have good insulators.
insulin /ˌɪnˈsaʊlən/ noun a hormone which controls the way in which the body converts sugar into energy and controls the level of sugar in the blood
insult noun /ˈɪnsʌlt/ a rude word said to or about a person  1. That is an insult to the government.  2. The crowd shouted insults at the priest.
insulant /ˌɪnˈsaʊlənt/ noun 1. a material which insulates something  2. Rubber is a good insulator.
insulator /ˌɪnʃjəˈleɪtər/ noun 1. a material which insulates something  2. a device which insulates something  3. The high voltage electric cables must have good insulators.
insure /ˈɪnʃəraʊr/  /ˈɪnʃəra/ verb to agree to pay some money to a company if you pay them a regular amount of money.
insurance /ˈɪnʃərəns/ noun 1. complete insurance  2. a company which insures
insurant /ˌɪnʃjəˈrænt/ noun a person or company which insures
insurgent /ˈɪnʃərʒənt/ adj fighting to bring down a government by force  1. The insurgent army is within ten kilometres of the capital.
insurmountable /ˌɪnˈsaʊməntəb(ə)l/ adj which cannot be solved or dealt with successfully.
intellectual property

intellectual property /ˈɪntɪˌlɛktʃəl pərˈprɒpər.i/ noun original creative work or ideas which can be protected by law

intelligence /ˈɪntəlˌdʒəns/ noun 1. the ability to think and understand ○ His intelligence is well above average. 2. information provided by the secret services ○ Intelligence gathered by our network of agents is very useful to us in planning future strategy.

intelligent quotient /ˌɪntəlˌdʒənt ˈkwɔːrənt/ noun a number believed to show how intelligent a person is compared to others. Abbrev IQ.

intelligent /ˈɪntəlˌdʒənt/ adj. clever, able to understand things very well ○ She is more intelligent than her brother. ○ He’s the most intelligent child in his class. 2. able to think and reason ○ an intelligent computer terminal ○ Is there intelligent life on Mars?

intellectualisation /ˌɪntəlˌdʒənsiˈeɪʃən/ noun the intellectual, artistic and educated people in a society

intelligible /ˈɪntəlˌdʒəbl/ adj which can be understood. Synonym comprehensible. Antonym unintelligible

intend /ɪnˈtend/ verb ○ to intend to do something to plan to do something ○ We intended to get up early but we all overslept. ○ The company intends to sue for damages. ○ I intended no insult I did not mean my words to be taken as an insult ○ intended [ɪnˈtendt] adj. 1. planned or chosen deliberately ○ They never reached their intended destination. ○ The murderer followed his intended victim. 2. provided for a special purpose ○ The big plate is intended to be used for serving meat.

intense /ɪnˈtens/ adj. 1. very strong or strong ○ There was a period of intense diplomatic activity to try to get the hostages released. ○ She had an intense period of study before the exams. 2. extremely serious and showing feelings strongly ○ She is a very intense young woman.

intensely /ɪnˈtensli/ adv. strongly. Synonym forcefully. Antonym mildly

intensification /ˌɪntənsɪˈfɪkʃən/ noun 1. the process of making something stronger 2. the process of becoming stronger ○ the intensification of the paper’s attacks on the government ○ Antonym reduction

intensify /ɪnˈtensɪfaɪ/ verb. 1. to become stronger ○ The rain intensified and continued all night. 2. to make something stronger ○ He intensified his attacks on the government.

intensity /ɪnˈtensəti/ noun strength or violence. Antonym moderation (NOTE: no plural)

intensive /ɪnˈtensɪv/ adj with a lot of effort ○ He took a two-week intensive course in German.

intensive care /ɪnˈtensɪv ˈkeə/ noun the close care and treatment of patients who are very ill or badly injured so that essential action can be taken with a minimum of delay if it is needed

intensively /ɪnˈtensɪvli/ adv with a lot of effort

intent /ɪnˈtɛnt/ adj determined ○ She’s intent on becoming a manager. ○ noun an aim. Synonym intention ○ with intent to defraud with the aim of deceiving ○ to all intents and purposes in almost every way ○ He is to all intents and purposes the boss of the business.

intention /ɪnˈtɛnʃən/ noun an aim or plan to do something ○ I can assure you that I have no intention of going to the party. ○ The fans came with the deliberate intention of stirring up trouble. Synonym aim

intentional /ɪnˈtɛnʃənəl/ adj done on purpose. Synonym deliberate. Antonym accidental

intentionally /ɪnˈtɛnʃənəli/ adv on purpose

intently /ɪnˈtɛntli/ adv with a lot of concentration. Synonym closely

inter /ɪnˈtɜː/ verb to bury (NOTE: interning – interred)

inter- /ˈɪntər/ prefix between

interact /ɪnˈtərækt/ verb. 1. to interact ○ to interact with someone to work in a friendly way with someone ○ She is interacting well with her teachers. ○ to interact with something to have an effect on something ○ interaction /ɪnˈtərəkʃən/ noun an effect of two things on each other

interactive /ɪnˈtəræktɪv/ adj each having an effect on the others ○ We teach drama through interactive groups.

interrupt /ɪnˈtrəsɛpt/ verb to stop something as it is passing. Synonym cut off

interception /ɪnˈtɛrpəʃən/ noun the process of stopping something which is passing. Synonym capture

interchange /ˈɪntərˌʃeɪn/ noun ○ an interchange ○ an interchange of ideas ○ The conference was organised to promote an interchange of ideas in the field of robotics. 2. a large road junction where motorways cross ○ There was a massive pile-up at the interchange ○ verb. to interchange ○ to exchange one thing for another ○ The four wheels can be interchanged (with each other). ○ The players are constantly interchanging positions on the field.

interchangeable /ˌɪntərˈʃeɪnəbəl/ adj which can be exchanged for each other

intercity /ˌɪntəˈsɪti/ adj (of trains or planes) travelling between two cities
intercom /ˈɪntəkɒm/ noun a radio for speaking to people over a short distance inside a building

intercontinental /ˌɪntəkɒntrənl/ adj from one continent to another, between continents

intercourse /ˈɪntəkɔːrs/ noun 1. same as sexual intercourse 2. communication between people 3. How do you do? is a polite expression used in normal social intercourse

interdependent /ˌɪntədɛpərənt/ adj needing each other to exist 1. relying on each other’s help or support

interdict /ˈɪntədɪkət/ noun an official order telling someone not to do something. Synonym order

interest /ˈɪntərst/ noun 1. special attention to something 2. a percentage which is paid to someone who lends money 3. a financial share in something 4. a percentage charged for borrowing money 5. a point where two different systems meet and interact 6. Great progress is being made at the interface between medical science and genetic engineering

interface /ˈɪntəfərs/ noun 1. a point where two computer systems connect, or a program which allows two computer systems to be connected 2. an area where two different systems meet and interact 3. Great progress is being made at the interface between medical science and genetic engineering

interface with (of a computer device) to communicate with 1. My laptop can interface with any other computer in the building

interfere /ˌɪntəfər/ verb to interfere in or with something to get in the way of something, to be involved in something in such a way that it does not work well 1. His mother is always interfering in his private life.

interference /ˌɪntəfərəns/ noun 1. an involvement with someone else’s life or business 2. His aunt’s interference in his wedding preparations made him very annoyed. 2. a noise which affects radio or TV programmes

intergradation /ˌɪntəɡrəˈdeɪʃən/ noun a thing which you have a controlling interest in a company

intermediate /ˌɪntəˈmiːdɪət/ adj or noun in something that is placed between two other things; something which is in between

interim /ɪntəˈrɪm/ (of a report) given halfway through a period, before the final result is known 1. Please send us an interim report on the first year of your research project. Synonym temporary

interior /ɪntəˈrɪər/ adj inside. Synonym internal

interior designer /ɪntəˈrɪər dɪˈzɑːn/ noun a person who designs the inside of a building, including wall coverings, paint colours, furniture, fabrics, etc.

interject /ɪntrəˈdʒekt/ verb to interrupt with a comment

interjection /ɪntrəˈdʒekʃən/ noun an exclamation, a word used to show surprise

interlude /ɪntrəˈlʌd/ noun 1. a pause for a dance or piece of music between parts of a performance 2. a quiet time between two lively periods 3. There was a short interlude, then the noise started again. 4. During an interlude in the street battle, ambulancemen went to find wounded demonstrators.

intermarry /ɪntəˈmæri/ verb to marry within the same family group

intermediary /ɪntəˌmɪdɪəri/ adj between two parties 1. She played an intermediary role in the negotiations between the two sides. Synonym intermediate

intermediate /ɪntəˈmɪdɪət/ adj or noun in something that is placed between two other things; something which is in between
intermediate /ɪntrəˈmidiət/ adj 1. between two points ○ We are at an intermediate stage in our research work. 2. between beginners and advanced ○ She has passed her intermediate level English.

interminable /ɪntrəˈmɪnəbl/ adj which never ends, which is boring. Synonym endless. Antonym finite

interminably /ɪntrəˈmɪnəbli/ adv without coming to an end

intermission /ɪntrəˈmɪʃən/ noun an interval in a performance

interpret /ɪntrəˈpɜːt/ verb 1. to translate what someone is saying into a different language ○ The courier knows Greek, so he will interpret for us. 2. to explain the meaning of something ○ His letter was interpreted as meaning that he refused the offer. ○ Her fit of giggles was interpreted as ‘yes’. ○ interpret /ɪntrəˈprɪt/ noun 1. a meaning ○ A poem can have many interpretations. ○ The book puts quite a different interpretation on the meaning of the rule. 2. the act of translating what someone is saying into a different language ○ She is taking a course in simultaneous interpretation. 3. a way of playing a piece of music ○ Two of the young musicians were praised for their interpretations of Bach.

interpretative /ɪntrəˈprɪtətɪv/ adj referring to interpretation. Synonym explanatory

interpreter /ɪntrəˈprɪtər/ noun a person who translates what someone is saying into a different language

interrelate /ɪntrəˈrelət/ verb to be closely connected with something else

interrelated /ɪntrəˈrɛltɪd/ adj in a relationship in which each depends on or is affected by the other or others

interrogate /ɪntrəˈɡreɪt/ verb to question someone severely, often for a long period of time

NOTE: Internet addresses (or ‘domain names’) of companies and other organisations are made up of two or three parts. The first part is the name of the organisation (often abbreviated); the second can be .com (for a company), .org (for organisations based in the USA), .edu (for educational institutions), .net (for Internet suppliers), .gov (for US government organisations) and .mil (for military). With the exception of the USA, all countries add a further two-character country of origin name, such as .au for Australia, .cn for China, .uk for the United Kingdom, or.de for Germany.

international /ɪntrəˈnɪʃənl/ adj between countries ○ An international conference on chemistry

internationally /ɪntrəˈnɪʃənlɪ/ adv

internal /ɪntrəˈnɛl/ adj

internally /ɪntrəˈnɛli/ adv

internal combustion engine /ɪntrəˈnɛlmənʃən ədʒiŋ/ noun a type of engine in which petrol is burned inside the cylinders of the engine, so forcing the pistons to move.

internal flight /ɪntrəˈnɛl flɪt/ noun a flight inside a country

international /ɪntrəˈnɛʃənəl/ adj

internationalist /ɪntrəˈnɛʃənəlist/ noun a person who believes in the need for countries to work together

interpreter /ɪntrəˈprɪtər/ noun a person who translates what someone is saying into a different language

interrogation /ɪntrəˈɡreɪʃən/ noun He searched the Internet for information on cheap tickets to Alaska. (NOTE: also called simply the Net)

comment: Internet addresses (or ‘domain names’) of companies and other organisations are made up of two or three parts. The first part is the name of the organisation (often abbreviated); the second can be .com (for a company), .org (for organisations based in the USA) .edu (for educational institutions), .net (for Internet suppliers), .gov (for US government organisations) and .mil (for military). With the exception of the USA, all countries add a further two-character country of origin name, such as .au for Australia, .cn for China, .uk for the United Kingdom, or.de for Germany.
The intervals between D and A is a fifth.

intervals

interval /ˈɪntərvl/ noun a period of time between two points

intervene /ɪnˈtər.viːn/ verb to come between □ to intervene in a dispute to try to settle a disagreement ○ The government refused to intervene in the dispute.

interview /ɪnˈtvɪr.iəʊn/ noun a conversation between an important or interesting person and a journalist, broadcast on radio, TV or printed in a newspaper ○ She gave an interview to the Sunday magazine. 2. a formal meeting in which one or more people ask you questions to find out if you are suitable for something such as a particular job or a course at university ○ We asked six candidates for interview. ○ He’s had six interviews, but still no job offers. ○ When will you attend your first interview? ○ verb 1. to ask a famous or interesting person questions about themselves and their work in order to publish questions about a famous or interesting person ○ The journalist interviewed the Prime Minister. 2. to meet a person who is applying for something such as a job or a place on a university course, to see if he or she is suitable ○ We interviewed ten candidates, but did not find anyone we liked.

interviewee /ɪnˈtvɪr.iəˌzi/ noun a person who is being or who is going to be interviewed. Synonym applicant. Antonym interviewer

interviewer /ɪnˈtvɪr.iər/ noun a person who asks the questions at an interview

intertwine /ɪnˈtɜːr.twain/ verb to twist things together; to be twisted together. Synonym interweave

intersection /ɪntəˈsektʃən/ noun 1. a place where two or more roads cross ○ The accident occurred at one of the busiest intersections in the city. 2. a place where lines cut across each other ○ The intersection on the graph shows when the pound became weaker than the dollar.

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intersperse /ɪnˈtɜːrpəs/ verb 1. to interrupt one activity with another for short periods of time 2. to put various things in or among something else

interspersed /ɪnˈtɜːrpəst/ adj interspersed with among or between other things ○ The play consisted of short conversations interspersed with long periods of silence.

intestate /ˌɪnˌtɛstət/ adj intestate between two countries ○ Interstate negotiations are continuing to decide on the expansion of the EU.

intertwining /ɪnˈtɜːrtwɪnɪŋ/ noun ○ The stroke interrupted the flow of spare parts to our factory.

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intervene /ɪnˈtər.vɪn/ verb to come between □ to intervene in a dispute to try to settle a disagreement ○ The government refused to intervene in the dispute.

intervening /ɪnˈtər.vɪnɪŋ/ adj which comes between □ intervention /ɪnˈtər.vɛnʃən/ noun an act of intervening between two things, or an action to make a change in a system ○ interventionist /ɪnˈtər.vɛnʃənɪst/ adj referring to a policy of intervention

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intimately /ˈɪntɪməti/ adv closely
intimation /ɪntɪˈmeɪʃən/ noun the suggestion that you will do something. Synonym hint
intimidate /ɪnˈtɪmɪdeɪt/ verb to frighten someone by threatening them or appearing to threaten them
intimidated /ɪnˈtɪmɪdeɪtɪd/ adj feeling frightened or feeling that someone is better than you at doing something
intimidating /ɪnˈtɪmɪdeɪtɪŋ/ adj frightening. Synonym threatening. Antonym approachable
intimidation /ɪnˌtɪmɪˈdeɪʃən/ noun the action of frightening someone with threats. Synonym coercion
○ into /ˈɪntəʊ, ˈɪntu/,ˈɪntu// prep 1. showing movement towards the inside ○ She went into the shop. ○ He fell into the lake. ○ Put the cards back into their box. ○ You can’t get ten people into a taxi. ○ We all stopped talking when he came into the room. ○ The bus is going into the town centre. 2. hitting against something ○ The bus drove into a lamp post. 3. showing a change ○ The tadpole changed into a frog. ○ Water turns into steam when it is heated. ○ She changed into an evening dress for the party. ○ to burst into tears to start crying suddenly ○ When she opened the box she burst into tears. 4. showing that you are dividing ○ Try to cut the cake into ten equal pieces. ○ six into four won’t go you cannot divide four by six. 5. liking something very much ○ He’s into reggae.
intoxicating /ɪntʊˈsɪkətɪŋ/ adj which makes you drunk. Synonym intoxicating atmosphere. Antonym sober
intoxication /ɪnˈtɪkseɪʃən/ noun the state of being drunk. Synonym alcoholism
intracable /ɪnˈtræktəbl/ adj very difficult to deal with; which is impossible to solve
intranet /ɪntrəˈnet/ noun a computer network within an organisation
intrigence /ɪntrəˈdʒɛns/ noun the quality of being determined not to change your mind. Antonym flexibility
intransigent /ɪntrəˈdʒɛnsnt/ adj determined not to change your mind. Synonym inflexible
intransitive /ɪntrəˈnətɪv/ adj describes a verb that does not need a direct object to complete its meaning
intravenous /ɪntrəˈvɪənəs/ adj put into a vein
in-tray /ˈɪn trɛɪ/ noun a file or basket on your desk for papers that you have to deal with (NOTE: The file for outgoing letters is the out-tray and that for letters which are waiting for a decision is the pending tray.)
intrepid /ɪntrɪˈpiːd/ adj without fear, very brave (literary or humorous). Synonym fearless
intricacy /ɪntrɪˈkeɪsɪ/ noun the state of being very complicated. Synonym complexity
intricate /ɪntrɪˈkeɪt/ adj very complicated, made of many different parts
intrigue /ɪntrɪɡ/ noun a secret plan ○ The story is one of intrigues at the court of Mary Queen of Scots. ■ verb 1. to make secret plans, especially to harm someone ○ She intrigued to get the ambassador assassinated. 2. to make someone interested ○ The girl’s story intrigued him.
intrigued /ɪntrɪɡɪd/ adj interested in something because it is unusual
intriguing /ɪntrɪˈɡɪŋ/ adj which makes you interested. Synonym interesting
intrinsically /ɪntrɪnˈsɪkli/ adv forming a basic part of something. Synonym basic
intrinsically /ɪntrɪnˈsɪkli/ adj forming a basic part of something. Synonym basic
intrusive /ɪntrəˈdʒʊs/ adv basically intro /ɪntrəʊ/ noun an introduction, especially to a piece of music ○ to introduce /ɪntrəˈdʒʊs/ verb 1. to present someone to another person or to people who did not know him or her previously ○ He introduced me to a friend of his called Anne. ○ She introduced me to her new teacher. 2. to announce a TV or radio programme, etc. ○ He introduced the start of the cricket commentary. 3. to bring something to a new place ○ Several species of plant now common in Britain were introduced by the Romans. ○ Starlings were introduced to the USA in 1891. ○ introduction /ɪntrəˈdʒʊʃən/ noun 1. the act of meeting someone or something for
invasion /əˈvɛərəs/ noun

1. the act of taking a country by force with an army. Synonym attacker.

invalid /ɪnˈvælɪd/ adj not officially accepted, not legal. Synonym invalidity.

invariable /ɪnˈvɛəriəbəl/ adj always the same, never changing.

inventive /ɪnˈventɪv/ adj which creates something in a way that shows imagination. Synonym creative.
inventory /ˈɪn.vɛnt.ər/ noun a person who invents new processes or new machines 1. The landlord checked the inventory when the tenants left. (Note: the plural in this meaning is inventories.) 2. US all the goods in a warehouse. Our whole inventory was destroyed by fire.

investigate /ɪnˈvestɪɡeɪt/ verb to try to find out about something. The detective is investigating the details of the case. We are investigating the possibility of going to live in Costa Rica.

investigation /ɪnˈvestɪɡeɪʃən/ noun a close examination of a police investigation into the causes of the crash. On further investigation, the newspaper report was shown to be quite untrue.

investigative /ɪnˈvestɪɡətɪv/ adj who or which investigates investigative journalism /ɪnˈvestɪɡətɪv dʒəˈnɜrəlɪzmn/ noun a type of journalism where journalists try to find out and publish new details or facts about something.

investor /ˈɪn.vɛstər/ noun a person who invests money, e.g. a police officer

investment /ɪnˈvestɪmənt/ noun 1. money which has been invested, e.g. in shares or property, and is expected to make a profit. He has been very successful with his investments. 2. long- or short-term investments investments such as shares which are likely to increase in value over a long or short period. Buying a house is considered a good long-term investment. 2. money spent by a government or a company to improve it or make it more successful. The economy is suffering from a lack of investment in training.

investigate /ɪnˈvestɪɡeɪt/ verb always doing something and not likely to change

investigating /ɪnˈvestɪɡətɪŋ/ adj which makes you feel healthy. Synonym energise

invisible /ɪnˈvɪzəbl/ adj which cannot be seen. The message was written in invisible ink and hidden inside the pages of the telephone directory.

invisible earnings /ɪnˈvɪzəbl/ noun foreign currency earned by a country by providing services such as banking, insurance or tourism but not selling goods. Compare visible

invitation /ɪnˈvɪtəʃən/ noun a letter or card, asking someone to do something. He received an invitation to his sister’s wedding. She had an invitation to dinner. At someone’s invitation invited by someone. She spoke to the meeting at the invitation of the committee.

invited /ɪnˈvɪtɪd/ verb to ask someone to do something, especially to come to a social event such as a party. We invited two hundred people to the party. She invited us to come in. She’s been invited to talk to the club.

inviting /ɪnˈvɪtɪŋ/ adj which attracts
invite

10th we sent you an invoice on November 10th

involve /ɪnvəlv/ verb to call on someone or something for help or support

involuntary /ɪnˈvɜːlnt(ə)rɪ/ adj 1. done suddenly in a way that you cannot control ○ His leg gave an involuntary jerk when the doctor tapped his knee. ○ Her cry was the involuntary reaction of a mother protecting her young. 2. not done willingly ○ Does the travel insurance cover the involuntary cancellation of the holiday?

irksome /ˈɛərksəm/ adj complicated 1. involved /ɪnˈvɜːld/ adj complicated 2. involving /ɪnˈvɜːlvmənt/ noun the fact of being connected with someone, or involved in something ○ Did she have any involvement with the music festival? ○ The police were unable to prove his involvement in the crime.

irradiate /ɪrəˈreɪt/ adj very angry. Antonym calm

iridescent /ɪrɪdɛs(ə)nt/ adj with colours which seem to change in different types of light ○ irises /ˈaɪrəs/ noun 1. a plant with tall flat leaves and usually yellow or purple flowers ○ irises grow well in damp soil. 2. a coloured ring in the eye, with the pupil at its centre ○ The iris has muscles that adjust the size of the pupil. (NOTE: The plural is irises.)

island /ˈaɪlənd/ noun 1. a Celtic language still spoken in parts of Ireland ○ Eire is the Irish name for the Republic of Ireland. 2. the Irish the people who live in Ireland ○ The Irish are famous for their folk music.

Ireland /ˈaɪlənd/ noun the Republic of Ireland

Irish coffee /ˈaɪrəskəfi/ noun hot coffee, served in a glass, with Irish whiskey added to it and whipped cream poured on top

Iron /aɪrən/ noun ironing ○ Iron /aɪrən/ verb to iron ○ iron /aɪrən/ noun 1. a common grey metal ○ The old gates are made of iron. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning: some iron, lumps of iron) 2. a heavy object with a flat bottom, which is heated and used to make clothes smooth after washing ○ Don’t leave the iron plugged in, it will burn the clothes. ○ If your iron is not hot enough it won’t take the creases out. 3. a golf club with a metal head 4. in irons with iron chains tied around the ankles to prevent escape

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irons /aɪrənz/ noun some iron, lumps of iron

ironically /aɪrənɪkli/ adv 1. in a way which means the opposite ○ It’s no trouble at all, he said ironically. 2. at the wrong time, as if deliberately planned ○ Ironically, although they had lost both his suitcases, the airline claimed that he owed them for excess baggage.

ironing /aɪrənɪŋ/ noun clothes which have been washed and are ready to be ironed

ironing board /aɪrənɪŋ bɔːd/ noun a special narrow table used when ironing clothes

irony /aɪrənɪ/ noun 1. a way of referring to something where you say the opposite of what you mean ○ Do I detect a note of irony in his letter? 2. a situation when something happens at the wrong moment, as if deliberately planned ○ The irony of it was that the
irradiate

rain finally stopped on the last day of our holiday.

irradiate /ɪˈreɪdɪt/ verb 1. to subject something to radiation ○ In South Africa male mosquitoes have been irradiated to make them sterile and then released back into the environment 2. to treat food with radiation to prevent it going bad ○ Some people wonder whether irradiated food is safe to eat.

irradiation /ɪˌrɛrəˈdeɪʃən/ noun the use of radiation to kill bacteria in food

irrational /ɪˈreʃənal/ adj not sensible or reasonable. Synonym illogical. Antonym rational

irreconcilable /ɪrəˈkɒnsɪləb(ə)l/ adj cannot be made to agree

irregular /ɪrˈɛgjʊələr/ adj 1. not happening in a regular way ○ An irregular pattern of lines and circles. ○ His heart had an irregular beat. 2. not level ○ An irregular stone path leads across the garden. 3. not happening always at the same time ○ His payments are very irregular. ○ He makes irregular visits to his mother in hospital. 4. not according to rules or a usual way of doing something ○ This procedure is highly irregular.

irregularity /ɪˌrɛgjʊˈlærɪti/ noun a thing which goes against the rules or the law

irregularly /ɪˈrɛgjʊələri/ adv not regularly

irregular verb /ɪrˈɛgjʊələr/ verb a verb such as ‘to run’ which has forms which do not fit the usual patterns of grammar

irrelevancy /ɪrəˈlevənsi/ noun the fact of not having any connection with the subject

irrelevant /ɪrəˈlevənt/ adj with no connection to the present subject. Synonym immaterial. Antonym relevant

irreparable /ɪrəˈpɜːrəb(ə)l/ adj which cannot be repaired

irreparably /ɪrəˈpɜːrəb(ə)li/ adv in a way which cannot be repaired

irreplaceable /ɪrˈprɛzərəb(ə)l/ adj which cannot be replaced. Synonym unique

irresponsible /ɪrˈresəpsənbl/ adj in a way that is not sensible, not responsible. Synonym reckless

irreverence /ɪrəˈvɛərəns/ noun a lack of respect. Synonym disrespect. Antonym respect

irreverent /ɪrəˈvɛrənt/ adj not showing respect, often in a humorous way. Synonym disrespectful. Antonym respectful

irreversible /ɪrəˈvɜːsəb(ə)l/ adj which cannot be changed back to how it was before. Synonym irreversible

irrigate /ɪrɪˈɡeɪt/ verb to supply water to land to allow plants to grow, usually through a system of little channels

irrigation /ɪrɪˈɡeɪʃən/ noun the action of irrigating an area of land

irritability /ɪrɪˈtræbəlɪtɪ/ noun the fact of being irritable

irritable /ɪrɪˈtræbl/ adj easily annoyed. Synonym bad-tempered

irritably /ɪrɪˈtræbli/ adv in an annoying way

irritant /ɪrɪˈtrænt/ noun 1. a thing which annoys ○ The mosquitoes were a minor irritant, the big problem was the alligators. 2. a substance which can irritate ○ Irritants like chlorine in swimming pool water can make the eyes inflamed.

irritate /ɪrɪˈteɪt/ verb 1. to annoy ○ It irritates me when the trains run late. 2. (of a substance) to make something sore or to cause a burning feeling ○ Some plants irritate the skin.

irritated /ɪrɪˈteɪtɪd/ adj annoyed

irritating /ɪrɪˈteɪtɪŋ/ adj which annoys. Synonym annoying. Antonym soothing

irritation /ɪrɪˈteɪʃən/ noun 1. something which annoys ○ The irritation of having bad weather every day of the holiday made him quite unbearable. 2. spots on your skin which cause a burning feeling ○ The irritation on his chest got worse during the day.

is /ɪz/ be

-ish /ɪʃ/ suffix 1. having the quality of, like, tending to 2. almost, nearly

Islam /ɪˈlɑːzm/ noun the religion of the Muslims, founded by the prophet Muhammad

Islamic /ɪˈlɑːsmɪk/ adj referring to Islam ○ island /ˈaɪlənd/ noun a piece of land with water all round it ○ They live on a little island in the middle of the river. ○ The Greek islands are favourite holiday destinations.

islamist /lɪˈlɑːmɪst/ noun a person who lives on an island. Synonym inhabitant

isle /aɪl/ noun an island (literary) ○ the British Isles the islands which make up Great Britain and Ireland
a new form of the flu virus. Scientists have been able to isolate the substance which causes the disease.

isolated /'aisəlekt/ adj 1. separated from others. They live in an isolated village in the hills.

isolate /'aisəleit/ verb 1. to separate a chemical substance from a compound, to identify a single virus or bacterium among many. Doctors have isolated a new form of the flu virus.

atomic mass a narrow piece of land with water on both sides of it, connecting two larger pieces of land (NOTE: The plural is isthmuses.)

isobar /'aɪsəbɑr/ noun a line on a weather map linking places of equal barometric pressure

isobaric /aɪsəˈbærɪk/ adj. (of letters) sloping

isotope /'aisətəp/ noun a form of a chemical element which has the same chemical properties as other forms, but a different atomic mass

Even if some people have just been mentioned, others may have been left out. (NOTE: The plural is isotopes.)

ISP abbr Internet service provider

issue /'ɪʃuː/ noun 1. a problem. The main issues will be discussed at the meeting. 2. to make an issue of something. to have a big discussion about something. She’s apologised so don’t try to make an issue of it. 3. the point at issue. the question which is being discussed. The point at issue is whether the government is prepared to compromise.

isthmus /'ɪsθməs/ noun a narrow piece of land with water on both sides of it, connecting two larger pieces of land (NOTE: The plural is isthmuses.)

danced

itemise /ˈaɪtəmʌɪz/ itemize verb to make a detailed list of things

- Isn’t it time we had a new form of the flu virus?
- Scientists have been able to isolate the substance which causes the disease.

- Isotope /'aisətəp/ noun a form of a chemical element which has the same chemical properties as other forms, but a different atomic mass

- Issue /'ɪʃuː/ noun 1. a problem. The main issues will be discussed at the meeting.

ISP abbr Internet service provider

issue /'ɪʃuː/ noun 1. a problem. The main issues will be discussed at the meeting. 2. to make an issue of something. to have a big discussion about something. She’s apologised so don’t try to make an issue of it. 3. the point at issue. the question which is being discussed. The point at issue is whether the government is prepared to compromise.

isthmus /'ɪsθməs/ noun a narrow piece of land with water on both sides of it, connecting two larger pieces of land (NOTE: The plural is isthmuses.)

itemise /ˈaɪtəmʌɪz/ itemize verb to make a detailed list of things
itinerant /aɪˈtɪnərənt/ adj moving from place to place, without settling. Synonym peripatetic. Antonym settled

itinerary /aɪˈtɪnəri/ noun a list of places to be visited on one journey. Synonym route (NOTE: The plural is itineraries.)

its /ɪts/ adj referring to ‘it’ ○ I can’t use the car – one of its tyres is flat. ○ The company pays its staff very badly. (NOTE: Do not confuse with it’s.) ○ It’s /ɪts/ short form it is, it has

itself /ɪtˈself/ pron 1. referring to an object ○ The dog seems to have hurt itself. ○ The screw had worked itself loose. ○ all by itself alone, with no one helping ○ The church stands all by itself in the middle of the street. ○ The bus started to move all by itself.
2. for emphasis ○ If the plug is all right there must be something wrong with the computer itself.

IUD abbr intrauterine device

IV noun the Roman numeral for four or fourth ○ I’ve /aɪ/ short form I have

IVF abbr in vitro fertilisation

ivory /ˈaɪvəri/ noun a hard whitish substance from an elephant’s tusk ○ She bought some finely carved ivory chessmen. ○ Trade in ivory has been banned.

ivy /aɪvɪ/ noun an evergreen plant which climbs up walls and trees (NOTE: The plural is ivies.)
Jack /ˈdʒæk/ 1. a sudden push with something pointed o He felt a jab in the back from someone’s umbrella. 2. an injection o Have you had your cholera jabs yet? • verb to push with something sharp o He jabbed the piece of meat with his fork. o She jabbed me in the back with her umbrella. Synonym stab (NOTE: jabbing – jabbed)

Jacket /ˈdʒæk/ 1. a tool for raising something heavy, especially a car o I used the jack to lift the car up and take the wheel off. 2. (in playing cards) the card with the face of a young man, with a value between the queen and the ten o I won because I had the jack of hearts. 3. (in bowls) a small white or black ball for players to aim at o You need a lot of skill to hit the jack. 4. an electric or telephone plug with a single pin o When he had plugged the jack in he could use the modem.

Jacket potato /ˈdʒæk tɔˈpeɪtoʊ/ noun a potato cooked in an oven with its skin on

Jacket off if you are hot.
in his pocket.

2. guides broadcasting noise on the same wavelength

 Dio broadcast impossible to understand by

some honey left in the bottom of the jar.

4. (informal full nerves to make someone feel nervous

formal people.

went to Japan.

2. people from Japan

and the car went into a spin.

2. (NOTE: The British term is janitor.

3. janitor)

2. January

jangle /dʒæŋɡul/ noun a harsh noise of pieces of metal hitting together o She heard the jangle of keys on the other side of the door.

verb 1. to make a noise of pieces of metal hitting together o He jangled the keys in his pocket.

2. to jangle (on) someone’s nerves to make someone feel nervous o The sound of the dentist’s drill started to jangle my nerves.

janitor /dʒænɪtər/ noun especially US a person who looks after a building, e.g. by making sure it is clean and that the rubbish is cleared away (NOTE: The British term is caretaker.)

→ January /dʒænjuərɪ/ noun the first month of the year, followed by February on January 26 o He was born on January 26th. o We never go on holiday in January because it’s too cold. o We all went skiing last January. (NOTE: January 26th or January 26: say ‘the twenty-sixth of January’ or ‘January the twenty-sixth’.)

→ Japanese /dʒæpəˈnɪz/ adj referring to Japan o A typical Japanese meal can include rice and raw fish.

noun 1. the Japanese people from Japan.

2. the Japanese people are very formal people.

Japanese people in Japan o He has lived in Japan for some time and speaks quite good Japanese.

3. We bought a Japanese phrase book before we went to Japan.

→ jar /dʒɑːr/ noun a container for food such as jam; usually made of glass.

1. There was some honey left in the bottom of the jar.

2. Open another jar of jam – this one is empty.

verb to produce an unpleasant effect o He tripped over the step, jarring his knee.

The drilling sound jarred on my ears.

→ jargon /dʒɑːrɑŋ/ noun a special type of language used by a trade or profession or particular group of people.

→ jasmine /dʒəzmən/ noun a plant with little white or yellow flowers which have a sweet smell.

→ jaundice /dʒɔːndɪs/ noun a condition where there is too much bile in the blood, and the skin and the whites of the eyes become yellow.

jaundiced /dʒɔːndɪst/ adj negative and tending to criticise things.

Synonym cynical.

→ jaunt /dʒɔːnt/ noun a short journey, especially for pleasure.

Synonym outing.

jauntily /dʒɔːntɪli/ adv in a happy way.

jaunty /dʒɔːnti/ adj happy and confident.

Synonym carefree.

→ jauntier – jauntiest.

javelin /dʒævəˈlɪn/ noun a long spear used in battle or in sport.

jaw /dʒɔː/ noun the bones in the face which hold the teeth and form the mouth.

upper jaw the part of the skull holding the top set of teeth.

jawbone /dʒɔːbɔːn/ noun one of the two bones forming your jaw, usually the lower jaw.

→ Jay /dʒeɪ/ noun a brightly coloured bird, one of the crow family.

→ Jaywalker /dʒeɪˈwɜːkər/ noun a pedestrian who crosses a street without paying any attention to the traffic, or who does not cross a street at a pedestrian crossing.

→ Jaywalking /dʒeɪˈwɜːkɪŋ/ noun crossing a street without paying attention to the traffic.

→ jazz /dʒæz/ noun a type of music with a strong rhythm, and solo improvisations, first played in the southern United States.

→ Jazz up /dʒæz ʌp/ verb to make bright and attractive (informal).

→ jazzy /dʒæzi/ adj of a bright colour (slang).

Synonym showy.

→ jealous /dʒeləs/ adj feeling annoyed because you want something which belongs to someone else.

→ John was jealous of Mark because all the girls fancied him. o She was jealous of his new car. o Her new boyfriend is very handsome. I’m jealous!

→ jealously /dʒeləsi/ adv in a jealous way, keeping something so that no one else can get it.

→ jealously /dʒeləsli/ noun the feeling of being annoyed because someone has something which you want but do not have.

→ jeans /dʒiːnz/ plural noun trousers made of a type of strong cotton, often blue.

→ I like wearing jeans better than wearing a skirt.
javax

2. The convoy of jeeps and tanks crossed slowly over the bridge.

jeer

jelly /ˈdʒelɪ/ noun (of liquid) to become a jelly. In the USA this is often referred to by the trademark Jell-O. 2. to turn to jelly to shake and become weak. When he heard the sound of the bell his legs turned to jelly. 3. a type of jam made of fruit juice boiled with sugar. She loves peanut butter and blackcurrant jelly sandwiches.

jelly baby /ˈdʒelɪ ˈbeɪbi/ noun a sweet of coloured jelly, shaped like a little person.

jelly bean /ˈdʒelɪ ˈbiːn/ noun a sweet of coloured jelly, shaped like a bean.

jellyfish /ˈdʒelɪfɪʃ/ noun an animal with a body like jelly, which lives in the sea. (NOTE: The plural is jellyfish.)

jeopardise /ˈdʒeprədaɪz/; jeopardize verb to be likely to harm.

jeopardy /ˈdʒeprədɪ/ noun □ to be in jeopardy □ The management's attitude to safety has put us all in jeopardy. □ The sale of the company has put thousands of jobs in jeopardy. □ his driving licence is in jeopardy he may lose his driving licence.

jerk /ˈdʒɜːrk/ noun 1. a sudden sharp pull. He felt a jerk on the fishing line. 2. a stupid person. Don't ask that jerk anything. □ verb to give something a sudden sharp pull. He jerked the rope.

jerkily /ˈdʒɜːrkli/ adv with sudden sharp movements.

jerkin /ˈdʒɜːrkɪn/ noun a short coat with no sleeves.

jerky /ˈdʒɜːrki/ adj abrupt, sudden. Synonym irregular.

jerry-built /ˈdʒerɪ ˈbʌlt/ adj which has been badly built at a low cost.

jersey /ˈdʒɜːrzi/ noun 1. a close-fitting woollen sweater. She was knitting a pink jersey for the new baby. 2. a special shirt worn by a member of a sports team. □ After every game the players swapped jerseys with the other team.

jersey

Jerusalem artichoke /ˈdʒəzəm ˈɔːtəkəʊk/ n noun a tall plant which develops tubers like lumpy potatoes.

jest /ˈdʒɛst/ (literary) noun something done or said to make people laugh. □ It started off as a jest but turned into something more serious. Synonym joke □ said in jest as said as a joke. □ The remark was said half in jest, but I think he really meant it. □ verb to make jokes. □ One should not jest about that sort of thing — it's very serious.

jet /ˈdʒet/ noun 1. a long narrow stream of liquid or gas. □ A jet of water put out the flames. 2. an aircraft with jet engines. □ Jets flew low overhead. □ verb to travel by jet plane. She jetted off to Los Angeles for a short holiday. □ Nice airport was busy with stars jetting in for the Cannes Film Festival. (NOTE: jetting — jetted.)

jet black /ˈdʒet ˈblæk/ adj very black and shiny.

jet engine /ˈdʒet ˈɛndʒɪn/ noun an engine which gets its power from a jet of gas.

jet lag /ˈdʒet læg/ noun the feeling of being extremely tired after a long journey by plane. Synonym odds and ends (NOTE: no plural)

jet set /ˈdʒet set/ noun rich people from all round the world (informal).

jet setter /ˈdʒet ˈsetər/ noun a person who belongs to the jet set. (NOTE: The US spelling is jet setter.)

Jet Ski /ˈdʒet ˈskɪ/ trademark a jet-propelled vehicle for one person which travels across water.

jettison /ˈdʒɛtˌsɪnən/ verb to throw fuel from a plane, or goods from a ship into the sea to make it lighter. Synonym throw away.

jellyfish

jewellery /ˈdʒuːərɪ lɪərɪ/ noun ornaments to be worn, made from precious stones, gold, silver, etc. □ The burglar stole all her jewelery. (NOTE: no plural. The US spelling is jewelry.)

jewel /ˈdʒʊəl/ noun a precious stone, such as a diamond.

jeweller /ˈdʒʊəlɪər/ noun a person who makes or sells jewelery, and usually watches as well. (NOTE: The US spelling is jeweler.)

jewellery

jibe /ɪb/ noun an unpleasant remark. (NOTE: The US spelling is gibe.)
jiffy /dʒɪfl/ noun a very short time (informal). Synonym moment

jig /dʒɪg/ noun 1. a type of fast lively dance ○ When he heard the news he did a little jig around the office. 2. music for this dance ○ The band started to play an Irish jig and everyone got up to dance. 3. a piece of equipment which helps to control a tool and holds the material being worked on. ■ verb to jump up and down or to move about with quick nervous movements ○ The head teacher told the children to stop jigging about and to stand still. (NOTE: Jigging – jigged)

jiggy-pokery /dʒɪgˈpoʊkəri/ noun dishonest behaviour (informal)

jiggle /dʒɪgl/ verb 1. to move quickly or nervously 2. to move something a little ○ If you jiggle the top a bit, it should come off fairly easily.

jigsaw /dʒɪswɔː/ noun 1. a jigsaw (puzzle) a puzzle of odd-shaped pieces of wood or cardboard which when fitted together form a picture ○ As it’s raining, let’s stay indoors and try to do this huge jigsaw of the Houses of Parliament. 2. a saw with a thin blade for cutting designs out of wood ○ His electric drill has a jigsaw attachment.

jihad /dʒɪˈhaːd/ noun a holy war by Muslims against people who do not believe in Islam.

jilt /dʒɪlt/ verb suddenly to end a romantic or sexual relationship

jingle /dʒɪŋgl/ noun 1. a sound made when little pieces of metal knock together ○ The jingle of tiny bells on the horse’s harness. 2. a song with simple words or tune ■ verb to make a sound like pieces of metal knocking together ○ The doorbell jingled as he went into the shop.

jingoism /dʒɪnˈɡoʊɪzəm/ noun a strong feeling that your country is best. Synonym chauvinism

jingoistic /dʒɪnˈɡoʊɪstɪk/ adj showing jingoism. Synonym chauvinistic

jinx /dʒɪŋks/ noun something which brings bad luck. Synonym curse (NOTE: The plural is jinxes.)

jinxed /dʒɪŋkst/ adj affected by bad luck. Synonym unlucky

jitters /dʒɪtəz/ noun (informal) ○ to get or have the jitters to be nervous and unable to concentrate ○ I always get the jitters before an exam. ■ to give someone the jitters to make someone nervous ○ All this talk of bombs gives me the jitters. ○ It was a day of jitters on the stock market as the news from Japan began to come in.

jittery /dʒɪtərɪ/ adj nervous and unable to concentrate. Antonym calm

jive /dʒɪv/ noun a type of fast dance or music for this dance ■ verb to dance to jive music ○ Jnr /dʒɪvrəl abbr junior (NOTE: The US spelling is Jr.)

job /dʒəb/ noun 1. regular work which you get paid for ○ She’s got a job in the supermarket. ○ He’s finding it difficult getting a job because he can’t drive. ○ When the factory closed, hundreds of people lost their jobs. □ to be out of a job to lose your employment □ jobs for the boys the unfair practice of giving work to your friends or supporters (informal) ○ There’ll be plenty of jobs for the boys when the new government comes in. 2. a piece of work ○ Don’t sit down, there are a couple of jobs I want you to do. ○ He does all sorts of little electrical jobs around the house. □ to make a good job of something to do something well ○ They made a very good job of mending the table. 3. □ it’s a good job that it’s lucky that (informal) ○ It’s a good job he can drive. ○ What a good job you brought your umbrella! ○ It’s a good job you’re not hungry, as there’s nothing in the fridge. □ to give something up as a bad job to stop trying to do something ○ He tried to get the car to go, and in the end had to give it up as a bad job. □ just the job just the right thing, exactly what we need ○ That heavy hammer is just the job for breaking up concrete. 4. difficulty ○ I had a job trying to find your house. ○ What a job it was getting a hotel room at the time of the music festival! 5. a crime, especially stealing something ○ He was one of the gang who did the Italian job.

jobbing /dʒəbɪŋ/ adj (of a workman) doing small jobs which are paid for separately. Synonym casual

jobcentre /dʒəbˈsentər/ noun an official office which helps people to find work, e.g. by telling them about jobs which are available

job description /dʒəb dɪˈskərɪʃən/ noun an official document from a company which says what a job involves

jobless /dʒəbˈles/ adj with no job. Synonym unemployed. Antonym employed □ plural noun □ the jobless people who have no jobs

job satisfaction /dʒəb səˈstɪfɪkən/ noun a feeling that you are happy in your work and pleased with the work you do

job security /dʒəb səˈkwɪrdʒərɪ/ noun a situation in which an employee is likely to keep his or her job until he retires

jobseeker /dʒəbˈsiːkər/ noun an unemployed person who is looking for a job
Someone jogged my elbow and I spilt my 3. ping at every station. The train jogged through the suburbs, stop -

She joined the army because she wanted to travel. 4. to join a firm to start work with a company.

He's the youngest jockey to ride in the Grand National.

He started work on January 1st to do something with someone. We're going to have a cup of cof-

He joined on January 1st to start work on the January 1st to do something with someone.

He started work on January 1st to do something with someone.

Jockey /ˈdʒɒkɪ/ noun a person who rides horses in races. He's an experienced jockey and knows how to handle a horse over a maddy racetrack. He's the youngest jockey to ride in the Grand National.

To jockey for position to try to improve your position in relation to other people. There's a vacancy for managing director, and the sales director and the production director are jockeying for position.

Job-share /ˈdʒɒb ʃɛə/ verb to share a single job with another person so that each of you works for part of the day or week.

Job-sharing /ˈdʒɒb ʃɛərɪŋ/ noun a situation where a job is shared by more than one person, each working part-time.

Job specification /ˈdʒɒb ˌspɛksɪfɪˈkeɪʃən/ noun a very detailed description of what is involved in a job.

Jocular /ˈdʒʊklər/ adj in a humorous way, treating things as a joke.

Jocularity /ˈdʒʊkələri/ noun good humour. Antonym solemnity

Job-purs /ˈdʒɒpɜrs/ plural noun trousers for wearing when horse riding, which are wide above the knee and narrow below it.

Joey /ˈdʒəʊi/ noun (in Australia) a young kangaroo.

Job /ˈdʒɒb/ verb 1. to jog every morning. 2. a fairly slow running movement. He ran at a jog round the park, to run fairly slowly, especially for exercise. He jogged along the river bank for two miles. She was listening to her personal stereo as she was jogging. 2. to move at a steady, but rather slow run. The train jogged through the suburbs, stopping at every station. 3. to push slightly. Someone jogged my elbow and I splintered my drink. To jog someone's memory to make someone remember. The police are hoping that the film from the security camera will jog people's memories.

Jogger /ˈdʒɒɡər/ noun a person who jogs for exercise.

Jogging /ˈdʒɒɡɪŋ/ noun the practice of running in slow steady way for exercise. To go jogging to run gently for exercise. They went jogging in the streets near their home.

John /dʒɔn/ noun US a toilet (informal).

Join /dʒɔn/ verb 1. to put things together. You have to join the two pieces of wood together. The rooms were joined together by making a door in the wall. 2. to come together. Go on for about two hundred metres, until a road joins this one. The two rivers join about four kilometres beyond the town. 3. to become a member of a club, group, etc.

Joinery /dʒɔnəri/ noun the work done by a joiner.

Join in /dʒɔn ˈɪn/ verb to take part in something done as a group. Synonym participate

Join /dʒɔn/ verb 458 joke

Join /dʒɔn/ verb 458 joke

Joining /dʒɔnɪŋ/ noun 1. a place where several pieces are attached, especially in building or woodwork. The joints of the drawer have worked loose. 2. a place where bones come together and can move, such as the knee or elbow. Her elbow joint hurt after her game of tennis. 3. a large piece of meat, especially for roasting. The joint of lamb was very tender. We sat round the table while Father carved the Sunday joint. 4. a club or restaurant. Let's go to Rick's joint. 5. a cigarette with marijuana. He smoked a couple of joints during the evening.

Jointly /dʒɔntli/ adv together with one or more other people.

Join up /dʒɔn ˈʌp/ verb 1. to link things together. She's getting better at writing, and can do joined-up letters. 2. to join the army, navy or air force. He joined up when he was 18 and soon rose to become an officer.

Joint /dʒɔnt/ noun a horizontal beam which supports a ceiling or floorboards.

Joke /dʒɔk/ noun a thing said or done to make people laugh. She poured water down his neck as a joke. They all laughed at his jokes. He told jokes all evening.

Joke /dʒɔk/ noun a thing said or done to make people laugh. He used to joke about always being late for the office.

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Joke /dʒɔk/ noun a thing said or done to make people laugh. He used to joke about always being late for the office.
He’s just bought a new Rolls Royce – You must be joking, he's only the office boy!

He kept a journal during his jubilee anniversary, a celebration on the date of an important event which happened in the past. Synonym triumpant.

Antonym disappointed.

She edits the journal of the Historical Society, a book for recording each day’s business. She wrote the day’s sales in the sales journal.

She's jolly hard work carrying. who writes for newspapers or magazines, or reports on events for radio or TV. Journalists asked the policeman some very awkward questions. Film stars were greeted by journalists from around the world at the première of the new film.

Journalistic /ˈdʒɔərəlɪstɪk/ adj referring to journalism. Synonym reporting.

A journey /ˈdʒɜəri/ noun an occasion when you travel somewhere, usually a long distance. It’s at least two days’ journey from here. They went on a train journey across China. She has a difficult journey to work every day – she has to change buses twice.

verb /ˈdʒɜəri/ to travel. They journeyed many miles to find the treasure. The book tells the story of a man who journeyed from Italy to China in the 13th century.


Joy /ˈdʒɔɪ/ noun very great happiness.

Joyful /ˈdʒɔɪfl/ adj very happy.

Joyfully /ˈdʒɔɪflɪ/ adv very happily.

Joyous /ˈdʒɔɪəs/ adj very happy.

Joyride /ˈdʒɔɪraɪd/ noun the crime of high-speed driving in a stolen car.

Joystick /ˈdʒɔɪstɪk/ noun 1. a rod which controls the movements of an aircraft. Pull on the joystick to make the plane rise. a device that allows the user to move the cursor round the screen by moving an upright arm.

JP abbr justice of the peace.

Jr abbr junior.

Jubilant /ˈdʒuəbɪlənt/ adj full of happiness, e.g. because of winning something. Synonym triumphant.

Jubilation /ˈdʒuəbɪleɪʃən/ noun a show of great happiness. Synonym elation.

Jubilee /ˈdʒuəbɪli/ noun a celebration on the date of an important event which happened in the past. Synonym anniversary.

Judaism /ˈdʒuədɪzəm/ noun 1. the religion of the Jewish people, which is based on the texts called the Torah and Talmud. the Jewish way of life.

Judder /ˈdʒʊdə/ noun (of a machine) a shaking movement. For some reason, there’s a judder when I put the car into third...
judge 460 jump at

gear. Synonym shudder ■ verb (of a machine) to shake. ○ The ferry juddered as it slowed down and reached the pier. ○ He brought the car to a juddering halt.
judge /dʒʌdʒ/ noun 1. a person whose job is to make legal decisions in a court of law. ○ He was convicted for stealing, but the judge let him off with a small fine. 2. a person who decides which person or thing should win a competition. ○ The three judges of the beauty contest couldn’t agree.
judgment /dʒuˈdmənt/ noun 1. a very sensible judgment. Synonym sensible. Antonym foolish
judicial /dʒuˈdɪʃəl/ adj referring to a legal process or to a court of law
judicious /dʒuˈdiʃəs/ adj based on good judgement. Synonym sensible. Antonym foolish
juggler /dʒʌɡəl/ noun a person who juggles
juggle /dʒʌɡəl/ verb 1. to throw and catch several things such as balls, so that most of them are in the air at the same time. ○ Try and juggle four balls at once. 2. to keep changing things or arrange them in a complicated way. ○ I will have to juggle my meetings so that I can fit everyone in. ○ She’s trying to juggle her investments to get the best interest rate.
jugger  /dʒʊˈɡər/ noun a container with a handle, used for pouring liquids
juggerman /dʒʊˈɡərmən/ noun a very large truck
juice /dʒuːs/ noun 1. a liquid from fruit, vegetables or meat. ○ They charged me £1 for two glasses of orange juice. ○ She had a glass of grapefruit juice for breakfast. 2. to stew in your own juice to suffer because of your own mistakes. ○ Don’t bother about him just let him stew in his own juice for a while.
juicy /ˈdʒuːsɪ/ adj full of juice. (NOTE: juicier – juiciest)
jukebox /dʒuˈkɒks/ noun a coin-operated machine which plays records or CDs.
July /dʒuˈlaɪ/ noun the seventh month of the year, between June and August. ○ July 23 ○ She was born in July – her birthday is July 23rd. ○ We went to Spain last July. ○ July is always one of the busiest months for holidays. (NOTE: July 23rd or July 23: say ‘July the twenty-third’ or ‘the twenty-third of July’. American English: ‘July twenty-third.’)
jumble /dʒuːmbəl/ noun a confused mess ● His clothes were lying in a jumble on the floor. ○ A jumble of thoughts raced through my mind. ■ verb ○ to jumble up to mix; to confuse. ○ The books are all jumbled up – can you sort them out? ○ I wish he spent more time on his reports – the details are always rather jumbled up. ○ His thoughts were all jumbled up in his head.

jump at /dʒʌmp æt/ verb to accept enthusiastically
jumper /'dʒʌmpər/ noun a warm woollen knitted sweater
jump start /'dʒʌmp staːt/ verb to start a car engine when the battery is flat by connecting the battery to the battery of another car. Compare bump start
jumpsuit /'dʒʌmpsjuːt/ noun a piece of clothing made of trousers and top joined together
jumpy /'dʒʌmpi/ adj nervous and excited
junior /'dʒuːniər/ adj 1. younger, less important; 2. for younger children; 3. a small evergreen tree of the Northern Hemisphere, with berries which are used as a flavouring
junk /dʒʌŋk/ noun 1. useless articles, rubbish; 2. a large Chinese sailing boat; 3. junk shop
junk food /dʒʌŋk fʊd/ noun prepared food which is not healthy, e.g. because it contains a lot of fat or sugar
junkie /dʒʌŋki/ noun (slang) 1. a person who is addicted to an illegal drug; 2. a person who is very enthusiastic about something and cannot get enough of it; 3. something of a crossword junkie. Some Internet junkies spend a fortune on telephone bills.
junk mail /dʒʌŋk meɪl/ noun advertising material sent through the post, often thrown away immediately by the people who receive it because they do not want it
junk shop /dʒʌŋk ʃɒp/ noun a shop selling useless old articles
junta /dʒʊntə/ noun a ruling group of ministers, a government which has taken power by force (NOTE: used mainly of military governments. The word is correctly pronounced as /'hunta/ but this pronunciation is not often used in English.)
jupiter /dʒuːpər/ noun the largest planet in the solar system, more than eleven times the size of the earth. See for example the largest planet.
jury /'dʒɜːri/ noun a group of judges in a court of law; 2. a group of judges in a competition; 3. a group of citizens chosen to decide whether someone is guilty or innocent after hearing the evidence given in a court of law. The jury is made up of twelve citizens who are sworn to decide whether someone is guilty or innocent after hearing the evidence given in a court of law. The jury is made up of twelve citizens who are sworn to decide whether someone is guilty or innocent after hearing the evidence given in a court of law.
jury service /'dʒʊərɪ sɜːvɪs/ noun a service which all citizens may be asked to perform, to sit on a jury
just 1. adj exactly; 2. adv exactly as it is, showing the immediate past; 3. adv just so, showing a very small quantity in space or time; 4. adv just so exactly as it should be; 5. adv just so exactly as it should be.
just about
fair, without giving anyone an unfair advantage.

just as

justification
noun fair treatment in law.

justifiable
adj which can be justified.

justifiable
adj in a justifiable way.

justification
noun in what they had done.

justified
adj shown to be right.

justify
verb 1. to show that something is fair, to prove that something is right.

juvenile
noun a young person who commits minor crimes, especially crimes against property.

juvenile
delinquent
noun a young person who commits minor crimes, especially crimes against property.

juxtapose
verb to place side by side, so as to show a difference.

juxtaposition
noun being side by side or very close together.

just
verb 1. to make something just, to be fair or reasonable.

justice
noun fair treatment in law.

justice
noun must always be seen to be done.

justice
noun seen as the best British Chancellor this century.

justice
noun seen as the best British Chancellor this century.

justice
noun to bring someone to justice.

justice
noun to start a legal case against someone.

juvenile
delinquent
noun crimes committed by young people.

juvenile
delinquency
noun crimes committed by young people.

jut
verb (out) to stick out, usually horizontally.

just about
to do something

just as

just as

just as

just as

just as

just as

just as

just as

just about

just about


k /k/, K noun the eleventh letter of the alphabet, between J and L.

κ K abbr one thousand © £20K twenty thousand.

to kaleidoscope /ˈkaɪələˌskəʊp/ noun 1. a toy formed of a tube with mirrors which reflect small pieces of coloured material and make patterns when you move it while looking into it. 2. something which has a series of patterns and colours © The kaleidoscope of autumn colours which you only see in parts of North America.

kaleidoscopic /ˈkæləˌdɪskəpɪk/ adj like a kaleidoscope, with bright colours which change all the time.

kangaroo /ˈkæŋɡəˌruː/ noun a large Australian animal, of which the female carries its young in a pouch.

kangaroo court /ˈkæŋɡəˌruː kɔːt/ noun a court that is not official, set up by a group of people to judge one of their members.

karaoke /kəˈrəʊki/ noun US entertainment, coming originally from Japan, in which people sing to recorded music.

karat /ˈkærət/ noun US a measure of the quality of gold. Pure gold is 24 karats. (NOTE: The British spelling is carat.)

karate /kəˈrɑːt/ noun a Japanese style of fighting, where you hit sharp, quick blows with the side of the hand or kicks with the feet.

karma /ˈkɑːrma/ noun 1. the Hindu and Buddhist belief that the quality of people’s current and future lives is determined by their behaviour in this and past lives. 2. the atmosphere which some people can feel is present in a place, situation, person, or object. 3. destiny or fate.

kayak /ˈkeɪæk/ noun a type of small boat which is pointed at both ends, and almost completely covered, with only a narrow opening for one person to sit in.

kebab /ˈkebəb/ noun small pieces of meat or vegetables, cooked on a long metal stick.

keel /kiːl/ noun 1. a long beam in the bottom of a ship, on which the framework is built. © The dolphins swam under the keel and came up on the other side of the ship. 2. © on an even keel steady and not likely to change suddenly © After the huge fluctuations in the exchange rate in recent weeks, the pound is back on an even keel now. © verb □ to keel over to fall over (informal) © One minute she was sitting and talking happily, the next minute she keeled over onto the floor.

keen /kiːn/ adj 1. © keen on something or someone liking something or someone, enthusiastic about something © He’s keen on keeping fit—he goes running every morning. © I am not very keen on classical music. © I don’t think she’s very keen on her new maths teacher. © keen as mustard very keen (informal) © The new group of trainees are good to work with, they’re keen as mustard. 2. very sensitive © Bats have a keen sense of hearing. (NOTE: keener – keenest)

keenly /ˈkiːnlɪ/ adv sharply, to a great degree.

keenness /ˈkiːnəs/ noun the fact of being keen.

keep /kiːp/ verb 1. to have for a long time or for ever © Can I keep the newspaper I borrowed from you? © I don’t want that book any more, you can keep it. © The police kept my gun and won’t give it back. 2. to continue to do something © The clock kept going even after I dropped it on the floor. © He had to keep smiling so that people would think he was pleased. © Keep quiet or they’ll hear you. © Luckily the weather kept fine for the fair. © The food will keep warm in the oven. 3. to have or put something in a particular place © I keep my car keys in my pocket. © Where do you keep the paper for the laser printer? 4. to make someone or something stay in a place or state © It’s cruel to keep animals in cages. © I was kept late at the office. © They kept us waiting for half an hour. © We put the plates in the oven to keep them warm. 5. to prevent someone from doing something or from going somewhere © She kept him from going out and playing football. © He kept her from seeing her friends. © what kept you? why are you so late? (informal) 6. to stay © let’s keep in touch we should continue to meet or write to each other © kept someone company stayed with someone © to keep an eye on to watch carefully © He’s keeping an eye on the shop.
while I'm away. □ to keep your ear to the ground to follow what is happening and know all about something. □ to keep a diary to write notes every day about what has happened. She kept a diary of her holiday in Spain. □ to keep in good condition and not to go bad. □ Raspberries don't keep. (NOTE: keeps = keeping = kept /kept/) □ noun 1. a central tower, the strongest part of a medieval castle. 2. the amount of money that you need to live on. □ she doesn't earn her keep she doesn't earn enough money to pay for her food and lodging. □ for keeps for ever (informal) □ keep back /kip 'baik/ verb 1. to hold on to something which you should give to someone. □ They kept back £20 from the deposit to cover damage to the carpet. 2. to keep something back from someone. □ tell someone information which you could keep something back from someone. 2. a medieval castle to hide from someone. □ keep out of trouble with the police. □ to keep down □ noun 1. (NOTE: Another US spelling is ketchup.) □ liquid, especially alcohol. Synonym kerosene. □ he doesn't want to talk about something. He doesn't want to talk about his illness, he'd rather keep it to himself. □ to keep yourself to yourself to keep something secret, not to talk about something. □ 3. to keep to the subject of widening the motorway. □ to keep something to yourself to keep something secret, not to talk about something. □ He doesn't want to talk about his illness, he'd rather keep it to himself. □ to keep yourself to yourself to avoid other people. □ They were a quiet couple and kept themselves to themselves. □ keep up /kip 'ʌp/ verb 1. to make something stay at the same high level. □ He finds it very difficult to keep up his German. □ to keep out of the way of someone. □ to keep off drink, his health will improve. □ to keep you fit □ kettle /ket(ə)/ noun a container with a lid and a spout, used for boiling water. □ to put...
keyboards data into a computer

cloth used for soldiers’ uniforms

push down with your fingers on something

the water in the kettle is boiling.

which you put a key into

body through a thin tube

small medical instruments are sent into the

the key.

open a lock

key industry.

a dull yellow-brown colour

The troops wore khaki uniforms.

a dull yellow-brown colour

I don’t like those dull khaki cushions in the living room.

kibbutz

a type of farm in Israel (NOTE: The plural is kibbutzim)

kick

the act of hitting with your foot

The goalkeeper gave the ball a kick.

a feeling of excitement

He gets a kick out of watching a football match on TV.

did it for kicks

did it to get some excitement

The drink has a kick in it!

the strong backward movement of a gun when you fire it

Watch out, this rifle has a powerful kick and can hurt your shoulder.

verb

to hit something with your foot

He kicked the ball into the net.

She kicked her little brother.

verb

to kick the habit

to get rid of a bad habit

I wish he’d kick the habit of whistling while he works.

verb

He doesn’t smoke any more – he kicked the habit a couple of months ago.

bucket

kickback

an amount of money paid illegally to someone who helps a business deal.

bride

kick in

to make something open by kicking it

The police kicked the door in.

verb

to start to have an effect

The car really moves when the turbocharger kicks in.

kick off

to start a game of football

They kicked off at 3.00 and by half-time there was still no score.

verb

to make something start or start again

The government’s plans to kick start the economy.

kick up

verb (informal)

to kick up a fuss

to start a motorbike by pressing down on the pedal

He kick started the engine.

verb

to make something start or start again

The government’s plans to kick start the economy.

kick out

verb

to get rid of someone

The kids are only messing about – there’s no need to kick up a fuss by calling the police.

verb

to treat someone with kid gloves to treat someone
kiddle

very carefully (informal) \(\circ\) He needs to be treated with kid gloves so as not to upset him.
 verb to make someone believe something which is not true \(\lozenge\) I was only kidding I did not mean it \(\circ\) no kidding? is it really true?

kiddle \(\text{ki}d\text{i}\) noun a small child (informal)

kidnap \(\text{kid}n\text{ap}\) verb to take someone away illegally and keep them prisoner. Synonym abduct (NOTE: kidnapping – kidnapped)

kidnapper \(\text{kid}n\text{ap}\text{er}\) noun a person who kidnaps someone

kidney \(\text{kid}\text{ney}\) noun 1. one of a pair of organs in animals that clean the blood and remove waste from it 2. this organ from an animal such as a lamb or pig, used as food

steak and kidney pie

kidney bean \(\text{kid}n\text{ey}\text{ b\text{i}}\) noun a type of bean with reddish seeds which look a little like kidney beans

kill \(\text{k\text{i}}\) verb 1. to make someone or something die \(\circ\) He was sentenced to death for killing his wife. \(\circ\) The drought has killed all the crops. \(\circ\) The car hit a cat and killed it. 2. \(\circ\) to kill time to spend time while waiting for something important \(\circ\) I killed some time waiting for the train by having a coffee. \(\circ\) to kill two birds with one stone to get two successful results from one action \(\circ\) While I’m in London for the conference I could kill two birds with one stone and visit my parents. \(\circ\) my feet are killing me my feet are hurting very much (informal) \(\circ\) he was killing himself laughing he was laughing very much (informal)

killer \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{ll\text{e}}\) noun 1. a person who kills \(\circ\) The police are still hunting for the killer. 2. which kills \(\circ\) a killer flu virus

killer whale \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{l\text{e}r\text{ w\text{h\text{a\text{l}}}}\) noun a medium-sized black and white whale which eats fish and seals

killing \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{l\text{n}\text{g}}\) noun 1. the process of putting a person or animal to death \(\circ\) The police are investigating the killing of the tourists. \(\circ\) There have been reports of killings in the villages. \(\circ\) The killing of rhinos has been banned. 2. \(\circ\) to make a killing to make a very large profit \(\circ\) He made a killing on the stock market. \(\circ\) very funny \(\circ\) I thought it was killing, but no one else laughed at all.

killing \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{l\text{n}\text{g}}\) noun a person who stops other people from enjoying themselves. Synonym spoilsport

kilt \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{l}\text{t}\) noun an oven for making objects from clay hard enough to last

kilo \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{l}\text{o}\text{b}\) abbr kilogram (NOTE: The plural is kilos.)

kilobyte \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{l\text{o}}\text{b\text{a}}\text{t}\text{e}\) noun a unit of storage for a computer equal to 1,024 bytes

kilogram \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{l\text{a}}\text{r\text{a}}\text{m}\) noun a measure of weight equal to one thousand grams (NOTE: written kg after figures: 20kg)

kilometre \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{l\text{o}}\text{m\text{e}}\text{t}\text{r}\text{e}\) noun one thousand metres \(\circ\) the car has just had its 100,000 kilometre service the car has been checked by the garage after having travelled 100,000 kilometres (NOTE: The US spelling is kilometer.)

kill \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{l}\text{t}\) noun 1. a medium-sized black and white whale which eats fish and seals

kill a person or animal to death

killing 1. to make a killing

king \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{n}\) noun 1. a kind old gentlemen

king 2.

kind \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{n}\) adj friendly, helpful, thinking about other people

kind and 

kindhearted \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{n\text{d\text{e}}}\text{h\text{a}}\text{r\text{t}}\text{d}\) adj kind and thoughtful towards other people

kindle \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{n\text{d\text{l}}}\) verb 1. to make something catch fire

kindling \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{n\text{d\text{l}}}\text{n}\) noun material such as small pieces of wood, used for starting a fire

kingdom \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{n\text{d\text{e}}}\text{m}\) adj thoughtful and pleasant

kindness \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{n\text{d\text{e}}}\text{n}\text{s}\) noun the quality of being kind \(\circ\) She was touched by his kindness. Synonym compassion. Antonym cruelty 2. a kind act

kingdom spirit \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{n\text{d\text{e}}}\text{r\text{d}}\text{'s\text{p\text{r\text{i}}}t\text{n}}\) noun a person who thinks in the same way as you do

king \(\text{k\text{i}}\text{n}\) noun 1. a man who governs a country by right of birth \(\circ\) The king and
kingdom /ˈkɪndəm/ noun 1. the land ruled over by a king or queen ○ England is part of the United Kingdom. ○ He gave her a book of fairy stories about a magic kingdom, ruled over by a king or queen. 2. a part of the world of nature ○ the animal kingdom. 3. till kingdom come for ever, for a very long time (informal) ○ On Saturday mornings you can wait till kingdom come to be served. 4. a person in the top position ○ He’s king of the pop music scene. ○ The lion is king of the jungle.

kingfisher /ˈkɪnfɪʃər/ noun a small bright blue bird that dives for fish

kiss /kɪs/ noun 1. the act of bringing someone back to life by breathing into his or her mouth ○ kiss of life /ˈkɪs əv ˈlaɪfl/ noun 2. clothes and personal equipment, usually packed for carrying ○ Did you bring your tennis kit? 2. a box containing pieces which can be put together to make something such as a piece of furniture or a model ○ He spent the afternoon building a model aircraft from a kit. ○ The new garden furniture arrived as a kit and we had to put it together ourselves. 3. to kit out to supply with clothes and equipment ○ They kitted themselves out with skis and boots.

kitbag /ˈkɪtbæg/ noun a long round bag which a soldier uses for carrying clothes and equipment

kitchen /ˈkɪtʃən/ noun 1. a room where you cook food ○ She put the meat down on the kitchen table. ○ If you’re hungry, have a look in the kitchen to see if there’s anything to eat. 2. fitted kitchenette /ˈkɪtʃɪnɛt/ noun a small kitchen in a corner of a living room

kitchen garden /ˈkɪtʃɪn ˈɡɑːrdn/ noun a part of a garden where fruit and vegetables are grown

kist /ˈkɪst/ noun 1. a toy made of light wood and paper or cloth which is flown in a strong wind on the end of a string ○ He was flying his kite from the top of the hill. ○ The wind nearly blew the kite away. 2. a shape in mathematics like a kite, with two short sides and two long sides, and no right angles 3. a large bird of prey ○ Red kites have started nesting in the cliffs.

kith and kin /kɪθ ən ˈkɪn/ plural noun friends and relatives

kitchen /ˈkɪtʃn/ noun 1. a small tropical fruit, with a hairy skin and green flesh (NOTE: no plural) ○ Kleenex /ˈkliːnɛks/ trademark the trademark for a paper handkerchief (NOTE: The
up to your knees in/L50263

lower leg, where your leg bends

,body

saw him last he was just knee-high to a/L50765/L50263

value between the queen and the ten

/trousers that covers the knee

(holes in both knees.

before it is cooked to make bread. Synonym

people feel at home.

/react without thinking, or happening as a re-

tion, where you are not sure what will happen

verb to stab someone with a knife.  

was knifed in the back during the fight.  

NOTE: knives – knitting – knitted

/knife /nast/ noun 1. a man honoured by

a king for services to his country (and taking

the title ‘Sir’)  

baronet 2. (in medieval times) a brave sol-

dier often devoted to the service of a lady  

King Arthur and the Knights of the Round

Table.  

Many knights were killed in the

Wars of the Roses.  

one of two pieces in a

chess set with a horse’s head  

With a clever move she took his knight.  

verb to make someone a knight.  

He was knighted for ser-

vices to education.

COMMENT: Knights are addressed as ‘Sir’,

followed by their Christian name and family

name; their wives are addressed as ‘Lady’

followed by the family name (hence Sir John

Smith’s wife is addressed as ‘Lady Smith’).

/knighthood /nathhod/ noun the position of being a knight

/knit /nizi/ verb 1. to make a piece of cloth-

ing out of wool by linking threads together

with two long needles  

My mother is knitting

me a pullover.  

She was wearing a blue

knitted hat. (NOTE: knitting – knitted)

2. to knit your brow to wrinkle your forehead

as you try to do something difficult  

She knitted her brow as she tried to understand the

guidebook.

/knitting /nittin/ noun 1. the action of

making something out of wool with knitting

needles  

Her great hobby is knitting.  

2. a piece of work which is in the process of be-

ing made by knitting  

She brought her knitting

with her to the conference.

/knitwear /nictwi/ noun knitted clothes

such as jumpers and pullovers (NOTE: no plural)

/knob /nib/ noun 1. a rounded handle such

as on a door or drawer  

To open the door, just
turn the knob. 2. a round button which you

turn to operate a radio or TV etc.  

Turn the knob to increase the volume. 3. a round

lump  

Put a knob of butter in the frying pan.

/knobbly /næbli/ adj bumpy, covered with

knobs. Synonym lumpy

/knock /nık/ noun 1. a sound made by

hitting something  

Suddenly, there was a

knock at the door. 2. the act of hitting  

She received a knock on the head with a brick. 3.

an unfortunate event  

He’s taken some

knocks during his career.  

verb 1. to hit

something  

Knock twice before going in.  

You’ll need a heavy hammer to knock that

nail in. 2. to criticise  

She wrote an article

knocking the Prime Minister. 3. (of a car en-

gine) to ignite badly in the cylinder and make

a knocking sound  

The car has started to

knock, so the timing needs adjusting.
knock about /ˈnɒk əˈbaut/ verb 1. to wander about doing nothing ○ He spent several years knocking about the back streets of New Orleans. 2. to knock someone about to beat someone ○ He was badly knocked about in the fight. 3. to knock something about to damage something ○ The cathedral was badly knocked about in the bombardment.

knock back /ˈnɒk əˈbæk/ verb 1. to drink a drink quickly ○ He knocked back his drink and ran outside. 2. to knock someone back a sum to cost someone an amount of money ○ It will knock me back a few hundred pounds.

knock down /ˈnɒk əˈdaʊn/ verb 1. to make something fall down ○ They are going to knock down the old house to build a factory. 2. to hit ○ She was knocked down by a car. 3. to reduce a price ○ They knocked the price down to £50. 4. to sell something to someone at an auction ○ It was knocked down to a German buyer for £250.

knock-down /ˈnɒk ə ˈdaʊn/ noun a very low price

knocker /ˈnɒkə/ noun 1. a knob or ring attached to a door which can be hit against it to call attention ○ The bell on the front door doesn’t work, so you have to use the knocker. 2. a person who is always criticising something ○ The letter in the paper should silence the government’s knockers.

knock-kneed /ˈnɒk kɛd/ adj with knees that touch each other when walking

knock off /ˈnɒk əˈf/ verb 1. to make something fall off by hitting it ○ The cat knocked the glass off the shelf. 2. to stop work ○ The workmen all knocked off at 4.30. 3. to reduce the price of something by an amount ○ He knocked £1000 off the price of the car.

knock-on effect /ˈnɒk ən ɪˈfekt/ adj effect which follows on from something ○ The airport strike had a knock-on effect on the tourist industry.

knock out /ˈnɒk əˈaut/ verb 1. to hit someone so hard that he is no longer conscious ○ She was knocked out by a blow on the head. ○ The boxer was knocked out in the third round. 2. to make someone go to sleep ○ The doctor gave her something which knocked her out.

knockout /ˈnɒkət/ noun (in boxing) the action of hitting someone so hard that he loses consciousness ○ He won by a knockout (KO) in the third round.

knockout competition /ˈnɒkət kəˈpiːtʃən/ a contest where several teams or players compete against one another and each one that loses then leaves the competition

knock up /ˈnɒk əˈp/ verb 1. to wake someone up ○ Can you knock me up early tomorrow morning? 2. to put something together rapidly ○ She knocked up a dinner for six people at half an hour’s notice. ○ He knocked up a garden shed out of old pieces of timber.

knock-up /ˈnɒk əp/ noun (in tennis) a practice time before a game when the players hit the ball backwards and forwards over the net

knock /nɒkt/ noun 1. the ends of a piece of string or rope, etc., twisted and fastened together ○ Boy Scouts are supposed to be able to tie knots. ○ Is the knot of my tie straight? 2. to tie the knot to get married ○ It's a small group ○ Knots of people stood and watched the firemen. 3. a measure of speed used to show the speed of a ship or of the wind ○ The ship was doing 22 knots when she hit the rocks. ○ There’s a wind speed of 60 knots. 4. a round place on a piece of wood where a branch or twig was originally growing ○ This piece of wood is no good – it is full of knots.

knob /nɒb/ noun 1. to tie a knot in something ○ He knocked the end of the rope. 2. to get knotted! go away, don’t bother me (showing annoyance and contempt) ○ If they ask for money again, tell them to get knotted.

knotted /ˈnɒtɪd/ adj tied in a knot, confused or tangled up in knots, or made using decorative knots

knotty /ˈnɒtɪ/ adj difficult to solve (NOTE: knottier – knottiest)

know /nəʊ/ verb 1. to have learned something, to have information about something ○ Do you know how to start the computer? ○ He didn’t know she had died. ○ How was I to know she wasn’t his wife? ○ You know, it would be expensive. ○ Do you know the Spanish for ‘one – two – three’? ○ His secretary doesn’t know where he is. 2. to have met someone ○ I know your sister – we were at school together. ○ I used to know a man called Jones who worked in your company. 3. to know someone by sight to know who someone is, even though you have never spoken to him or her ○ to have been to a place ○ you never know perhaps ○ You never know, she may still turn up. ○ as far as I know all I know is that ○ As far as I know, he left by car at 6 p.m. ○ Is she in trouble? – Not as far as I know. 4. to have information about something ○ In the know ○ Those in the know say that’s the best restaurant in town. ○ Someone in the know gave me the tip.
know-all

know-all /ˈnəʊ ɔːl/ noun a person who claims he knows everything (informal)

know-how /ˈnəʊ hau/ noun knowledge about how something is made or is done (informal)

knowing /ˈnəʊjɪŋ/ adj showing that you know about something

knowingly /ˈnəʊjɪŋli/ adv 1. deliberately, on purpose ○ He is accused of knowingly handling stolen goods. 2. showing that you know about something ○ He glanced knowingly in her direction.

knowledge /ˈnɒlɪdʒ/ noun 1. what a particular person knows about something ○ To my knowledge, he left the house at 10 p.m. ○ The police have no knowledge of the accident. ○ to the best of my knowledge as far as I know ○ To the best of my knowledge, no one else has seen this document. ○ It is common knowledge that everyone knows that ○ It is common knowledge that his wife wants to emigrate. 2. the general facts or information that people know ○ An encyclopaedia is supposed to list all human knowledge.

Knowledge /ˈnɒlɪdʒ/ noun the ability to remember the road map and street plan of London, which taxi drivers are tested on before getting their licence (informal)

knowledgeable /ˈnɒlɪdʒəb(ə)l/ adj who knows a lot about something. Synonym well-informed. Antonym ignorant

knew /nəʊ/ know /nəʊ/ known /nəʊn/ adj which is known. Synonym recognised. Antonym unknown ○ a known quantity something, a fact or a situation, which you know about ○ When trading with American companies, at least you are dealing with a known quantity.

knuckle /ˈnʌkl/ noun a joint in your fingers. Synonym protuberance ○ to rap someone over the knuckles to criticise someone ○ He was rapped over the knuckles for having overspent his budget.

knuckle down /ˈnʌkl(ə)ˈdaʊn/ verb to start working hard (informal)

knuckle under /ˈnʌkl(ə)ˈʌndə/ verb to give in to someone. Antonym continue

KO abbr knockout

kookaburra /ˈkʊkəbʌrə/ noun a large Australian kingfisher

Koran /ˈkɔrən/ noun the holy book of Islam

kosher /ˈkəʊʃə/ adj (of food.Synonym well-informed. Antonym ignorant)

kph abbr kilometres per hour

Kremlin /ˈkremlɪn/ noun the Russian government and its building in Moscow

krypton /ˈkrɒptɒn/ noun an inert gas found in very small quantities in the atmosphere

kudos /ˈkjuːdəʊs/ noun glory, fame. Antonym discredit (NOTE: no plural)

kung fu /kʊŋ ˈfʊ/ noun a Chinese style of fighting, where you can kick as well as punch
bet, between K and M.

have made their first single on the Virgin la-

laboured night and day to finish the project

lot of work or effort

to the hospital.

labour at home, and her husband drove her

to label /ˈleɪbəl/ noun 1. a message at-
tached to something to give information such
as its price or contents or someone’s name
and address, etc. ○ She stuck a label on the
parcel. ○ The price on the label is £25.00. ○
a tie-on label a label with a piece of
string attached so that it can be tied on
to an item 2. the name of a recording
company on a record or CD ○ The group
have made their first single on the Virgin la-
bet.

verb to put a label on something ○ All
the goods are labelled with the correct price.
(NOTE: labelling – labelled. The US spelling
is labeling – labeled.)

laboratory /ˈlæbərət(ə)rɪ/ noun a place
where scientific experiments, testing and re-
search are carried out ○ She’s a chemist
working in the university laboratories. ○ All
our products are tested in our own laborato-
ries. (NOTE: The plural is laboratories.)

Labor Day /ˈleɪbər deɪ/ noun an American
and Canadian national holiday celebrated on
the first Monday in September

laborious /ˈlæbərɪəs/ adj 1. involving a lot
of work ○ I’m afraid it is a very laborious
task, moving that pile of sand to the back of
the house. 2. showing signs of a lot of effort ○
His laborious newspaper articles are diffi-
cult to read.

descriptively /ˈlæbərɪəsli/ adv involving a
lot of work or effort

labor union /ˈleɪbər ˈjuːnɪʃən/ noun US a
trade union

labour /ˈleɪbur/ noun 1. hard work ○ After
digging the garden, it is good to lie on the
grass and rest from your labours. ○ to charge
materials and labour to charge for both
the materials used in a job and also the
hours of work involved 2. all workers, the
workforce ○ Cheap labour is difficult to find.

labour dispute /ˈleɪbər ˈdɪspjət/ noun
same as industrial dispute

laboured /ˈleɪbard/ adj showing signs of
too much effort (NOTE: The US spelling
is labored.)

labourer /ˈleɪbara/ noun a person who
does heavy work with his hands (NOTE: The
US spelling is laborer.)

labour force /ˈleɪbər fɔr/ noun the total
number of workers employed in a country, an
industry or an organisation. Synonym
workforce

labour-intensive /ˈleɪbər inˈtensɪv/ adj
involving a high number of employees or
greater costs for labour than for other areas
such as materials, machines or design

labour market /ˈleɪbər ˈmɑːkt/ noun a
supply of workers ready and available for
work

labour movement /ˈleɪbər ˈmuːvmənt/ noun
organisations whose aims are to im-
prove conditions for workers and get political
power

labour-saving /ˈleɪbər ˈseɪvɪŋ/ adj which
saves you doing hard work (NOTE: The
US spelling is labor-saving.)

labrador /ˈleɪbrədɔ/ noun a type of large
dog, usually black or pale brown

labyrinth /ˈleɪbrənθ/ noun a system of
complicated paths, alleys or corridors which
it is difficult to find your way out of

lace /ˈleɪs/ noun 1. a thin strip of leather or
cord for tying up a shoe or other piece of
clothing ○ His laces kept coming undone. ○
She’s too little to be able to do up her laces
herself. 2. decorative fabric with open pat-
terns of threads like a net ○ a lace tablecloth ○
Her wedding dress was trimmed with lace.
(NOTE: no plural in this meaning) ○ verb 1.
to fasten with laces ○ He laced up his boots.
lacerate

2. to add alcohol to a drink. Someone had laced her orange juice with gin.

laceration /ˈlæsərəʃən/ noun a place where flesh has been torn.

lace-up /ˈleɪs ap/ plural noun shoes which are fastened with laces.

lack /læk/ noun not having enough of something. The children are suffering from a lack of food. The project was cancelled because of lack of funds. Synonym shortage.

lackadaisical /ˈlækə də zɪklə/ adj done without any effort or enthusiasm. Synonym apathetic.

lack of food. Synonym hunger.

lacquer /ˈlækər/ noun a type of hard shiny varnish or paint, often used on wood or metal.

lacquer /ˈlækər/ noun 1. a type of hard shiny varnish or paint, often used on wood or metal.

lacquer 2. the coating of lacquer on the chest had been cracked, 2. a spray for keeping hair in place.

lacklustre /ˈlækləstər/ adj dull, not brilliant.

lack of understanding. Synonym failure.

lack of food. Synonym hunger.

laden /ˈlɛd(ə)n/ adj laden with containing a cargo, carrying something heavy. She was laden with shopping bags.

laden /ˈlɛd(ə)n/ adj laden with carrying a heavy load of.

ladera /ˈlɛrdərə/ noun a deep large deep spoon for serving liquid foods such as soup. The cook stood by the soup bowl, with her ladle in her hand.

lactose /ˈlæktəs/ noun a sugar contained in milk.

ladybird /ˈlɛdbɜrd/ noun a type of small beetle, usually red with black spots. (NOTE: The US term is ladybug.)

ladykiller /ˈlɛdɪklɪr/ noun a man who is attractive to women (informal).

ladylike /ˈlɛdɪlaɪk/ adj (of behaviour of women) elegant, refined.

lag /læɡ/ noun an interval of time between two linked happenings.

laissez-faire /luˈzə fɛːʁ/ French noun a political theory where a government does nothing to control the economy.

laid-back /ˈlɛd bæk/ adj relaxed, not in a hurry (informal).

laid /ˈlɛd/ verb laid (of stockings) to get a ladder. I laddered my stocking on the nail.

laddie /ˈlædi/ noun (in the North of England & Scotland) a boy or young man (informal). Compare lassie.
lake

fai re policies resulted in increased economic activity, but contributed to a rise in imports.

2. lake /leɪk/ noun an area of fresh water surrounded by land ○ Let's take a boat out on the lake. ○ We can sail across the lake. ○ The hotel stands on the shores of Lake Windermere. Synonym pond

lama /ˈlɑːma/ noun a Buddhist priest, especially in Tibet. Synonym monk (NOTE: Do not confuse the spelling with llama.) ○

lam /ˈlæm/ noun 1. a young sheep ○ In spring, the fields are full of sheep and their tiny lambs. 2. meat from a lamb or sheep ○ a leg of lamb ○ roast lamb and mint sauce (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 3. a dear child or person ○ She's such a lamb!

lambast /ˈlæmbǝst/ verb to be very critical of someone or something

lambing /ˈlæmbɪŋ/ noun the process of giving birth to lambs

lamb's wool /ˈlæmbz wʊl/ noun a very soft wool, from a young sheep (NOTE: no plural)

lame /ˈlæm/ adj 1. not able to walk properly ○ He is lame in his left leg. 2. weak or unsatisfactory ○ He produced a very lame excuse for not coming to the meeting. (NOTE: lamer – lamest) 

lame duck /ˈlæm ˈdʌsk/ noun someone or something that is regarded as weak and unsuccessful ○ lame-duck company a company which is in financial difficulties ○ The government has promised a rescue package for lame-duck companies. ○

lame-duck president a president in the last part of his term of office who cannot stand for re-election and so lacks political support ○ No foreign policy decisions will be made because of the lame-duck presidency. (NOTE: only used before a noun)

lame

lament /ˈlæmənt/ noun 1. a sad song or music ○ A lone piper played a lament at the funeral. 2. an expression of sadness ○ His lament at the demolition of the old church ○ verb to be very sad about ○ We are still lamenting the closure of our local post office.

Synonym mourn

lamentable /ˈlæməntəbl/ adj very bad

lamented /ˈlæməntid/ adj missed because it has gone

laminated /ˈlæmɪnətɪd/ adj covered with a layer, or with several layers glued together to form a thick surface

lamp /læmp/ noun a device which makes light ○ The campsite is lit by large electric lamps

lamplight /ˈlæmplait/ noun the light from a lamp

lampoon /ˈlæmpəʊn/ noun an attack in writing or verse that is supposed to be funny ○ verb to use humour as a way of attacking somebody or something in a piece of writing

lamp post /ˈlæmpl.poust/ noun a tall post by the side of a road, holding a lamp ○

lampshade /ˈlæmplʃeɪd/ noun a cover put over a lamp

LAN abbr local area network

lance /ˈlæns/ noun a long pointed stick carried by a knight in armour. Synonym spear ○ verb to make a cut in a boil or abscess to remove the pus ○ The doctor decided to lance the abscess.

land /lænd/ noun 1. earth, as opposed to water ○ They were glad to be back on (dry) land again after two weeks at sea. (NOTE: no plural) 2. a piece of ground ○ She owns some land in the north of the country. ○ We bought a piece of land to build a house. ○ farmland (NOTE: no plural) 3. a country ○ People from many lands visited the exhibition. ○ He wants to see his native land again before he is too old to travel. ○ verb 1. to arrive on the ground, or on another surface ○ The flight from Amsterdam has landed. ○ We will be landing at London Airport in five minutes. ○ The ducks tried to land on the ice. ○ to land on one's feet to be successful (informal) ○ After being made redundant he joined the police force and has really landed on his feet. 2. to be successful in hitting someone ○ He landed several punches on his opponent's head. 3. to put goods or passengers on to land after a voyage by sea or by air ○ The ship was landing goods at the port. ○ We landed several passengers at Heathrow Airport. 4. to catch a big fish ○ We landed three salmon. 5. to manage to get something ○ He landed a contract with a Chinese company.

landed /ˈlændid/ adj owning land

landfill /ˈlændfl/ noun a way of disposing of rubbish by putting it into holes in the ground and covering it with earth

landfall site /ˈlændfl sat/ noun an area of land where people's rubbish is put into holes in the ground and covered with earth

landing /ˈlændɪŋ/ noun 1. (especially of aircraft) arriving on the ground or on a surface ○ The plane made a smooth landing. ○ Strong winds meant that landing on the aircraft carrier was difficult. ○ crash-landing 2. a flat place at the top of stairs ○ She was waiting for me on the landing.
landing stage /ˈlændɪŋ steɪdi/ noun a platform where passengers can get on or leave a boat. Synonym jetty

landing strip /ˈlændɪŋ strɪp/ noun a rough place for planes to land

landlady /ˈlændlədi/ noun 1. a woman from whom you rent somewhere to live ○ You must pay your rent to the landlady every month. 2. a woman who is in charge of a hotel or pub ○ The landlady sat behind the bar. (NOTE: The plural is landladies.)

landline /ˈlænd(ɪ)lайн/ noun 1. a telecommunication line on land. 2. a telephone which is not a mobile phone

landlocked /ˈlændlkɒkt/ adj more or less surrounded by land. Antonym coastal

landlord /ˈlændlord/ noun 1. a man or company from whom you rent property such as a house, room or office ○ Tell the landlord if your roof leaks. ○ The landlord refused to make any repairs to the roof. 2. the man who is in charge of a hotel or pub ○ There’s a new landlord at the ‘Half Moon’.

landmark /ˈlændmɑːrk/ noun 1. a building or large object on land which you can see easily ○ The Statue of Liberty is a famous New York landmark. 2. an outstanding or important event ○ The day when power was handed over to China was a landmark in the history of Hong Kong.

landmass /ˈlændmæs/ noun a large area of land. Synonym continent (NOTE: The plural is landmasses.)

landmine /ˈlændmaɪn/ noun a small bomb hidden under the surface of the soil, which explodes if disturbed

landowner /ˈlændəʊnə/ noun a person who owns land, and may rent it out. Antonym tenant

landscape /ˈlændskɛp/ noun 1. scenery, the appearance of the countryside ○ The beautiful landscape of the West Country. 2. a painting of a country scene ○ He collects 18th century English landscapes. ■ verb to improve the appearance of a garden by making artificial lakes, planting trees, etc. ○ He spent years landscaping his garden. Synonym design

landslide /ˈlændslaɪd/ noun 1. a sudden fall of large amounts of soil and rocks down the side of a mountain ○ Landslides have blocked several roads through the mountains. 2. an large majority obtained in an election ○ The Socialists won in a landslide or won a landslide victory. 3. verb to win a landslide or to win by a landslide victory.

land up /ˈlænd ʌp/ verb to end in a place (informal)

landing stage

landing strip

landlady

landlord

landmark

landmass

landmine

landscape

landslide

land up

landing stage 474 lapse

lapse /læps/ noun 1. an interval of time, especially when something does not take place ○ There is a lapse of two seconds between touching the switch and the screen lighting up. ○ They have started work on the motorway again after a considerable lapse of time. 2. a failure of something to work properly ○ I
lapsed

must have had a lapse of memory. ■ verb 1. to stop o All rubbish collections lapsed during the strike. 2. to stop being valid o My parking permit has lapsed, I must get it renewed. 3. □ to lapse into something to fall into a worse state than before o The country lapsed into anarchy when the president was assassinated. □ After the brain operation, she lapsed into a coma from which she never recovered.

lapsed /læps/ adj □ a lapsed Catholic a person who was baptised a Catholic, but no longer practises their religion

laptop /ˈlæptɒp/ noun a small computer which can be held on your knees

lap up /ˈlæpuː/ verb 1. (of animals) to drink greedily with the tongue o The cat was lapping up the milk. 2. to accept something enthusiastically o She told him how good his book was, and he just sat there lapping it up.

larch /lɑːtʃ/ noun a tree which has cones, but which loses its leaves in winter (NOTE: The plural is larches.)

lard /lɑːrd/ noun pork fat used in cooking

larder /ˈlɑːrdər/ noun a cool room or cupboard for storing food. Synonym pantry

large /lɑːɡ/ adj 1. big o She ordered a large cup of coffee. o Our house has one large bedroom and two very small ones. o How large is your garden? o Why has she got an office which is larger than mine? 2. □ by and large generally speaking o By and large, it is cheaper living in Madrid than in London. □ at large 1. illegally out of prison 2. in general

large intestine /ˈlɑːɡɪnstɪtn/ noun the second section of the intestines, leading down to the rectum

largely /ˈlɑːɡli/ adv mainly, mostly o The strange weather is largely due to El Niño. o His farm is largely grazing land. Antonym particularly

large-scale /ˈlɑːɡsiːkəl/ adj involving large numbers of people or large amounts of money. Antonym small-scale

largesse /ˈlɑːɡəs/ noun the generous giving of money

lark /lɑːrk/ noun 1. a bird which sings and flies high in the sky o Larks were singing high up above the fields. □ to get up with the lark to get up very early in the morning 2. amusing and daring behaviour o We all jumped into the fountains at Trafalgar Square – what a lark! ■ verb o to lark about to play around noisily like children (informal) o The students were larking about in the snow.

larna /ˈlɑːrə/ noun the early stage of development of an insect, like a fat worm and different in form from the adult (NOTE: The plural is larvae /ˈlɑːrvɪz/)

larval /ˈlɑːr(ə)l/ adj referring to larvae

laryngitis /ˈlɑːrɪŋdʒɪtɪs/ noun an inflammation of the larynx

larynx /ˈlɑːrɪŋks/ noun the upper part of the windpipe, where sounds are made. Also called voice box (NOTE: The plural is larynxes).

lasagne /ˈlɑːzənj/ noun a type of flat pasta, served cooked with meat or vegetable sauce

lascivious /ˈlɑːsviəs/ adj full of sexual desire

laser /ˈleɪzər/ noun an instrument which produces a highly concentrated beam of light

laser printer /ˈleɪzər ˈprɪntər/ noun an office printing machine which prints using a laser beam

laser surgery /ˈleɪzər, ˈlɑːdʒər/ noun surgery using lasers, such as the removal of tumours, etc.

lash /lɑʃ/ verb 1. to beat something with a whip o She lashed at the horse to make it go faster. 2. to beat against something, as if with a whip o The rain was lashing against the windows. 3. to fasten or tie down tightly with rope o Containers carried on the deck of a ship must be securely lashed down. ■ noun 1. a stroke with a whip o He was sentenced to six lashes. 2. the part of a whip that bends easily o He hit the horse with the tip of his lash. 3. an eyelash o She has lovely long lashes. (NOTE: The plural is lashes.)

lashings /ˈlɑʃɪŋz/ noun a lot (dated informal)

lash out /lɑʃt/ verb □ to lash out at to try to hit o He lashed out at the policeman.

lass /lɑs/ noun (in the North of England & Scotland) a girl or young woman. Antonym lad (NOTE: The plural is lasses.)

lassie /ˈlɑsi/ noun (in the North of England & Scotland) a girl or young woman (informal). Compare laddie

lassitude /ˈlɑːstjuːd/ noun a feeling of being very tired, where you do not want to do anything. Antonym liveliness

lasso /ˈlɑːsu/ noun a rope with a loop at the end for catching animals such as cattle or horses o She caught the horse with a lasso. Synonym noose (NOTE: The plural is lassoes.) ■ verb to catch an animal with a lasso o He lassoed the horse. (NOTE: lassoes – lassoing – lassoed)

lassoing /ˈlɑsəʊɪŋ/ adj 1. which comes at the end of a list, line or period of time o The post office is the last building on the right. □ The invoice must be paid by the last day of the month. □ at last, at long last in the end, after a long time □ she’s the last person I would want to take to a chic restaurant I would never go to a chic restaurant with her □ last thing at night at the very end of the day □
We always have a drink of hot milk last thing at night. || last but not least the last in a list, but by no means the least important || Last but not least, mother topped the cake with chocolate icing. 2. most recent || She’s been ill for the last ten days. || The last three books I read were rubbish. || last but one the one before the last one || My last car but one was a Rolls Royce. 3. || last night the evening and night of yesterday || We had dinner together last night. || last Tuesday the Tuesday before today || I saw her last Tuesday. || Have you still got last Tuesday’s newspaper? || last week the week before this one || The fair was in town last week – you’ve missed it! || last month the month before this one || Last month it rained almost every day. || last year the year before this one || Where did you go on holiday last year? || noun 1, the thing or person coming at the end || She was the last to arrive. || that’s the last of the apples we have finished the apples || final words || That’s not the last they’ve heard from me. || 3. || before last the one before the most recent || the Tuesday before last two Tuesdays ago || the week before last two weeks ago || the year before last two years ago || He changed his car the year before last. || adv 1, at the end || She came last in the competition. || Out of a queue of twenty people, I was served last. 2. most recently || When did you see her last? || She was looking ill when I saw her last or when I last saw her. || verb to continue for some time || The fine weather won’t last. || Our holidays never seem to last very long. || The storm lasted all night. || The meeting lasted for three hours. || Synonym carry on

**last-ditch** /ˈlɑːst dɪtʃ/ adj, final, last before something unpleasant happens

**last gasp** /ˈlɑːst ˈɡɑːsp/ a final action, which marks the end of something

**lastling** /ˈlɑːst lɪŋ/ adj which lasts for a long time. Synonym permanent. Antonym temporary

**lastly** /ˈlɑːstli/ adv at the end. Synonym finally. Antonym firstly

**last-minute** /ˈlɑːst ˈmɪnət/ adj very late. Antonym prompt

**last name** /ˈlɑːst nɛm/ noun a person’s surname

**last night** /ˈlɑːst ˈnɪt/ noun on the previous day after dark

**last orders** /ˈlɑːst ˈɔːdəz/ plural noun, interj the final opportunity to buy drinks before a pub or bar closes

**last post** /ˈlɑːst pəʊst/ noun 1. the last collection of mail from a letterbox || The last post goes at 5.30. 2. a bugle call played at military funerals, and at Remembrance Day ceremonies || A lone bugler played the last post as the general was buried. (NOTE: The US term is taps.)

**late rites** /ˈlɑːst ˈræts/ plural noun a religious service for someone who is dying (NOTE: Do not confuse with right.)

**last straw** /ˈlɑːst ˈstrɔ/ noun the final problem which makes everything seem hopeless

**last word** /ˈlɑːst wɜːd/ noun the very latest fashion

**latch** /lɑtʃ/ noun the fastening for a door consisting of a small bar which fits into a catch || The burglars pushed on the door and broke the latch. Synonym fastener || the door is on the latch the door is held shut by a latch but is not locked || Leave the door on the latch – I’ll be back in a minute. || verb 1. to close with a latch || It’s not enough just to latch the door, it must be locked at night. 2. to latch on to something to understand something or to take up something (informal) || Children latch on to their parents’ bad habits very quickly. || The reporters quickly latched on to the fact that the Prime Minister did not applaud the Chancellor’s speech. ||

**late** /læt/ adj 1. after the usual time; after the time when it was expected || The plane is thirty minutes late. || It’s too late to change your ticket. || Hurry or you’ll be late for the show; || We apologise for the late arrival of the plane from Amsterdam. 2. at the end of a period of time || The traffic was bad in the last afternoon. || He moved to London in the late 1980s. 3. towards the end of the day || It’s late – I’m going to bed. 4. dead || His last father was a director of the company. || The last president was working on his memoirs when he died. (NOTE: only used before a noun in this meaning)

**latecomer** /ˈlæt kəmər/ noun a person who arrives late. Synonym straggler

**lately** /ˈlætli/ adv during recent days or weeks. Synonym recently

**late-night** /ˈlæt nɑt/ adj happening late at night

**latent** /ˈlɛt(ə)nt/ adj present but not yet developed; hidden

**later** /ˈlɛtər/ adv at a time after the present; after a time which has been mentioned || The family came to live in England and she was born a month later. || Can we meet later this evening? || see you later! I hope to see you again later today || later (on) afterwards, at a later time || I’ll do it later on. || We were only told later that she was very ill.

**lateral** /ˈlɛtərəl/ adj referring to the side

**lateral thinking** /ˈlɛtərəl ˈθɪŋkɪŋ/ noun a way of thinking about problems by looking at them from an unusual point of view

**latest** /ˈlɛtɪst/ adj the most recent (informal) || Have you seen his latest film? || He
latex always drives the latest model car. ☺ The latest snow reports are published each day in the papers. • noun • the latest the most recent news (informal) ☺ Have you heard the latest about Gina? ☺ at the latest no later than ☺ I’ll ring back before 7 o’clock at the latest.

laugh /lɔːf/ noun 1. a sound you make when you think something is funny ☺ He’s got a lovely deep laugh. ☺ ‘That’s right,’ she said with a laugh. • to do something for a laugh to do something as a joke or for fun ☺ Don’t be angry – they only did it for a laugh. ☺ to have the last laugh to be successful in the end, after people have laughed at you earlier on ☺ Everyone told him a clockwork radio wouldn’t work, but he had the last laugh when it sold in millions. • verb 1. to make a sound to show you think something is funny ☺ He was very good last night – he had everyone laughing at his jokes. ☺ She fell off the ladder and everyone laughed. • to laugh like a drain to laugh a lot ☺ He laughed like a drain when he was told the story. • sleeve 2. • to laugh at someone or something to make fun of someone or something ☺ Don’t laugh at her because she’s so fat. ☺ You mustn’t laugh at his hat – he’s very proud of it.

laughable /ˈlɑːfəbl/ adj which can only be laughed at. Antonym impressive

laughing stock /ˈlɔːfɪŋ stɒk/ noun a person who is laughed at by everyone

Latin /ˈlætɪn/ noun the language spoken by the ancient Romans ☺ We learnt Latin at school. • The inscription on the tomb is in Latin. • adj 1. referring to the language of ancient Rome ☺ He was reading a book of Latin poetry. 2. referring to Italy, Spain, Portugal and South America ☺ They always go to one of the Latin countries on holiday.

temperature /ˈtɛrmɪnəl/ noun 1. a position on the earth’s surface measured in degrees north or south of the equator ☺ Pine trees grow in temperate latitudes. • longitude 2. freedom to do what you want to do • The management allows the heads of department considerable latitude in selecting staff.

late /læt/ noun a coffee made with hot milk

latter /ˈlætər/ adj coming at the end of a list ☺ I’m busy on Monday and Tuesday, but I’ll be free during the latter part of the week. Antonym former • noun • the latter the second person or thing mentioned of two people or things ☺ Which do you prefer, apples or pears? ☺ I prefer the latter.

latter-day /ˈlætər deɪ/ adj of the present time. Antonym modern. Antonym former

latticework /ˈlætɪs/ noun a pattern of crossing diagonal lines such as pieces of wood in a fence. ☺ laugh /lɔːf/ noun 1. a sound you make when you think something is funny ☺ He’s got a lovely deep laugh. ☺ ‘That’s right,’ she said with a laugh. • to do something for a laugh to do something as a joke or for fun ☺ Don’t be angry – they only did it for a laugh. ☺ to have the last laugh to be successful in the end, after people have laughed at you earlier on ☺ Everyone told him a clockwork radio wouldn’t work, but he had the last laugh when it sold in millions. • verb 1. to make a sound to show you think something is funny ☺ He was very good last night – he had everyone laughing at his jokes. ☺ She fell off the ladder and everyone laughed. • to laugh like a drain to laugh a lot ☺ He laughed like a drain when he was told the story. • sleeve 2. • to laugh at someone or something to make fun of someone or something ☺ Don’t laugh at her because she’s so fat. ☺ You mustn’t laugh at his hat – he’s very proud of it.

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laughing stock /ˈlɔːfɪŋ stɒk/ noun a person who is laughed at by everyone

Latin /ˈlætɪn/ noun the language spoken by the ancient Romans ☺ We learnt Latin at school. • The inscription on the tomb is in Latin. • adj 1. referring to the language of ancient Rome ☺ He was reading a book of Latin poetry. 2. referring to Italy, Spain, Portugal and South America ☺ They always go to one of the Latin countries on holiday.

temperature /ˈtɛrmɪnəl/ noun 1. a position on the earth’s surface measured in degrees north or south of the equator ☺ Pine trees grow in temperate latitudes. • longitude 2. freedom to do what you want to do • The management allows the heads of department considerable latitude in selecting staff.

late /læt/ noun a coffee made with hot milk

latter /ˈlætər/ adj coming at the end of a list ☺ I’m busy on Monday and Tuesday, but I’ll be free during the latter part of the week. Antonym former • noun • the latter the second person or thing mentioned of two people or things ☺ Which do you prefer, apples or pears? ☺ I prefer the latter.

latter-day /ˈlætər deɪ/ adj of the present time. Antonym modern. Antonym former

latticework /ˈlætɪs/ noun a pattern of crossing diagonal lines such as pieces of wood in a fence.
laundry basket /ˈlɔːndri_ˌbɑːsktə/ noun a large basket in which you put dirty clothes or linen waiting to be washed

laurel /ˈlɔːril/ noun a large bush with smooth shiny evergreen leaves ○ to rest on your laurels to enjoy your past success, without trying to do any more ○ They’ve done very well so far but they can’t afford to rest on their laurels because their rivals will catch up with them.

lav /læv/ noun a lavatory (informal)

lava /ˈlɑːvə/ noun the hot liquid rock flowing from a volcano which becomes solid when it cools

lavatory /ˈlɑːvətri/ noun 1. a small room for getting rid of waste matter or water from the body ○ The lavatories are situated at the rear of the plane. 2. a bowl with a seat and water flushing system, for getting rid of waste matter from the body ○ The drink was so awful that I poured it down the lavatory. (NOTE: The plural is lavatories.)

lavender /ˈlævəndər/ noun 1. a shrub with small lilac-coloured flowers and narrow leaves, grown for perfume ○ My grandmother puts bags filled with dried lavender flowers in her wardrobe to make her clothes smell nice. 2. a bluish-purple colour ○ The bedroom walls have been painted a soothing shade of lavender.

lavish /ˈlævɪʃ/ adj 1. very generous ○ He bought all the children lavish presents. 2. larger than necessary ○ Grandmother always gives us lavish portions. 3. to lavish something on someone to give lots of something to someone ○ He lavished presents on his grandchildren. ○ Shelavishes a lot of care on her collection of orchids.

lavishly /ˈlævɪʃli/ adv in a lavish way

law /lɔ/ noun 1. □ the law the set of rules by which a country is governed ○ Everyone is supposed to obey the law. □ within the law obeying the laws of a country ○ against the law not according to the laws of a country ○ It is against the law to drive at night without lights. □ to break the law to do something which is not allowed by law ○ He is breaking the law by selling cigarettes to children. 2. one single part of the rules governing a country, usually in the form of an act of parliament ○ Parliament has passed a law against the ownership of guns. □ to be a law unto yourself to do exactly what you want ○ all the laws of a country taken together □ maritime law, the law of the sea laws referring to ships and ports 4. □ the law the police and the courts (informal) ○ The law will catch up with him in the end. 5. a general scientific rule or controlling force ○ Einstein’s Law of Relativity ○ The law of gravity can be demonstrated by showing how an apple falls to the ground and not up into the air ○ the law of supply and demand a general rule that the amount of a product which is available is related to what possible customers need

law-abiding /ˈlɔː_ˌbɑːdɪŋ/ adj who obeys the law. Synonym honest

law and order /ˈlɔː_ˌɔrdər/ noun a situation where the laws of the country are obeyed by most people

law-breaking /ˈlɔː_ˌbreɪkɪŋ/ noun the act of doing something which is against the law

lawcourt /ˈlɔːkɔːt/ noun a court where cases are heard by a judge and jury, or by a magistrate

law enforcement /ˈlɔː_ˌɪnˈfɔrmənt/ noun the process of making sure that people obey the law

lawful /ˈlɔːf(ə)l/ adj acting within the law.

lawfully /ˈlɔːflɪ/ adv in a lawful way

lawless /ˈlɔːlɛs/ adj not controlled by the law or by the police. Synonym unruly

law-abiding

lawlessness /ˈlɔːləsnəs/ noun being lawless. Synonym anarchy

law-making /ˈlɔː_ˌmeɪkɪŋ/ noun the process of making laws

lawman /ˈlɔːmən/ noun US a policeman, a sheriff (NOTE: The plural is lawmen.)

lawn /lɔːn/ noun a part of a garden covered with short grass

lawmower /ˈlɔːmər/ noun a machine for cutting grass

lawsuit /ˈlɔːsət/ noun a case brought to a court ○ to bring a lawsuit against someone to tell someone to appear in court because you think they have acted wrongly towards you ○ The parents of the victims brought a lawsuit against the tour company.

lawyer /ˈlɔːjər/ noun a person who has studied law and can advise you on legal matters ○ If you are arrested you have the right to speak to your lawyer.

lax /læks/ adj not strict (NOTE: laxer – laxest)

laxative /ˈlæksətɪv/ noun medicine which causes a bowel movement ○ The doctor prescribed a laxative to help his constipation

ad which causes a bowel movement ○ The laxative properties of fresh fruit are well known.

lay /leɪ/ verb 1. to put something down ○ flat ○ He laid the papers on the table ○ A new carpet has been laid in the dining room. ○ to lay claim to something to claim that something is yours 2. ○ to lay the table to put knives, forks and spoons on the table ready for a meal ○ The table is laid for four people. 3. (of birds, turtles, etc.) to produce an egg ○ The hens laid three eggs. 4. ○ lie
layabout noun a person who doesn’t work (informal insult)

layby noun a place at the side of a road where vehicles can park

layer noun a flat, usually horizontal, thickness of something. She put a layer of chocolate on the cake, then one of cream.

layman noun a person who does not belong to a particular profession, who is not an expert in something (NOTE: the plural is laymen)

lay off verb 1. to dismiss employees for a time, until more work is available. The factory has had to lay off half its workforce because of a temporary lack of orders. 2. to stop doing or using something. You should lay off bread and potatoes if you want to reduce weight.

lay off verb 1. to dismiss an employee for a time

lay on verb to provide

lay out verb 1. to put out in an organised way. The plans were laid out on the table. 2. to design a plan for a garden, a book, etc. The grounds of the hotel are laid out with trees and flower beds.

layout noun a design, especially of a garden, a book, etc.

lazily adverb to relax, to do nothing or very little

laziness noun (NOTE: lazier – laziest)

laundry verb to relax, to do nothing or very little

lazy adjective not wanting to do any work. She’s just lazy – that’s why the work never gets done on time. He is so lazy he does not even bother to open his mail. (NOTE: indolent. Antonym energetic)

lead noun 1. lead a black part in the middle of a pencil. If your lead’s broken then you need to sharpen the pencil.

lead verb 1. to be in first place, to have the most important place. Our side was leading at half time. They were leading by three metres. 2. to go in front to show the way. She led us to the secret box. The road leads you to the top of the hill. 3. to be the main person in a group. She is leading a group of businesswomen on a tour of Chinese factories. 4. to lead to to make something happen. The discussions led to an international treaty. It led me to think she was lying it made me think she was lying. adj who sings or plays the main tunes in a pop group. He’s the lead guitarist with a pop group. She’s the lead singer of the group.

lay about noun

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lay about noun
leading-edge

leading-edge /ˈlɛdɪŋ ˈedʒ/ noun the most modern developments in technology, science or some other field

leading lady /ˈlɛdɪŋ ˈlɛdɪ/ noun an actress who plays the main part in a play or film

leading light /ˈlɛdɪŋ ˈlɛt/ noun a person who plays an important part in a group. Synonym big name. Antonym unknown

leading question /ˈlɛdɪŋ ˈkwɛstʃən/ noun a question which is worded in order to get a particular answer

lead on /ˈlɛd ən/ verb 1. to go first 2. to lead someone on to mislead someone by promising something 3. He’s just leading you on. 4. They promised him a new car, but they were just leading him on.

lead up to /ˈlɛd ʌp ˈtjuː/ verb to prepare the way for something to happen

leaf /liːf/ noun 1. one of many flat green parts of a plant 2. The leaves of the trees turn brown or red in autumn. 3. Caterpillars have eaten the leaves of the rose 4. A sheet of paper, especially a page of a book 5. to turn over a new leaf to make a new start 6. After years of wild living he decided to turn over a new leaf and join the family firm. 7. a very thin sheet of a substance such as metal 8. The ceiling is covered in gold leaf. (NOTE: The plural is leaves /liːvz/) 9. to leaf through to turn the pages of a book quickly without reading properly 10. He leafed through the book looking at the illustrations. 11. leaflet /ˈliːflət/ noun a sheet of paper, often folded, giving information. Synonym booklet

leaky /ˈliːki/ adj 1. with lots of leaks 2. These lettuces are really leafy 3. to lean over a jump to accept eagerly 4. He leaned over and picked up the hydrant 5. It’s dangerous to lean out of car windows. (NOTE: leaning – leaned or leant

leaning /ˈliːnɪŋ/ noun a tendency towards 1. She has socialist leanings. 2. He has a leaning towards a career in the church. Synonym inclination 3. adj which is leaning 4. The Leaning Tower of Pisa is one of the most famous buildings in Italy

lean on /ˈliːn ən/ verb 1. to try to influence someone 2. They leaned on him to get him to agree 3. to depend on someone 4. If things get difficult she always has her father to lean on

lean over /ˈliːn əʊvə/ verb to bend down in a particular direction to lean over backwards to help someone to make every effort to help someone 1. The landlady leaned over backwards to make us feel at home 2. lent /lɛnt/ 3. lean

lean-to /ˈliːn tuː/ noun a small building, such as a shed, attached to a large building

leap /liːp/ noun 1. a jump 2. She took a leap forwards and fell into the water. 3. a great improvement or progress 4. by leaps and bounds making fast progress 5. His German has improved by leaps and bounds. 6. a leap in the dark an action where you are not sure of what the consequences will be. The deal is something of a leap in the dark, but we hope it will pay off. 7. to leap 1. to jump 2. He leapt over the ditch. 3. She leapt with joy when she heard the news. 4. He leapt into the train as it was leaving. 5. to go up suddenly 6. Sales leapt during March. (NOTE: leaping – leaped or leap /liːpt/)

leap at /ˈliːp æt/ verb to accept eagerly something which is suggested. Synonym jump at

leakage /ˈliːkɪdʒ/ noun 1. an escape of liquid or gas 2. There’s a smell of gas – there must be a leak somewhere 3. The act of revealing a secret 4. The leakage of the report annoyed the minister. 5. After the leakage of the report, everyone was ringing up about it. 6. a leaky /ˈliːki/ adjective which leaks 7. lean /liːn/ adjective 1. (of a person) thin 2. He’s a lean bearded man. 8. (of meat) with little fat 9. a slice of lean bacon (NOTE: leaner – leanest) 10. to be in or to put into a sloping position 11. The ladder was leaning against the shed. 12. She leant her bike against the wall. 13. He leaned over and picked up the cushion. 14. It’s dangerous to lean out of car windows. (NOTE: leaning – leaned or leant

leak /liːk/ verb 1. an escape of liquid or gas through a hole 2. I can smell gas – there must be a gas leak in the kitchen 3. an escape of secret information 4. She was embarrassed by the leak of the news. 5. The leak of the report led to the minister’s resignation. (NOTE: Do not confuse with leak)
Except for my boss, everyone else kept quiet at her surprise party. She had planned it as a surprise. She had invited all her friends and family in the hope that they would all come. However, to her surprise, only a few people showed up. She was disappointed but decided to enjoy the party anyway. She listened to music, ate pizza, and sang along to her favorite songs. Although she was feeling sad, she was determined not to let it ruin her day.

The party eventually came to an end, and everyone started to leave. My boss invited me to stay and help her clean up, but I thanked her and left. As I walked out of the door, I felt a pang of guilt knowing that I had not been able to contribute to the party. However, she had thanked me for coming, and that was enough for me. I decided to call her the next day to check on how she was feeling.
leave behind
leave behind /ˌliv bˈhand/ verb to forget to take something or someone with you; not to take something or someone with you
leave of absence /ˌliv əbˈsɛns/ noun permission to be away from work. Synonym sabbatical
leave off /ˌliv ˈof/ verb 1. to stop doing something 2. leave off 2: stop doing that. 2. to forget to include. She left the postcode off the address. 3. The waitress left the drinks off the bill.
leave out /ˌliv ˈaut/ verb to forget something or someone; not to put something in. Synonym omit. Antonym include
lecherous /ˈleʃərəs/ 1. only interested in sexual intercourse. Synonym lewd. 2. only interested in sexual intercourse. Synonym lewd.
lectern /ˈlektərn/ noun a high desk with a sloping surface on which you put a book or the text of a speech which you are going to read aloud in public.
lecture /ˈlektʃər/ noun a talk to students or any other group of people on a particular subject. She gave a lecture on Chinese art. 2. Are you going to the lecture this evening? 3. The lecture lasted thirty minutes, and then there was time for questions. verb 1. to give a lecture on something. He will lecture on Roman history next Thursday. 2. to teach a subject, by giving lectures. She lectures on history at Birmingham University.
lecturer /ˈlektər/ noun 1. a person who gives a talk on a particular subject. This week’s lecturer is from Sweden. 2. an ordinary teacher in a university or college. He has been a lecturer for five years.
led /led/ 1. lead
ledge /ˈledʒ/ noun a narrow flat part which sticks out from a cliff or building
ledger /ˈledʒər/ noun a large book in which accounts are written.
lee /li/ noun a side of a building, hill or ship, sheltered from the wind
leech /liʃ/ noun a type of parasitic worm which lives in water and sucks the blood of animals by attaching itself to the skin. (NOTE: The plural is leeches.)
leek /liʃ/ noun a vegetable of the onion family, with a white stem and long green leaves. (NOTE: Do not confuse with leak.)
leer /liər/ noun an unpleasant look, often expressing sexual desire. The leers of the men as she came into the bar made her turn round and walk straight out again. Synonym sneer. verb to look with a leer at someone. The men were sitting in the pavement café, leering at girls passing in the street. Synonym smirk.
leave /liːv/ noun the time or space available to make up leeway to make up for lost time or for a lost opportunity. You have a lot of leeway to make up after missing so much of the term through illness. 1. left /liːt/ adj 1. not right, referring to the side of the body which usually has the hand you use less often. I can’t write with my left hand. 2. The post office is on the left side of the street as you go towards the church. 2. (in politics) referring to the socialists. His politics are left of centre. Compare right 3. left or left over still there, not used up. After paying for the food and drink, I still have £3 left. 4. If you eat three of the sweets, there will be only two left for everyone else. 5. There was nobody left in the building. 6. leave • noun 1. the side towards the left. She was sitting on the chairman’s left. 2. the left (in politics) the socialists and communists, the group supporting the rights of the workers. We support the left by campaigning for our local Labour candidate. 7. swing to the left a movement of votes towards the left-wing candidates. 8. adv towards the left. Go straight ahead and turn left at the traffic lights. 9. verb leave
left-click /left klik/ verb (in computing) to click with the left mouse button
left-hand /ˌleft hˈand/ adj on the left side. Antonym right-hand
left-handed /ˌleft hˈandt/ adj using the left hand more often than the right for doing things. Synonym anticlockwise. Antonym right-handed
leftist /ˈleftist/ adj (usually as a critic) socialist, referring to the left in politics. The Minister of Justice was accused of showing leftist tendencies. noun a person with left-wing ideas. It is apparent that there is no place for traditional leftists in the new centre government.
left-luggage office /ˌleft lʌˈdjʊdʒ ɒfɪs/ noun a place where suitcases can be left and collected later for a fee. (NOTE: The US term is baggage room.)
leftover /ˌleft ˈouvər/ adj which is not used. I’ve finished painting the kitchen — what shall I do with the leftover paint? noun 1. food which is left after a meal. The children will eat the leftovers tomorrow morning. 2. left-wing /ˌleft ˈwɪŋ/ adj in politics, on the left. Antonym right-wing
left-winger /ˌleft ˈwɪŋər/ noun a person who is on the left of a political party. Synonym progressive. Antonym right-winger
cause you cannot prove what you say.

Court and Windsor.

to pay lawyers’ fees

work done for people without enough money

licence.

at 17 if you have a provisional driving license.

4.

legs.

/L50263

was standing on one leg, asleep.

/L50263

goes from Paris to Amsterdam.

/L50263

covering your leg

/L50263

away

/L50263

corner when they saw the police coming.

prohibit

officials below the rank of ambassador, who

represent their government in a foreign country.

2. a building where members of a legislature work.

/L50765

He escaped from prison and hid in the Russian legation.

/L50263

The legend of Jason and the Golden Fleece.

/L50263

a famous person whose name often appears in the news.

/Marilyn Monroe, the Hollywood legend.

/L50263

a key to the symbols used on a map or chart.

/L50263

legends.

/L50263

tight-fitting trousers made from a stretchy material, worn by women and girls.

/When my daughter comes home from school she changes out of her uniform and puts on a pair of leggings.

/L50263

A group of women exercising in tights and leggings.

/L50263

thick coverings for the legs.

/L50263

The hunters wore thick leggings and boots.

/NOTE: plural; for one item say ‘a pair of leggings’

/L50263

leggy

/L50263

leg to leg

able to be read easily.

/NON: illegible

/L50263

legibly

/L50263

in a legible way.

/L50263

a group.

/L50263

a member of a legion, especially of soldiers.

/L50263

a division of the Roman army.

/L50263

The Roman legions under Julius Caesar invaded Britain.

/L50263

a very large number.

/L50263

Many of the legions of fans who support Manchester United will be unable to buy tickets for the Cup Final.

/L50263

a member of a legion, especially the Foreign Legion.

/NOTE: The plural is legions.

/L50263

famous, legendary

/L50263

tight-fitting trousers made from a stretchy material, worn by women and girls.

/L50263

a bacterial disease similar to pneumonia, which appears to be spread by drops of moisture in air-conditioning systems.

/L50263

make a law or laws.

/L50263

written rules which are passed by Parliament and applied in the courts.

/L50263

referring to laws or to law-making.

/L50263

a member of a legislature, a person who makes or passes laws.

/L50263

hates one another.

/L50263

The protesters marched towards the State Legislature.
legitimacy /ˈlɛdʒɪməsi/ noun the quality of being in accordance with the law
legitimate /ˈlɛdʒɪtɪmət/ adj 1. according to the law ○ He acted in legitimate defence of his rights. 2. born to married parents ○ The old duke had no legitimate children, so the title passed to his brother.
legitimate concern /ˈlɛdʒɪtɪmət kənˈsɜːn/ noun a reasonable and justifiable concern
legitimise /ˈlɛdʒɪtɪmaɪz/, legitimise verb to make someone or something legitimate
legless /ˈlɛɡləs/ adj 1. without any legs 2. drunk (informal)
legroom /ˈlɛgrʊm/ noun the amount of space available for the legs of a person sitting down, e.g. between the rows of seats in a cinema or aircraft, or inside a car (NOTE: no plural)
leisure /ˈlɛʒər/ noun □ leisure (time) free time when you can do what you want
leisure centre /ˈlɛʒər ˌsɛntə/ noun a building where people can play sports, put on plays, dance, act, etc. Synonym sports centre
leisurely /ˈlɛʒəli/ adj without any hurry. Antonym frantic
leitmotif /ˈleɪtmətɪf/, leitmotiv noun a theme which reappears in a book or a piece of music
lemming /ˈlemɪŋ/ noun a small Scandinavian mammal which often travels in mass groups
lemon /ˈlemən/ noun 1. a pale yellow sour-tasting citrus fruit ○ Oranges are much sweeter than lemons. 2. a tree which produces these fruit ○ Lemons grow best in hot dry climates. 3. a yellow colour like that of a lemon
lemonade /ˈlemənəd/ noun a usually fizzy lemon-flavoured drink
lemur /ˈlemər/ noun a small animal with a long tail, rather like a monkey
lend /lɛnd/ verb 1. to let someone use something for a certain period of time ○ He asked me if I would lend him £5 till Monday. ○ I lent her my dictionary and now she won’t give it back. Compare borrow 2. ○ to lend a hand to help ○ Can you lend a hand with the cooking? ○ to lend an ear to someone to listen sympathetically to what someone has to say ○ to lend itself to to be able to be used for something special ○ The garden lends itself to landscaping ○ The room lends itself to playing chamber music. 3. to make a certain effect ○ The Christmas decorations lend a festive air to the shopping centre. ○ Her new hairstyle lends her an air of authority. (NOTE: lending – lent /lɛnt/)
lender /ˈlɛndər/ noun a person who lends money. Synonym giver

length /lɛŋθ/ noun 1. a measurement of how long something is from end to end ○ The table is at least twelve feet in length. 2. length of time the amount of time something takes or lasts ○ Can you estimate the length of time you need to do this? ○ she was a bit vague about the length of her visit she was not certain how long she was going to stay 3. a long piece of something ○ She bought a length of curtain material in the sale. ○ We need two 3m lengths of copper piping for the new central heating system. 4. the distance from one end to the other of a swimming pool ○ He swam two lengths of the pool. 5. ○ to go to great lengths to get something to do anything, even to commit a crime, to get something ○ He went to considerable lengths to get a signed photograph of David Beckham. ○ at length 1. speaking for a long time and using many words 2. giving a lot of details 3. in the end
lengthen /ˈlɛŋθən/ verb 1. to make longer ○ You can lengthen the skirt by turning down the hem. 2. to become longer ○ The shadows began to lengthen across the lawn as the sun sank slowly down in the west. Antonym shorten
lengthy /ˈlɛŋθi/ adj very long. Antonym brief (NOTE: lengthier – lengthiest)
leniency /ˈlɛnɪənsi/ noun the quality of not being strict. Synonym clemency. Antonym severity
lenient /ˈlɛnɪənt/ adj not strict or severe. Synonym compassionate
leniently /ˈlɛnɪəntli/ adv in a lenient way
lens /lɛns/ noun 1. a piece of glass or plastic, curved so as to cause light rays to join or spread out, and used in spectacles, telescopes, cameras, etc. ○ My eyesight is not very good, and I have to have glasses with strong lenses. ○ If the sun is strong enough you can set fire to a piece of paper using a lens. ○ contact lens 2. a part of the eye behind the iris and pupil which focuses light (NOTE: The plural is lenses.)
lent /lɛnt/ or lend
Lent /lɛnt/ noun the period of forty days before Easter ○ Many people try to give something up for Lent.
lentil /ˈlɛntɪl/ noun a small round dried seed, used especially in soups and stews
leopard /ˈlɪpəd/ noun a large wild spotted cat, living in Africa (NOTE: Black leopards live in America and are called panthers.)
leotard /ˈlɪətɑːrd/ noun a skin-tight one-piece costume covering the top of the body, worn by ballet dancers
1. The total bill came to less than £10.
2. You should do something together.
3. Someone had let down my front tyre.
4. Someone was charged with stealing, but the judge let him off with a fine.
5. Someone let out a piercing cry.
6. She let her hair down.
7. Will you let me see the papers?
8. Let me see what I can do for you.
9. Let someone know something.
10. Please let me know the result as soon as you can.
11. Can you let me know when the parcel arrives?
12. To allow someone to borrow a house or office for a while and pay for it.
13. We're letting our cottage to some friends for the weekend.
14. The flat is to let at £1000 a month.
15. The cinema.
16. Don't let's leave yet.
17. Let's make a suggestion that you and someone else should do something together.
18. Let's go to the cinema.
19. Let's not leave yet.
20. Let's all the time.
21. You shouldn't be rude to policemen.
22. To agree that someone need not do something.
23. Let me know the period of the lease of a property.
24. They took the house on a short let.
25. To lower something or someone.
26. They let him down into the mine on a rope.
27. To make the air go out of something such as a tyre or balloon.
28. To stop holding on to something.
29. Letting /letɪŋ/ noun showing lethargy.
30. A tired feeling, when your movements are extremely slow and you are almost unable to do anything.
31. A suggestion that you and someone else should do something together.
32. To make something become less, to reduce something.
33. Make something become less, to reduce something.
34. To lessen.
35. Make something become less, to reduce something.
36. A period of time, especially in school, when you are taught something.
37. Something which is not quite as bad as the other.
38. Faced with the choice of taking a taxi or waiting in the rain for a bus, we chose the lesser of two evils and decided to take the taxi.
39. To make some -ing.
40. To shut very loudly.
41. To make a piece of clothing bigger.
42. To make something become less, to reduce something.
43. To make some -ing.
44. To shut very loudly.
45. To make a piece of clothing bigger.

leper /ˈleɪpə/ noun a person who has leprosy. Synonym outcast.
leprosy /ˈleprəsi/ noun a serious infectious disease which slowly destroys flesh and nerves.
lesbian /ˈlezbiən/ adjective who is sexually attracted to other women.
lesbian /ˈlezbiən/ noun a woman who is lesbian.
lesion /ˈliʃən/ noun a wound or sore, or other damage to the body. Synonym wound.
less /les/ adjective a smaller amount (of).
lesser /ˈlesər/ adjective smaller, not as large or important.
lesson /ˈlesən/ noun 1. A period of time, especially in school, when you are taught something.
2. Something which is not quite as bad as the other.
3. Faced with the choice of taking a taxi or waiting in the rain for a bus, we chose the lesser of two evils and decided to take the taxi.
4. A period of time.
5. In the evenings.
6. To tell a secret.
7. To tell a secret.
8. To lock something up.
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letter /ˈletər/ noun 1. A piece of writing sent from one person or organisation to another to pass on information.
2. Two letters for you in the post.
3. Don't forget to write a letter to your mother to tell her...
level /lev(ə)l/ noun 1. a position relating to height or amount o I want to lower the level of our borrowings. o The floodwater has reached a level of 3m above normal. 2. a floor in a building o Go up to the next level. o The toilets are at street level. 3. o on the level honest and not trying to trick anyone (informal) o I don’t think the salesman is being on the level with us. o to do your level best to do as well as you can (informal) o I’ll do my level best to be there on time. 4. adj 1. flat, even o Are these shelves level, or do they slope to the left? 2. o level with at the same level as o The ground floor is level with the street. 3. equal, the same o At half-time the scores were level. 4. verb, to make level o levelled the house to the ground destroyed the house completely 2. o to level off or out to stop going up or down o Price increases are starting to level off. 3. to point or to aim a weapon at someone o to level an accusation to accuse someone of doing something wrong 5. level crossing /ˈlev(ə)l ˈkrəʊsɪŋ/ noun a place where a road crosses a railway line without a bridge or tunnel (NOTE: The US term is grade crossing.) 6. level-headed /ˈlev(ə)lˈhɛdɪd/ adj sensible. Antonym rash 7. level playing-field /ˈlev(ə)l ˈplɛɪɪŋ/ noun a situation in which all the conditions are the same for everyone who is involved, so that nobody has an unfair advantage 8. lever /ˈliːvə/ noun an instrument like a bar, which helps to lift a heavy object, or to move part of a machine o We used a pole as a lever to lift up the block of stone. Synonym handle 9. verb to move with a lever o They levered open the door with an iron bar. 10. leverage /ˈliːvərɪdʒ/ noun 1. the power to move something heavy by using a lever o They used a longer bar to increase the leverage. 2. an influence which you can use to get what you want o His business contacts were useful leverage in discussing terms for the contract. o She has a majority of the shares in the company and therefore can exert a lot of leverage over the directors. 11. levitate /ˈlevɪteɪt/ verb to rise into the air, as if by magic 12. levity /ˈlevɪtɪ/ noun a lack of respect when considering serious things 13. levy /ˈlevɪ/ noun an official tax or other payment o I think the import levies on luxury goods are too high. o We paid the levy on time. (NOTE: The plural is levies.) 14. verb to order a person to pay a tax or other payment, or to collect it o The customs levied a large fine. Synonym impose 15. level /ˈlevəl/ adj rude because of referring to sex in an unpleasant way (NOTE: lower – lewdest) 16. lexicographer /ˌleksɪˈkɒrɡrəfə/ noun a person whose job is to write dictionaries 17. liability /ˈlaɪəb(ə)lɪtɪ/ noun 1. a legal responsibility o Make sure you understand your legal liabilities before you sign the contract. o to accept liability for something to agree that you are responsible for something o to refuse liability for something to refuse to agree that you are responsible for something o couldn’t meet liabilities did not have enough money to pay debts. 18. limited 2. a tendency to do something o His unfortunate liability to burst into tears when criticised. 19. disadvantage 3. Bad eyesight is a liability if you want to be a pilot. 4. a person who causes problems or who makes you feel embarrassed o He has been arrested several times and is something of a liability to his parents. 20. liable /ˈlaɪəb(ə)l/ adj o liable for legally responsible for something o You will be liable for the payment of the fine. o Parents can be made liable for their children’s debts.
liaise /ˈlaɪəs/ verb □ to liaise with someone to inform someone of what is being done or planned so that everyone who is involved can work together well □ Can you liaise with each individual manager regarding the move to new offices?

liaison /ˈlaɪəs(ə)n/ noun 1. the process of keeping someone informed of what is happening □ There has been a total lack of liaison between the police and the customs department on this case. 2. a sexual relationship □ His liaison with the beautiful Hungarian was soon well-known in the embassy.

lieb /lib/ noun same as libelation (dated informal)

Lib Dem /ˈlɪb dɛm/ abbr Liberal Democrat □ Delegates at the Lib Dem party conference. (NOTE: The plural is the Lib Dems.)

libel /ˈlɪbəl/ noun a written statement about someone which is not true and may damage their reputation □ I will sue you for libel. □ verb □ to libel someone to damage someone’s reputation in writing □ He accused the newspaper of libelling him. Compare slander

libellous /ˈlɪbələs/ adj which libels someone (NOTE: The US spelling is libelous.)

liberal /ˈlɪbərəl/ adj 1. not strict, willing to accept other people’s views □ The liberal view would be to let the teenagers run the club-themes. 2. generous □ He left a very liberal tip.

Liberal /ˈlɪbərəl/ noun 1. (in politics) referring to or supporting the Liberal Party 2. (in politics) a member or supporter of a Liberal Party

liberal arts /ˈlɪbərəl ɑːrts/ noun US subjects other than science, such as English, history or languages.

liberalise /ˈlɪbəralaɪz/, liberalize verb to make things such as laws more liberal. Antonym tighten

liberalism /ˈlɪbərəlɪzəm/ noun the ideals and beliefs of Liberals

liberality /ˈlɪbərəlɪtɪ/ noun 1. the fact of being willing to accept that other people have the right to hold opinions which you do not agree with □ He was well known for the liberality of his views on divorce. 2. the quality of being extremely generous □ The liberality of the sheikh’s presents astonished everyone.

Liberal Party /ˈlɪbərəl ˈpɑːti/ noun a political party which is in favour of some social change, some involvement of the state in industry and welfare, but less centralisation of government, with no fixed connections with either employees or employers

liberate /ˈlɪbərət/ verb to set someone or something free from something. Antonym imprison

liberated /ˈlɪbərətɪd/ adj 1. not influenced by a society’s traditional ideas about how people should behave 2. set free from enemy control

liberating /ˈlɪbərətɪŋ/ adj which liberates you

liberation /ˈlɪbərəʃ(ə)n/ noun setting free. Synonym captivity

libertarian /ˈlɪbərteərɪən/ noun a person who believes in freedom of thought and action

liberty /ˈlɪbətri/ noun 1. freedom □ When he was in prison he wrote poems about his lost liberty. □ Anti-terrorist legislation can be seen as an infringement of the liberty of the individual. 2. at liberty; free; not in prison □ Two of the escaped prisoners are still at liberty. □ to be at liberty to do something to be free to do something □ You are at liberty to go now.

libido /ˈlɪbɪdo/ noun the feeling of wanting to have sex

Libra /ˈlɪbrə/ noun one of the signs of the zodiac, shaped like a pair of scales, covering the period 22nd September to 23rd October

librarian /ˈlɪbrəriən/ noun a person who works in a library

library /ˈlɪbrəri/ noun 1. a place where books are kept which can be borrowed □ He forgot to take his books back to the library. □ You can’t sell it, it’s a library book. 2. a collection of things such as books or records □ He has a big record library. (NOTE: The plural is libraries.)

libretto /ˈlɪbrɛtəʊ/ noun the words of an opera or musical (NOTE: The plural is librettos or librettis.)

lial /ˈlaɪəl/ adjective □ licence /ˈlaɪəns/ noun 1. a document which gives official permission to own something or to do something □ She has applied for an export licence for these paintings. 2. a freedom, especially when used wrongly □ Designers should be given the licence to change the whole design whenever they want. 3. under licence with official permission from a owner □ The cars are made in South America under licence. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is license.)

licence /ˈlaɪəns/ noun 1. to give someone official permission to do something □ The restaurant is licensed to serve beer, wines and spirits. □ She is licensed to run an employment agency. Synonym certify

licensed /ˈlaɪənst/ adj which has a licence to do something

licensee /ˈlɪsɪkə/ noun a person who has a licence for a particular activity, especially a person who is in charge of a public house
lie in 1. to stay in bed longer than usual 2. to have a lie-in to stay in bed longer than usual 3. to lie in to stay in bed late in the morning (informal) 4. I think I’ll lie in this morning. 5. to have a lie-in to stay in bed longer than usual 6. to lie low to keep hidden and quiet

lie detector /ˈlaɪ detər/ noun a machine which is used to check if someone is telling the truth, e.g. when the police are questioning them

lie down /ˈlaɪ dən/ verb to put yourself in a flat position, especially on a bed

lie-in /ˈlaɪɪn/ noun (informal) 1. to have a lie-in to stay in bed longer than usual 2. to lie-in to stay in bed late in the morning (informal) 3. I think I’ll lie in this morning.

licorice /ˈlɪkərɪs/ noun a very small plant which grows on the surface of stones or trunks of trees

lichens /ˈlaɪkəns/ noun 1. a gentle movement of the tongue across the surface of something 2. The door could do with a lick of paint 3. a lick and a promise a quick wash (informal) 4. verb 1. to make a gentle movement with your tongue across the surface of something 2. You shouldn’t lick the plate when you’ve finished your pudding.
and who saves people who get into difficulty in the water.

life insurance /ˈlaɪf ɪnˈsərəns/ noun a type of insurance paying an amount of money to your family if you die (NOTE: For life insurance, British English prefers to use the word assurance.)

life jacket /ˈlaɪf ˌdʒækɪt/ noun something which you wear when you are on a boat and which will prevent you from sinking if you fall into the water (NOTE: Another US term is life preserver.)

lifeless /ˈlaɪflɪs/ adj 1. not alive 2. The dancer’s performance was lifeless and the audience booed them at the end of the ballet.

lifelike /ˈlaɪflaik/ adj just as a living person

lifeline /ˈlaɪflæni/ noun 1. a rope thrown to a person who is sinking in water 2. a rope thrown to a driver to take you as a passenger, usually by standing by the side of the road and holding up your thumb or a sign saying where you want to go

lifeguard /ˈlaɪflɔːdʒ/ noun 1. a person who is sinking in water

lifeguard /ˈlaɪflɔːdʒ/ noun 1. a person who is sinking in water

life raft /ˈlaɪfrɔːt/ noun a small boat carried on a ship for people to use if the ship sinks

life saving /ˈlaɪf ˈseɪvɪŋ/ noun the practice of saving people from sinking in water

lifeguard /ˈlaɪflɔːdʒ/ noun 1. a person who is sinking in water

lifeguard /ˈlaɪflɔːdʒ/ noun 1. a person who is sinking in water

life-sized /ˈlaɪf ˈsɑːzd/ adj an object such as a statue or painting which is the same size as the real thing

life story /ˈlaɪf ˈstɔːri/ noun a detailed account of all the events of someone’s life

life-threatening /ˈlaɪf ˈθrɛtnɪŋ/ adj which may kill.

lifeline /ˈlaɪflæni/ noun the time when you are alive

life story /ˈlaɪf ˈstɔːri/ noun a detailed account of all the events of someone’s life

life-sized /ˈlaɪf ˈsɑːzd/ adj an object such as a statue or painting which is the same size as the real thing or person

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lifeguard /ˈlaɪflɔːdʒ/ noun 1. a person who is sinking in water

light /laɪt/ noun 1. a rope thrown to a person who is sinking in water 2. a rope thrown to a driver to take you as a passenger, usually by standing by the side of the road and holding up your thumb or a sign saying where you want to go

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light /laɪt/ noun 1. a rope thrown to a person who is sinking in water 2. a rope thrown to a driver to take you as a passenger, usually by standing by the side of the road and holding up your thumb or a sign saying where you want to go
light aircraft

of the reports in the press, can the minister explain his decision? light aircraft (lait’ əkrıf/) noun a small plane.

1. light bulb /lait’ bbul/ noun a glass ball which gives electric light. Can I light the room by painting it white? light bulb. 1. to make or become brighter, not so dark. You can lighten the sky by painting it white. 2. The sky lightened as dawn broke. To make or become lighter, not so heavy: I’ll have to lighten my backpack—it’s too much to carry. 3. The sky has lightened the gloom in the office considerably.

light entertainment (lait’ erthənt’ me nt/) noun entertainment that is not serious, usually involving things such as telling jokes, singing, dancing or popular music. Can I borrow your lighter?—mine has run out of gas. 2. a boat for carrying goods from a large ship to land. Cranes were unloading the cargo into lighters.

light-fingered /lait’ ōin gərd/ adj who tends to steal things.

light-headed /lait’ ʰei əd/ adj with the feeling that you are going to fall down.

light-hearted /lait’ ʰa ʔard/ adj happy, not very serious.

light heavyweight /lait’ ʰe vri wt/ noun the weight of boxer above middleweight and below heavyweight.

lighthouse /lait’ lı hou s/ noun a tall building near the sea containing a bright light to show ships where there rocks. (NOTE: The plural is lighthouses.)

light industry /lait’ ˈindstri/ noun an industry which makes small products, such as clothes, books or things you use in the home. Synonym illumination

light/lait/ adv 1. gently, without force. She touched my arm lightly. 2. I always sleep lightly and wake up several times each night. 3. not severely: she was lucky to get off so lightly. She was lucky not to be punished. 4. not very much: some lightly cooked vegetables. light /lait/ noun 1. a flash of electricity in the sky, followed by thunder. The storm approached with thunder and lightning. 2. like lightning very fast. Deer can run like lightning.

light-sensitive /lait’səns tv/ adj which reacts to light.

light socket /lait’ səkt/ noun the part of a lamp where the bulb is fitted.

light up /lait’ ʌp/ verb 1. to make something bright. The flames from the burning petrol store lit up the night sky. 2. to turn on lights. Please do not light up until coffee has been served.

lightweight /lait’ wt/ adj made of light cloth. At last we have some hot weather and a chance to wear lightweight clothes. 2. without much influence or importance. He’s quite sensible, but only a lightweight member of the committee. 3. a weight of a boxer between featherweight and welterweight. 4. the lightweight champion. 5. a lightweight title fight. 6. light year /lait’ jər/ noun the distance travelled by light during one year, equal to about 9.3 billion kilometres. 2. Stars are light years from earth.

light year apart very different. The new model is light years in advance of its competitors.

light /lait/ adj similar, nearly the same. sociology, psychology and like subjects. Antonym dissimilar

like /laik/ prep 1. similar to, in the same way as. What’s that record?—it sounds like Elgar. 2. He’s like his mother in many ways, but he has his father’s nose. 3. Like you, I don’t get on with the new boss. 4. The picture doesn’t look like him at all. 5. He can swim like a fish. 6. It tastes like strawberries. 7. It feels like snow. 8. It feels as if it is going to snow. 9. do you feel like a cup of coffee?—do you want a cup of coffee? 10. asking someone to describe something. What was the weather like when you were on holiday? 11. What’s he like, her new boyfriend?
likeable 491

adv 1. as like as not 2. As like as not. The player might win.

golden 1. like 2. to have pleasant feelings about something or someone

to want 1. I’d like to meet one of our sales executives.

 likelihood /'laɪkəbl/ noun the chance of something happening. Synonym probability

 likable /'laɪkəbl/ adj pleasant

 liken /'laɪkən/ verb to liken something to something to compare two things, by showing how one is similar to the other

 likeness /'laɪkəns/ noun 1. a picture or other object which looks like someone

 like - minced /'laɪk-əmɪnd/ adj who has the same opinions

 lily-of-the-valley /'lɪli əv ðə 'vælɪ/ noun a spring plant which has small bell-shaped white flowers and a pleasant smell (NOTE: The plural is lilies-of-the-valley or lily-of-the-valley.)

 lime /laɪm/ noun 1. a leg or arm

 lime green /'laɪm 'grɪnz/ adj, noun the bright green colour of lime, the fruit

 limbo dancing /'lɪmboʊ, dɑːnsɪŋ/ noun a West Indian dance where the dancer bends his or her body backwards to pass under a low horizontal bar

 lime tree /laɪm trɪə/ noun a northern tree with yellowish flowers and smooth leaves which fall off in the winter

 limit /'lɪmɪt/ noun 1. the act of limiting someone or something

 limitation /'lɪmɪteɪʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. the act of limiting someone or something
limited thing which stops you going further ○ the limitations of a machine ○ to know your limitations to know what you are capable of doing ○ I'd love to go hang-gliding but I know my limitations. 3. a statute of limitations law which allows only a certain amount of time, usually six years, for someone to start a legal case to claim damages.

limited /ˈlɪmɪtɪd/ adj which has been limited

limited company /ˈlɪmɪtɪd ˈkæmpəni/ limited liability company /ˈlɪmɪtɪd lɪˈlɪtəri/ limited liability partnership (LLP) a private company in which the shareholders are only responsible for the company’s debts up to the amount of capital they have put in. (NOTE: Limited companies are abbreviated to Ltd in the company name: Jones & Black, Ltd.)

limited edition /ˈlɪmɪtɪd ɪˈdɪʃn/ noun something of which only a few copies are printed or made, usually no more than 1,000

limiting /ˈlɪmɪtɪŋ/ adj which limits a limiting factor something which sets a limit to something ○ The size of the room is a limiting factor – it will only hold fifty people. ○ The limiting factor is the amount of money we can allocate to the project.

limitless /ˈlɪmɪtəsl/ adj without any limit. Antonym limited

limousine /ˈlɪməsɪn/ limo noun a large expensive car, especially one that is longer than usual

limp /lɪmp/ noun an uneven way of walking, when one leg hurts or is shorter than the other ○ His limp has improved since his operation. ○ verb to walk in a way which is affected by having an injured leg or foot ○ After the accident she limped badly. Synonym hobble a adj soft, not stiff ○ All we had as a salad was two limp lettuce leaves. ○ He gave me a limp handshake. ○ She went limp and we had to give her a glass of water.

limpet /ˈlɪmpt/ noun a small shellfish shaped like a flat cone, which attatches itself firmly to rocks

limply /ˈlɪmpli/ adv in a limp way

linchpin /ˈlɪンtʃpɪn/ noun 1. a pin which goes through an axle to hold a wheel on 2. a person or part of a machine that is very important

lintus /ˈlɪŋtəs/ noun a sweet cough medicine

line /laɪn/ noun 1. a long thin mark ○ She drew a straight line across the sheet of paper. ○ Parking isn't allowed on yellow lines. ○ The tennis ball went over the line. ○ to draw the line at to refuse to do ○ I don't mind having a cup of coffee with the boss, but I draw the line at having to invite him for a meal at home. 2. a long string ○ She hung her washing on the (washing) line. ○ He sat with his fishing line in the river, waiting for a fish.

3. a wire along which telephone messages are sent ○ The snow brought down the telephone lines. ○ Can you read the bottom line on the chart? ○ to drop someone a line to send someone a short letter ○ I’ll drop you a line when I get to New York. 6. a line with the decision taken at the meeting. ○ to take a hard line not to be weak ○ The headmaster takes a hard line with boys who sell drugs in the playground.

lineage /ˈleinɪdʒ/ noun all the people of someone’s family who lived before they did, used especially when you are referring to a family of high social status. Synonym ancestry

linear /ˈlɪnər/ adj 1. referring to lines ○ a linear diagram 2. referring to length ○ A metre is a linear measurement.

lined /ˈlɪnd/ adj, with lines on it 2. with people or things standing side by side ○ an avenue lined with trees, a tree-lined avenue an street with trees along both sides 3. with a lining inside ○ You’ll need fur-lined boots in Canada.

lined paper /ˈlɪnd pəˈpər/ noun paper with lines printed on it

line drawing /ˈlайн ˈdrɔːɪŋ/ noun a picture which has been drawn with a pen or pencil and shows only lines

line manager /ˈlaɪn ˌmeɪnɪdʒərn/ noun a manager in a company who is involved in production or the central part of the business and who is in charge of the employees in that part of the company

linen /ˈlɪnn/ noun 1. a cloth made from flax ○ He bought a white linen suit. 2. undercover ○ You should change your linen more often in hot weather. ○ to wash your dirty linen in public to tell personal secrets about your-
self and your family. 6. Politicians try to be careful not to wash their dirty linen in public.

liner /ˈlɪnər/ noun 1. a thing used for lining
2. eye liner makeup for putting round the eyes 3. a large passenger ship 4. They went on a cruise round the Caribbean on an American liner.

linesman /ˌlɛnsmən/ noun 1. a man who looks after electric, telephone or railway lines
2. an official who stays on the side of the playing area in a game to see if the ball goes over the line, and helps the referee to spot any breaking of the rules 3. After consulting with his linesman, the referee awarded a free kick. 4. The linesman flagged that the ball had gone out of play. (NOTE: The plural is linesmen.)

line up /lɪn ʌp/ verb to stand in a line
1. Line up over there if you want to take the next boat.

lingerie /ˈlɪŋɡri/ noun a group or list of people

linger /ˈlɪŋɡər/ verb to stay longer than necessary, longer than expected

lingering /ˈlɪŋɡərɪŋ/ adj which remains for some time

linguist /ˈlɪŋgwɪst/ noun 1. a person who knows foreign languages well 2. Only the very best linguists can hope to become interpreters for the EU. 3. a person who studies linguistics 4. Linguists have discovered similarities between Sanskrit and ancient Greek. 5. linguistic /ˈlɪŋɡwɪstɪk/ adj referring to language or languages

linguistics /ˈlɪŋgwɪstɪks/ noun the science of language

lining /ˈlɛɪnɪŋ/ noun material put on the inside of something, especially of a piece of clothing 1. You’ll need a coat with a warm lining if you’re going to Canada in winter. 2. She has a pair of boots with a fur lining. 3. every cloud has a silver lining although a situation may seem bad there is always some aspect of it which is good

link /lɪŋk/ noun 1. a thing which connects two things or places 2. The Channel Tunnel provides a fast rail link between England and France. 3. one of the rings in a chain 4. A chain with solid gold links. 5. verb to join together 6. They linked arms and walked down the street. 7. His salary is linked to the cost of living. 8. All the rooms are linked to the main switchboard. 9. Eurostar links London and Paris or Brussels. Synonym connect

linking verb /lɪŋkɪŋ vɪŋk/ noun same as copula

link up /ˌlɪŋk ʌp/ verb to join two or more things together

liquidation /ˌlɪŋkwɪˈdeɪʃən/ noun the closing of a company and selling of everything it owns. Synonym insolvency
literate

liquidator /ˈlɪkwɪdətər/ noun a person named to be in charge of the closing of a company which is in liquidation

liquidise /ˈlɪkwɪdez/ liquidize verb to crush food such as fruit or vegetables in a special machine so that they become liquid

liquidity /ˈlɪkwɪdəti/ noun having cash or assets which can be changed into cash

liquidiser /ˈlɪkwɪdəzər/, liquidizer noun a machine which makes food liquid

liquor /ˈlɪkər/ noun an alcoholic drink

liquorice /ˈlɪkərəs/ a black substance from the root of a plant, used to make sweets and also in medicine (NOTE: The US spelling is licorice.)

liquor licence /ˈlɪkwər ˈlɪsns/ noun an official document which gives someone permission to sell alcohol

liquor store /ˈlɪkwər stɔr/ noun US a shop which sells alcohol (NOTE: The British term is off-licence.)

lisp /lɪsp/ noun a speech difficulty in which ‘s’ is pronounced as ‘th’ ○ She speaks with a lisp. ■ verb to speak with a lisp ○ He lisps, which makes him difficult to understand.

list /lɪst/ noun 1. a number of things such as names or addresses, written or said one after another ○ We’ve drawn up a list of people to invite to the party. ○ He was ill, so we crossed his name off the list. ○ The names on the list are in alphabetical order. ○ to be on the danger or critical list to be dangerously ill ○ After the accident, she was on the critical list for some hours. 2. a book or document containing information in the form of a list 3. a situation where a boat leans to one side ○ The trawler had taken in water and had developed a 3° list. ■ verb 1. to say or to write a number of things one after the other ○ The contents are listed on the label. ○ She listed the ingredients on the back of an envelope. ○ The catalogue lists twenty-three models of washing machine. 2. (of a ship) to lean to one side ○ The ship was listing badly and the crew had to be taken off by helicopter.

listed building /ˈlɪstɪd ˈbɪldɪŋ/ noun GB a building which is considered important because of its architecture or history, and which cannot be taken down or changed without the permission of the local authority

listen /ˈlɪsn/ verb to pay attention to someone who is talking or to something which you can hear ○ Don’t make a noise – I’m trying to listen to a music programme. ○ Why don’t you listen to what I tell you? ○ to listen out for to wait to see if something makes a noise ○ Can you listen out for the telephone while I’m in the garden?

literary

literacy /ˈlɪtərəsi/ noun being able to read and write. Synonym knowledge

literary critic /ˈlɪtəri ˈkrɪtɪk/ noun an assessment of the quality of works of literature

literature /ˈlɪtərətʃər/ noun

literate /ˈlɪtərət/ noun able to read and write ○ Most people in Britain are literate. ○ When he left school he was barely literate.

list price /ˈlɪstr prɪs/ noun a price of something as shown in a catalogue

listserve /ˈlɪstrsɜːv/ noun an Internet service allowing users to have online discussions

listen out for

litany /ˈlɪtəni/ noun 1. a series of prayers with repeated responses, used in church ○ The priest and congregation recited the litany. 2. a litany of a long list of ○ She started on a litany of complaints about the service.

litchi /ˈlɪtʃi/ noun US a small subtropical fruit with a hard red skin and a soft white flesh surrounding a hard shiny brown seed

literary criticism /ˈlɪtəri ˈkrɪtɪsɪs/ noun
lithe

any literature on holidays in Greece? (NOTE: no plural)
lithograph /ˈlɪθəɡrɑːf/ noun a print made by pressing paper onto a smooth surface where the design has been made in grease and ink has been put on it
litigate /ˈlɪtɪɡeɪt/ verb to go to law, to bring a legal case against someone to have a disagreement settled
litigation /ˈlɪtɪʒən/ noun an act of bringing a legal case against someone in order to have a disagreement settled (NOTE: no plural)

l itre /ˈlɪtrə/ noun a measurement for liquids, equal to about one and three-quarter pints (NOTE: usually written l or L, after figures: 25 l, say ‘twenty-five litres’. The US spelling is liter.)

litter /ˈlɪtə/ noun 1. rubbish left on streets or in public places ○ The council tries to keep the main street clear of litter. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 2. a group of young animals born at one time ○ She had a litter of eight puppies. ■ verb to drop rubbish in a place ○ The street was littered with bits of paper

litter bin /ˈlɪtə bɪn/ noun a metal container in the street for putting litter in

little /ˈlɪt(ə)/ adj 1. small, not big ○ They have two children – a baby boy and a little girl. (NOTE: no comparative or superlative forms in this sense) 2. not much ○ We drink very little milk. ○ A TV uses very little electricity. ○ He looked at it for a little while. (NOTE: little – less – least /ˈlɪst/) ■ pron ○ a little a small quantity ○ I’m not hungry – just give me a little of that soup. ○ Can I have a little more coffee please? ■ adv not much; not often ○ It’s little more than two miles from the sea. ○ We go to the cinema very little these days.
little by little /ˈlɪt(ə)bol/ but /ˈlɪt(ə)l/ adv gradually

little finger /ˈlɪt(ə)fləŋɡə/ noun the smallest of the five fingers ○ she can twist him round her little finger she can get him to do whatever she wants

little toe /ˈlɪt(ə)təʊ/ noun the smallest of the five toes

livable /ˈlɪvəb(ə)/ adj 1. comfortable to live in 2. which you can bear ○ live adv /ˈlɪv/ 1. living, not dead ○ There are strict rules about transporting live animals. ○ Guess who’s moved to the house next door? – a real live TV star. 2. carrying electricity ○ Don’t touch the live wires. ○ The boys were killed trying to jump over the live rail. 3. not recorded ○ a live radio show ■ adv /ˈlɪv/ not recorded ○ The show was broadcast live. ■ verb /ˈlɪv/ 1. to have your home in a place ○ They have gone to live in France. ○ Do you prefer living in the country to the town? ○ He lives next door to a film star. ○ Where does your daughter live? 2. to be alive ○ King Henry VIII lived in the 16th century. ○ The doctor doesn’t think she will live much longer.

live down /ˈlɪv ˈdaʊn/ verb to stop being embarrassed by something which has finally been forgotten by everyone ○ he’ll never live it down it will never be forgotten

live in /ˈlɪv in/ verb to live in the building where you work

live-in /ˈlɪv in/ adj who lives in the place of work

livelihood /ˈlɪvlihʊd/ noun a way of earning your living

liveliness /ˈlɪvalɪnɪs/ noun the state of being energetic and enthusiastic. Antonym lethargy

lively /ˈlɪlvli/ adj very active. Synonym energetic. Antonym lethargic (NOTE: lively – liveliest)
liven up /ˈlɪv(ə)n ap/ verb to make something more lively. Synonym enliven

live off /ˈlɪv əf/ verb to earn money from ○ live on /ˈlɪv nən/ verb to use food or money to stay alive

liver /ˈlɪvər/ noun 1. a large organ in the abdomen which helps your body to process food and clean the blood ○ Her liver was damaged in the car crash. 2. animal’s liver used as food ○ I’ll start with chicken liver pâté. ○ He looked at the menu and ordered liver and bacon.
live rail /ˈlɪv reɪl/ noun a rail which carries electricity for electric trains

livery /ˈlɪvəri/ noun 1. special clothing of a group of servants or of an organisation ○ Every employee has to wear the hotel’s distinctive livery. 2. a special design used to show that something belongs to an organisation ○ British Airways have changed the livery of all their planes. 3. looking after horses for payment ○ lives /ˈlɪvaɪz/ ○ life

livestock /ˈlɪvstək/ noun farm animals, which are kept to produce meat, milk or other products (NOTE: no plural)
live through /ˈlɪv ˈθruː/ verb to experience something dangerous ○ live together /ˈlɪv təˈɡɛðər/ verb (of two people) to live in the same house and have a sexual relationship ○ live up /ˈlɪv əp/ verb to live up to expectations to succeed as was expected ○ The film didn’t live up to the hype that preceded it.
live wire /ˈlɪv ˈwɪr/ noun a very lively person (informal)
live with 496

lo,

live with /liv wið/ verb 1. to put up with something ♦ As for aircraft noise – you'll just have to live with it. 2. to live with someone to live in the same house as someone else as if married ♦ He lives with a writer of children's books.
livid /ˈlɪvɪd/ adj 1. dark blue grey like the colour of lead ♦ The livid bruise on her eye where he had hit her. 2. extremely angry ♦ Her father was livid when he heard she had spent the night with her boyfriend.
living /ˈlɪvɪŋ/ adj 1. Does she have any living relatives? 2. within living memory which can be remembered by people who are alive today ♦ An old farmhouse stood near the church within living memory.

load /ləʊd/ noun 1. money that you need for things such as food and clothes ♦ He earns his living by selling postcards to tourists. 2. what do you do for a living? what job do you do? 3. not earn a living wage not earn enough to pay for the things you need such as food, heating and rent 2. cost of living money which a person has to pay for things such as food, heating and rent Higher interest rates increase the cost of living.

living room /ˈlɪvɪŋ ruːm/ noun (in a house or flat) a comfortable room for sitting in

living standards /ˈlɪvɪŋ stændədəz/ plural noun the quality of personal home life, such as the amount and quality of food or clothes you can buy or the type of car you own ♦ As long as living standards continue to improve, everyone is happy. (NOTE: also the standard of living)

lizard /ˈlɪzəd/ noun a type of small reptile with four legs and a long tail

lorry /ˈlɒrɪ/ noun a large single piece of heavy equipment which transports goods, such as bricks or wood. A lorry delivers a load of bricks. 2. a responsibility, something which is difficult to live with ♦ that's a load off my mind I feel much less worried ♦ I've finished my exams – that's a load off my mind. 3. loads of plenty, lots of (informal) ♦ It was a wonderful party – there was loads to eat ♦ You don't need to rush – there's loads of time before the train leaves. ♦ John always has loads of good ideas. 4. verb 1. to put something, especially something heavy, into or on to a vehicle such as a truck or van ♦ They loaded the furniture into the van. 2. to put bullets into a gun, or a film into a camera ♦ They loaded their guns and hid behind the wall. 3. to put a program into a computer ♦ Load the word-processing program before you start keyboarding.

loaded /ˈləʊdɪd/ adj 1. having a lot of money ♦ Chris is loaded – he won the lottery. 2. referring to a gun which contains bullets or a camera which contains a film loaded dice dice which have a secret weight in them

loaded question /ˈləʊdɪd ˈkwɛstʃ(ə)n/ noun a question which is asked in such a way as to trick the person who answers

loaf /ləʊf/ noun 1. a large single piece of bread, which you can cut into slices before eating it ♦ He bought a loaf of bread at the baker's. 2. We eat about 10 loaves of bread per week. Higher interest rates increase the cost of living. 3. verb to loaf around to hang around, doing nothing ♦ He hasn't any proper job and just loafs around Leicester Square all day.

loafer /ˈləʊfər/ trademark a type of light casual shoe which you slide your foot into ♦ He wore jeans and a pair of brown loafers.

loam /ləʊm/ noun good dark soil which is very good for growing plants in loamy /ˈləʊmi/ adj (of soil) which is like loam

loan /ləʊn/ noun 1. the act of lending ♦ I had the loan of his car for three weeks. 2. on loan being lent ♦ The picture is on loan to the National Gallery. 3. a thing lent, especially an amount of money ♦ He bought the house with a £100,000 loan from the bank. 4. verb to lend ♦ The furniture for the exhibition has been loaned by the museum.

loan shark /ˈləʊn ʃɑːk/ noun a person who lends money at a very high interest rate

loath /ləʊθ/ adj to be loath to do something to be unwilling to do something ♦ Personally, I'm very loath to get involved. Antonym detest

loathe /ləʊθ/ verb to hate very much. Antonym adore

loathing /ˈləʊθɪŋ/ noun a feeling of disgust. Antonym hate

loathsome /ˈləʊθz(ə)m/ adj disgusting and horrible. Antonym hateful. Antonym delightful

loaves /ˈləʊvz/ plural noun a ball which is hit or thrown high into the air ♦ His lob fell just over the
lobbied /ˈlɔbɪd/ noun 1. an entrance hall ○ I’ll meet you in the hotel lobby in half an hour. 2. a group of people who try to influence important people, especially members of parliament ○ The MPs met members of the anti-abortion lobby. 3. the hall in the House of Commons used especially for interviews with members of the public ● verb to try to influence someone, especially in order to get a bill through Parliament ○ She lobbied her MP with a detailed letter and other documents. Synonym petition (NOTE: lobbying – lobbed)

lobby correspondent /ˈlɔbi kɔr-ˌspəndənt/ noun a journalist who reports on parliamentary matters, after speaking in private to ministers

lobbyist /ˈləbiʃt/ noun a person who is paid to represent a pressure group

lobe /ˈləʊb/ noun 1. the soft fleshy part at the bottom of the ear ○ He has a ring in his right ear lobe. 2. a round section of an organ, such as the brain, lung or liver ○ The right lung has three lobes, the left only two. ○ The surgeon could see that the right frontal lobe of the brain was affected.

lobster /ˈləʊbsta/ noun a shellfish with a long body, two large claws, and eight legs; the flesh of this shellfish used as food ○ local adj /ˈləʊkəl/ referring to a place or district near where you are ○ She works as a headmistress of the local school. 1. ○ locals people who live in the area ○ The locals don’t like all the rich people who have weekend cottages in the village. ○ The restaurant caters for the tourist trade rather than for the locals. 2. a pub near where you live ○ You can find him in his local every evening.

locale /ˈləʊkəl/ noun 1. a section of elected government which runs a town or district ○ local government /ˈləʊkəl ˌgəvərnmənt/ noun organisations dealing with the matters of small areas of the country, such as towns and counties

localised /ˌləʊkəlaɪzd, ˌləʊkəlaɪzəd/ localized adj which happens or shows in one part of the body only. Antonym generalised

locality /ˈləʊkəlɪtɪ/ noun an area of the country or district of a town ○ in the locality near by ○ There are two theatres and four cinemas in the locality. 1. locally /ˈləʊkəli/ adv in the district near where you are. Synonym nearby 2. local time /ˈləʊkt(ə)rm/ noun the time of day in a particular place ○ locate /ˈləʊkət/ verb 1. to find the position of something ○ Divers are trying to locate the Spanish galleon. 2. to be located to be in a particular position ○ The heart is located in the left side of the body. ○ The warehouse is located near to the motorway. 3. location /ˈləʊkəˈleɪʃn/ noun 1. a place or position ○ The hotel is in a very central location. 2. on location (filming) in a real place, not in a studio ○ The film was shot on location in North Africa. 3. finding the position of something

lock /ˈləʊk/ noun (in Scotland an inland lake or arm of the sea ○ lock /ˈləʊk/ noun 1. an object which closes a door or closes a container such as a box, so that you can only open it with a key ○ She left the key in the lock, so the burglars got in easily. ○ We changed the locks on the doors after a set of keys were stolen. 2. under lock and key locked up firmly ○ We keep our jewels safely under lock and key. 2. an amount by which the wheels of a car can turn left or right ○ The car has an excellent lock – it turns easily in a narrow road. 3. a section of a canal or river with gates which can be opened or closed to control the flow of water, and so allow boats to move up or down to different levels ○ They passed through dozens of locks on their trip down the Thames. 4. lock, stock and barrel everything all together ○ verb 1. to close a door or a container such as a box, so that you need to use a key to open it ○ I forgot to lock the safe. ○ We always lock the front door before we go to bed. 2. to fix or to become fixed in a certain position ○ The wheels suddenly locked as he went round the corner.

lockable /ˈləʊkəb(ə)l/ adj which can be locked ○ locked /ˈləʊkt/ adj which has been shut with a key ○ locker /ˈləʊkər/ noun a small cupboard for personal things which you can close with a key

locker-room /ˈləʊkər ˈrʊm/ noun a room where people can change clothes before going to play a game

locket /ˈləʊkt/ noun a piece of jewellery which consists of a small case that you can
lock in 498 loin

keep a picture in, attached to a chain which is worn round the neck.

lock in /lɔk 'ɪn/ verb to make someone stay inside a place by locking the door

lock out /lɔk 'aut/ verb to make someone stay outside a place by locking the door

lockout /lɔk'aut/ noun a time where an employer locks the door of the factory and refuses to let the workers enter unless they agree to his conditions

lock up /lɔk 'ʌp/ verb 1. to close a building by locking the doors ○ He always locks up before he goes home. ○ She was locking up the shop when a man walked in. 2. to keep a person or thing inside a place or container by locking the door or lid ○ Lock up the jewels in the safe or lock the jewels up in the safe. 3. to put someone in prison ○ They locked him up for a week.

lockup /lɔk'up/ noun a small prison cell (dated) ○ The police arrested the three boys and put them in the lockup overnight.

locomotive /lɔkə'mɔtɪv/ noun the engine of a train. Synonym engine

locum /lɔkəm/ noun a person who does the work of a doctor who is away on holiday

locust /lɔkəst/ noun a tropical insect, like a large grasshopper, which destroys crops

dode /lɔd/ noun a band of metal ore in rocks

lodge /lɔdʒ/ noun a small house at the gates of a large house ○ If the lodge is as big as that, just imagine the size of the main house! 1. verb 1. to rent a room in a house ○ He lodged with Mrs Bishop in London Road. 2. ○ to lodge a complaint against someone to make an official complaint about someone (formal) ○ They lodged a complaint with the local electricity company. 2. to lodge something with someone to leave something with someone to look after for you ○ They lodged all the documents with the solicitor. 3. to become stuck ○ A piece of bread was lodged in her windpipe. ○ The bullet was lodged in his spine.

lodger /lɔdʒə/ noun a person who pays to stay in a room in a house. Synonym tenant

lodging /lɔdʒɪŋ/ noun a place where someone lodges

lodgings /lɔdʒɪŋz/ plural noun rooms in a house where someone lodges ○ Are you still looking for lodgings or have you found somewhere to stay?

loft /lɔf/ noun 1. the top part of a house right under the roof ○ They converted their loft into a bedroom. Also called attic 2. a part of a large building, such as a warehouse which has been made suitable for people to live in ○ He’s bought a loft apartment in the centre of Soho.

lofty /ˈlaʊftɪ/ adj. 1. very high ○ From the lofty height of the church tower the boys could see for miles. ○ The lofty ceiling and wide windows gave the studio a wonderful feeling of space. 2. proud ○ Her lofty attitude towards her colleagues does not make her many friends. (NOTE: loftier – loftiest)

log /lɔg/ noun 1. a thick piece of a tree ○ He brought in a load of logs for the fire. ○ to sleep like a log to sleep very deeply ○ After his 12-mile walk he slept like a log, 2. a record of details such as speed or position especially on a ship or plane ○ The ship’s log gave details of their position when the fire broke out. verb to write down details of something which has happened in a book as a record ○ Have you logged your day’s activities into the book?

loggerheads /ˈlaʊɡəhdz/ noun 1. to be at loggerheads with someone to always argue with someone ○ He has been at loggerheads with the town council for some months.

logging /lɔgɪŋ/ noun the practice of cutting down trees for use in industry or building

logic /ləˈdʒɪk/ noun 1. formal reasoning ○ Your logic is flawed – just because she’s an MA doesn’t mean she’s a good teacher. 2. sensible thinking, good reason ○ I don’t see the logic of owning two cars and not being able to drive.

logically /lədʒɪkli/ adv in a logical or reasonable way

log in /lɔg in, lɔg on /ˈlɔɡ ɒn/ verb (in computing) to start to use a computer system, usually by typing a particular word

login /ˈlɔɡɪn/ noun the act of logging in to a computer system

logistic /ˈlaʊdʒɪstɪk/, logistical /ˈləʊdʒɪstɪkəl/ adj referring to logistics

logistics /ˈləʊdʒɪstɪks/ noun the organisation of the movement of large numbers of people and things such as vehicles and supplies

logos /ˈloʊgəʊs/ noun a symbol or design used by a company in order for people to recognise its products. Synonym symbol

NOTE: The plural is logos.

log off /ˈlɔɡ əf, lɔg out /ˈlɔɡ aut/ verb to finish using a computer system, usually by typing a particular word (NOTE: logging – logged)

loin /lɔɪn/ noun a cut of meat, taken from the back of the animal
long-range
  1. long-range /lɒŋ 'rɛndʒ/ adj which covers a long distance or a long time.
  2. short-range Synonym long-term
long-running /lɒŋ 'rʌnɪŋ/ adj. which has been performed for several years without a break.
  1. a long-running musical. 2. Which is the longest-running TV sitcom? 2. which has been going on for a long time.

Our long-running dispute with our neighbours.

longsighted /lɒŋ'saɪtəd/ adj able to see things clearly even things which are far away but not things which are close.

short-sighted /lɒŋ'saɪtəd/ adj with long sleeves.

long-standing /lɒŋ'stændɪŋ/ adj which has been in existence for a long time

long-stay /lɒŋ steɪ/ adj referring to a stay of several days or weeks.

Compare short-stay

long-suffering /lɒŋ 'saːf(ə)rɪŋ/ adj patient with problems caused by other people.

Antonym tolerant

long-term /lɒŋ 'tɜːrm/ adj planned to last for a long time. Synonym lasting.

long-time /lɒŋ 'taɪm/ adj who has existed for a long time

long vacation /lɒŋ və'kɛʃən/ noun the summer holiday in a British university

long wave /lɒŋ wɛrv/ noun a radio wave with a wavelength longer than 1000 metres

long weekend /lɒŋ wɪk'end/ noun a weekend, including Friday night

long-winded /lɒŋ 'wɪndɪd/ adj 1. (of a person) who talks too much in a boring way

2. (of a talk) which lasts too long

look /lʊk/ noun 1. the act of seeing something with your eyes.

Have a good look at this photograph and tell me if you recognise anyone in it.

We only had time for a quick look round the town.

2. the way someone or something appears.

There is a French look about her clothes.

3. a search for something.

We had a good look for the ring and couldn't find it anywhere.

verb 1. to turn your eyes towards something.

I want you to look carefully at this photograph.

Look in the restaurant and see if there are any tables free.

If you look out of the office window you can see our house.

He opened the lid of the box and looked inside.

2. to look straight at someone in a confident way.

He didn’t dare look me in the eye.

3. don’t look a gift horse in the mouth.

Don’t criticise something which someone has given you for free.

3. to appear to be.

Those pies look good.

I went to see her in hospital and she looks worse.

verb 2. to be similar to.

I look like she looks just like his father.

2. to ask someone to describe something.

What’s he look like, her new boyfriend?

Tell me what she looks like so that I can recognise her when she gets off the train.

3. to seem to be going to happen.

Take an umbrella, it looks like rain.

The sky is dark, it looks like snow.

look on /lʊk ən/ verb to watch without taking part.

The police beat up the demonstrators while the tourists just looked on.

2. to consider, to think of something as.

We look on trade fairs as a bit of relaxation after the office.

He looks on his secretary as simply someone to make coffee and answer the phone.

look out /lʊk 'aut/ verb 1. to be careful.

Look out – the car is going backwards.

2. to look out on or over to have a view to.
loophole /ˈluːphəʊl/ noun  a means of avoiding a law. Synonym dodge □ to find a tax loophole to find a means of legally not paying tax □ He spends his time looking for tax loopholes.

loose /luːs/ adj 1. not attached □ Watch out! – the sail is loose and swinging towards you! □ The front wheel is loose and needs tightening. □ The boat came loose and started to drift away. □ Once he was let loose, the dog ran across the park. 2. □ to be at a loose end to have nothing special to do □ We’re at a loose end this weekend. 3. (of a garment) wide, not tight-fitting (NOTE: looser – loosest) □ verb to start something happening □ The government’s proposals loosened up demonstrations in all parts of the country.

loose cannon /ˈluːs kænən/ noun someone who is not easily controlled and may do or say things which are not officially approved (slang)

loose change /ˈluːs ˈtʃeɪndʒ/ noun money in coins only

loose end /ˈluːs end/ noun one of the details in something such as a problem or situation which has not yet been dealt with

loosen /ˈluːzn/ verb 1. to make something less tight □ He loosened his shoelaces and relaxed. 2. □ to loosen your grip on something to hold something less tightly than before □ The parliament forced the president to loosen his grip on the civil service.

loot /luːt/ noun 1. things which have been stolen □ The police discovered the rest of the loot under his bed. 2. money (informal) □ He’s got plenty of loot. (NOTE: no plural) □ verb to steal, especially from shops and houses, during a riot or other emergency □ Some houses were looted during the floods.

looter /ˈluːtər/ noun a person who steals, especially from houses and shops during a riot or other emergency

looting /ˈluːtnɪŋ/ noun the act of stealing from shops and houses during a riot or other emergency (NOTE: no plural)

lope /ˈluːp/ verb to run with long easy steps □ noun a way of running with long steps
loquacious /ˈloʊkəˌʃæs/ adj who talks a lot. Synonym talkative. Antonym silent.

lord /lɔrd/ noun 1. a man who has a high social rank. ▪ He was born a lord. ▪ Powerful lords forced King John to sign the Magna Carta. 2. the title for certain peers. ▪ Lord Smith.

loss /lɒs/ noun 1. a fat lot of help you are! ▪ They lost sight of her in the crowd. ▪ to lose your temper to become angry. ▪ He lost his temper when they told him there was no room in the hotel. ▪ to lose time to waste time, not to do something quickly enough. ▪ Don’t lose any time in posting the letter. ▪ to lose your way to end up not knowing where you are. ▪ They lost their way in the fog on the mountain. ▪ heart 3. not to win ▪ We lost the match 10 – 0. ▪ Did you win? – No, we lost. (NOTE: losing – lost /lost/)

loser /ˈləʊzər/ noun a person who does not win. Synonym failure ▪ a bad loser a person who behaves badly when he loses a game.

loss /ˈlɒs/ noun 1. no longer having something. ▪ He was very despondent at the loss of his house. ▪ The loss of a child is almost unbearable to a parent. ▪ it’s no great loss it does not matter now that we no longer have it. ▪ The map’s no great loss – I brought two along, just in case.

lorry /ˈlɔri/ noun GB a large motor vehicle for carrying goods. ▪ truck

lorry-load /ˈlɔri ləʊd/, van-load /ˈvæn ləʊd/ noun an amount of goods carried on a lorry or van. ▪ They delivered six lorry-loads of coal.

louder /ˈlaʊdər/ adv more loudly. Synonym loudly. (NOTE: The US term is loud. loud

loud /laʊd/ adj 1. which is very easily heard. ▪ Can’t you stop your watch making such a loud noise? ▪ Turn down the radio – it’s too loud. 2. (of colours) too bright. ▪ He was wearing a particularly loud tie which didn’t go with his jacket at all.
loudly
○ I can’t sing any louder. ○ She laughed out loud in church. (NOTE: louder – loudest)
loudly /ˈloudlɪ/ adv in a way which is easily heard
loudness /ˈlaudnəs/ noun being loud, being noisy. Antonym: quietness
loudspeaker /ˈlauˌspiːkər/ noun the part of an object such as a radio or CD player which allows sound to be heard. Synonym: tannoy
lounge /ˈlaʊndʒ/ noun a comfortable room for sitting in. Let’s go and watch TV in the lounge. Synonym: to lounge about to sit or lie doing nothing or very little. ○ He doesn’t do anything on Saturdays, he just lounges about waiting for the pubs to open. ○ It rained all the time, so we had to spend the day lounging about in the hotel.
lounge bar /ˈlaʊndʒ bɑː/ noun a bar in a pub or hotel which has comfortable chairs
louse /ləʊs/ noun a small insect which sucks blood and lives on the skin as a parasite on animals and humans. Antonym: louvered
louse up /ˈləʊs ʌp/ verb (informal) to louse something up to spoil something completely. ○ He loused up the whole deal by trying to increase his commission by 25%.
lousy /ˈləʊzɪ/ adj extremely bad or unpleasant. Synonym: unlovely
lout /laut/ noun a rude and badly behaved young man (insult). Synonym: louvered
louver /ˈlaʊvər/ noun
louvered /ˈlaʊvərd, ˈlauvərd/ adj with louvres
lovable /ˈlaʊvəbl/ adj pleasant, easy to love. Synonym: endearing
○ love /laʊv/ noun 1. a great liking for something or someone. ○ Give my love to your wife. ○ Her great love is opera. ○ to be in love to love each other. ○ They seem to be very much in love. ○ to fall in love with someone to start to like them very much. ○ They fell in love at first sight.
2. ○ to make love to have sex with someone. ○ She swore on oath that he had never made love to her or that they had never made love. 3. (in games such as tennis) a score of zero points. ○ She lost the first set six–love (6–0). 4. a person whom you love. ○ She’s the love of his life. 5. a way of addressing, especially to a woman or child. ○ Hallo, love, what can I do for you this morning? Synonym: verb 1. to have strong feelings for someone or something. ○ I love you!, he said. ○ She loves little children.
6. The children love their teacher. ○ His wife thinks he loves someone else. 2. to like something very much. ○ We love going on holiday by the seaside. ○ I’d love to come with you, but I’ve got too much work to do.
love affair /ˈlaʊv əˈfɛr/ noun a sexual relationship between two people who are not married to each other

loved ones /ˈlʌvd ərnz/ plural noun your family and friends
love-hate relationship /ˈlaʊv əˌhæt retʃərənl/ noun a situation where two people get on well together and then dislike each other in turn
love life /ˈlaʊv laɪf/ noun someone’s sexual relationships
○ lovely /ˈlʌvli/ adj very pleasant (NOTE: lovelier – loveliest)
lover /ˈlaʊvər/ noun 1. a person, especially a man, who is having a sexual relationship with someone. ○ Her lover was arrested when the woman’s body was found on the beach. 2. a person who loves something. ○ a lover of French food
love story /ˈlaʊv stəri/ noun a story about two people in love
loving /ˈlaʊvɪŋ/ adj affectionate, showing love. Synonym: affectionate
lovingly /ˈlaʊvənlɪ/ adv in a loving way
○ low /ləʊ/ adj 1. not high, with little height. ○ She hit her head on the low branch. ○ The town is surrounded by low hills. ○ We shop around to find the lowest prices. ○ The engine works best at low speeds. ○ The temperature here is too low for oranges to grow. ○ Sales were lower in December than in November. 2. feeling extremely sad and unhappy. ○ She was very low when I saw her last. ○ quiet ○ He said a few words in a low voice. 3. not favourable. ○ He has a low opinion of the boss. (NOTE: lower – lowest) adv towards the bottom; not high up. ○ The plane was flying too low — it hit the trees. ○ Supplies are running low supplies are becoming scarce. ○ lie low /ˈlaʊ ən/ noun a point where something is very small. ○ Sales have reached a new low. ○ prefer with not much of ○ low-calorie diet food or drink containing very few calories. ○ She’s on a low-calorie diet. ○ loud (of a cow) to make a noise. ○ The cows were lowing in the field
lowbrow /ˈlʌubroʊ/ adj not difficult to understand and of a low quality. Antonym: highbrow
low-calorie /ˈlaʊ ˈkæləri/ adjective containing few calories
low-class /ˈləʊ klaːs/ adjective not rich or middle-class (dated)
low-cut /ˈləʊkʌt/ adjective used to describe women’s clothing which has a low neckline and shows the top part of the chest
lowdown /ˈlaʊdaʊn/ (informal) noun to give someone the lowdown on something to tell someone the details, especially secret details, about something. ○ mean, bad ○ You lowdown crook, she shouted. ○ lower /ˈlaʊər/ adjective which is below something else of the same type. Synonym: inferior
○ lower /ˈlaʊər/ verb 1. to make something go down
lower case

They lowered the lifeboat into the water.  

low tide /ˈlɔʊ tɪd/ noun the lowest level of the sea, the land, or the time when the sea is at this level

to reduce something ☐ to All the shops have lowered their prices to attract customers. ☐ to lower your voice to speak more quietly ☐ to lower yourself to or by to do something of which you should be ashamed ☐ Don’t lower yourself by going around with that gang.

lower case /ˈloʊ kəs/ noun small letters such as a, b and c as opposed to capitals such as A, B and C

lower class /ˈloʊ klas/ noun a group of people in society who are not rich, aristocratic or middle-class (dated). Synonym working class

lower ground floor /ˈloʊ grʊn ˈflɔːr/ noun same as basement (NOTE: In America the ground floor is called the first floor.)

low-fat /ˈloʊ ˈfæt/ adj containing very little fat ☐ Do you have any low-fat yoghurt?

low-grade /ˈloʊ ɡreɪd/ noun of the worst quality

low-key /ˈloʊ ˈki/ adj quiet, without much excitement. Antonym elaborate

lowland /ˈloʊ lænd/ adj referring to a region which is near sea level

lowlands /ˈloʊ lændz/ plural noun a low-lying area of the country ☐ the Lowlands of Scotland

low-level /ˈloʊ ˈlev(ə)l/ adj 1. positioned or done at lower than the usual level 2. low in status or degree

lowly /ˈloʊ lɪ/ adj with a low status. Synonym humble (NOTE: lowlier – lowest)

low-lying /ˈloʊ ˈlɛɪŋ/ adj which is near to sea level, or to the level of a river

low-paid /ˈloʊ ˈpeɪd/ adj not being paid much for a job ☐ She has a low-paid job as a cleaner or her job as a cleaner is very low-paid. ☐ plural noun ☐ the low-paid people who do not get paid much for their job ☐ The government has promised to reduce taxes for the low-paid.

low point /ˈloʊ ˈpɔɪnt/ noun the least enjoyable or successful period of something

low profile /ˈloʊ ˈprəʊfaɪl/ noun behaviour that avoids public attention ☐ adj deliberately avoiding attention or publicity

low-rise /ˈloʊ raiz/ adj (of buildings) consisting of only a few levels ☐ noun a building consisting of only a few levels

low season /ˈloʊ ˈsiːzən/ noun a time of year, usually during the winter, when few people go on holiday, and when air fares and hotel prices are cheaper. Also called off season. Antonym high season

low-tech /ˈloʊ tɛk/ noun simple and not highly developed technically ☐ a low-tech solution

luck /lʌk/ noun 504

luck

low tide /ˈlɔʊ tɪd/ noun the lowest level of the sea, the land, or the time when the sea is at this level

luck /lʌk/ noun

success /səkˈsɛs/ noun 2. a successful period of something

long /lɔŋ/ adj 1. made or continued for a long period of time 2. something run smoothly

long-established /ˈlɔŋ əˈstæʃənd/ adj 1. established for a long time, often for many generations

long-distance /ˈlɔŋ dɪstəs/ adj 1. over a long distance

long-finned /ˈlɔŋ fɪndʒt/ adj having long fins

long-haired /ˈlɔŋ hɛərd/ adj having long hair

long-lived /ˈlɔŋ laɪvd/ adj 1. which lasts for a long time

long-suffering /ˈlɔŋ səˈfɜːrɪŋ/ adj willing to put up with a lot of trouble or hardship

long-term /ˈlɔŋ tɜːm/ adj 1. for a long time or over a long period of time

long-wooled /ˈlɔŋ wʊld/ adj 1. having long hair

look /lʊk/ verb 1. to direct your eyes at something or someone

look out /ˈlʊk aʊt/ verb 1. to be careful not to do something

look over /ˈlʊk əʊvər/ verb 1. to examine something carefully

look after /ˈlʊk əˈfaːtʃər/ verb 1. to take care of someone or something

look back /ˈlʊk bæk/ verb 1. to think about the past or past events

look down on /ˈlʊk dun ɒn/ verb 1. to regard someone or something as inferior

look forward to /ˈlʊk ˈfɔːwərd əˈtʊd/ verb 1. to be excited about something that will happen in the future

look out for /ˈlʊk aʊt fɔːr/ verb 1. to be careful not to do something

look over /ˈlʊk əʊvər/ verb 1. to examine something carefully

look up /ˈlʊk ʌp/ verb 1. to turn your head to see something above you

look up to /ˈlʊk aʊp tu/ verb 1. to respect or admire someone

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luckily

hope it will bring me luck. 1. bad luck, hard luck 2. worry you didn’t do well. 3. You failed the driving test again! – Bad luck! 4. to be down on your luck to be going through a period of bad luck. 5. He was down on his luck and thought of emigrating. 6. as luck would have it as it happened. 7. As luck would have it, the bus was empty.

▌ luckily /lukɪli/ adv which is a good thing.
▌ lucky /ˈlʌki/ adj 1. having good things happening to you. 2. He’s lucky not to have been sent to prison. 3. How lucky you are to be going to Spain! 4. you’ll be lucky! 5. it will never happen (informal). 6. She’s hoping to get an extra day off this week – she’ll be lucky! 7. which brings luck and is my lucky number. (NOTE: luckier – luckiest)

▌ lucrative /ˈlʌkwɪrətɪv/ adj bringing in a lot of money or profit. Synonym profitable

▌ ludicrous /ˈluːdɪkrəs/ adj ridiculous, which makes you laugh. Synonym absurd.

▌ Antonym absurd

▌ lug /lʌg/ verb to carry or pull something heavy. 1. I had to lug my cases up two flights of stairs. 2. Lugging those boxes up into the attic has worn me out.

▌ lugged /ˈlʌgd/ past tense of lug

▌ luggage /ˈlʌɡɪdʒ/ noun suitcases or bags for carrying your belongings when travelling. Synonym baggage

▌ luggage rack /ˈlʌɡɪdʒ ræk/ noun a space for suitcases and bags, above the seats in a vehicle, e.g. a plane or train

▌ lukewarm /ˈlʌkwɜːrm/ adj 1. not very hot. 2. The soup was only lukewarm. 3. We sent back the coffee because it was lukewarm. 4. not enthusiastic. 5. He was only lukewarm about our project. Synonym tepid

▌ lull /lʌl/ noun a quiet period. 1. After last week’s hectic rushing around this week’s lull was welcome. Synonym quiet. Antonym storm

▌ lullaby /ˈlʌlabi/ noun a song or piece of music designed to make a child sleep. (NOTE: The plural is lullabies.)

▌ lumbago /ˈlʌmbəɡəʊ/ noun a pain in the lower part of the back. Synonym backache (NOTE: no plural)

▌ lumbar /ˈlʌmbər/ adj referring to the lower part of the back. (NOTE: Do not confuse with lumber)

▌ lumber /ˈlʌmbər/ noun 1. junk, old articles which you are not using at the moment. 2. I am going to take some of this useless lumber to the jumble sale. 2. US trees which have been cut down. 3. The lumber was cut together in rafts and floated down river to the sawmill. (NOTE: The British term is timber.)

▌ lump /ʌmp/ noun 1. a piece of something. 2. a hard or swollen part on the body. 3. She sang a song to lull the baby to sleep. 4. The report was not very critical and that lulled them into a false sense of security. Synonym soothe

▌ lumpy /ˈʌmpi/ adj with solid lumps in it. (NOTE: lumpier – lumphiest)

▌ lunacy /ˈlʌnəsɪ/ noun madness, idiotic behaviour.

▌ lunar /ˈluːnər/ adj referring to the moon

▌ lunatic /ˈluːnətɪk/ adj mad. 1. It was a lunatic idea to try to steal the blue light from in front of the police station. 2. a person who acts in a mad way (informal insult).

▌ Don’t be such a lunatic – try to talk to her! 3. He drove like a lunatic to catch the ferry.

▌ lunch /lʌntʃ/ noun the meal eaten in the middle of the day. 1. Come on – lunch will be ready soon. 2. We always have lunch at 12:30. 3. We are having fish and chips for lunch. 4. I’m not hungry so I don’t want a big lunch. 5. The restaurant serves 150 lunches a day.

▌ verb to have lunch. 2. I’m lunching with my sister today. 3. Don’t forget we’re lunching with the agents tomorrow.

▌ luncheon /ˈluːntʃn/ noun lunch, the meal eaten in the middle of the day (informal)
When you usually have lunch

Synonym for tourists.

to shock

by cancelling at such short notice.

Synonym

ing all over.

the taxi finally lurched to a stop I was shak-

ing Lycra shorts.

a type of stretchable fabric

She was wearing Lycra shorts.

She was lured to the club by reports of high wages for bar staff. Synonym enticing

lurid

adj 1. glowing with brilliant colours ○ The flames gave a lurid glow to the scene. ○ She was wearing a lurid pink trousersuit. 2. (of a book or film) sensational, meant to shock ○ There were several lurid descriptions of conditions in the refugee camps.

lurk

verb to be hidden

luscious adj very sweet and juicy

lush adj thick and rich ○ The cattle were put to graze on the lush grass by the river. ○ Lush tropical vegetation rapidly covered the clearing.

n

an alcoholic, drunkard (idiom) ○ She has the reputation of being a bit of a lush.

lust

noun 1. strong sexual desire ○ He looked at her with eyes full of lust. 2. a great desire for something ○ She is driven by a lust for power. □ verb ○ to lust after or for someone or something to have a great desire for someone or something ○ She has been lusting after Harry ever since she met him. ○ I have never really lusted after power or glory.

lustre

noun shine and brilliance (NOTE: The US spelling is luster.)

lustrous

adj shiny

lusty adj strong and healthy. Synonym hearty. Antonym feeble (NOTE: lustier – lustiest)

luxuriant

adj growing thickly

luxurious adj very comfortable and expensive

luxuriously adv in a luxurious way

luxury

noun 1. great comfort ○ He lived a life of great luxury. ○ A hot bath is a real luxury after two weeks camping in the mountains. ○ to stay in a luxury hotel to stay in a five-star hotel, a very good hotel with luxurious rooms and higher prices 2. a thing which is pleasant to have, but not necessary ○ She often buys little luxuries for dessert on Friday nights. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is luxuries)

Lycra

trademark the trademark for a type of stretchable fabric ○ She was wearing Lycra shorts.

lying

lie

lynch

verb (of a mob) to catch an accursed person and execute him or her, especially by hanging, without a trial

lynx

noun a short-tailed animal of the cat family (NOTE: The plural is lynxes.)

lyricist

noun a person who writes the words of a song

lyrics

the words of a song ○ He wrote the lyrics for the musical.
m1 /ˈem/ M noun the thirteenth letter of the alphabet, between L and N
m2 abbr 1. metre 2. mile 3. million 4. motorway
M noun the Roman numeral for 1000
ma /mə/ noun a mother (informal)
MA abbr Master of Arts ○ She’s taking an MA course in Italian art. (NOTE: written after the name: Jane Bushell MA)
ma’am /mə/ noun a formal or polite way of referring to a lady
mac /mæk/ noun a coat which keeps off water, which is worn when it is raining (informal). Also called raincoat (NOTE: short for mackintosh)
macabre /məkəˈbər/ adj very strange and horrifying, especially referring to dead bodies
macaroni /ˈməkərəˌnɔ/ noun an Italian food made of short thick tubes of flour paste
mace /mɛs/ noun 1. a heavy bar of wood or metal used in ceremonies to symbolise authority 2. a sauce made from the outside of a nutmeg
machete /məˈʃeɪti/ noun a large sharp knife
○ machine /ˈmɑʃi/ noun 1. a device which works with a motor ○ We have bought a machine for putting leaflets in envelopes. ○ There is a message on my answering machine. ○ She made her dress on her sewing machine. ○ The washing machine has broken and flooded the kitchen. 2. an organisation ○ The party machine moved into action to prepare for the general election. ■ verb to make or shape with a machine
machine gun /ˈmɑʃi ɡun/ noun a gun which automatically fires many bullets rapidly, one after the other
machine-readable /ˈmɑʃiəˈriːd/ adj which can be used by a computer
○ machinery /ˈmɑʃiərni/ noun 1. many machines, taken as a group ○ The factory has got rid of a lot of old machinery. 2. a way of organising something ○ a review of local government machinery ○ the machinery for awarding government contracts (NOTE: no plural: some machinery, a piece of machinery)
machine tool /ˈmɑʃi tuəl/ noun a tool driven by a motor, used to work on wood or metal
machinist /ˈmɑʃɪnɪst/ noun a person who works a machine
macho /ˈmætʃəʊ/ adj behaving in a way that is thought to be typical of a man (disapproving). Synonym: manly
mackerel /ˈmækərəl/ noun a sea fish with dark flesh, eaten grilled or smoked; also canned and made into pâté (NOTE: The plural is mackerel.)
mackintosh /ˈmækɪntʃɪʃ/ noun full form of mac (dated)
macro /ˈmækroʊ/ noun a block of instructions for a computer identified by one or more keystrokes ○ I do the page layouts using a macro. (NOTE: The plural is macros.)
macro- /ˈmækroʊ/ prefix on a large scale
○ mad /mæd/ adj 1. having a serious mental disorder (offensive) 2. silly or crazy ○ Everyone thought he was mad to try to cross the Atlantic in a rowing boat. ○ mad about someone or something very keen on someone or something (informal) ○ He’s mad about jigsaw puzzles. ○ mad as a hatter totally crazy ○ Don’t ask him for advice – he’s as mad as a hatter. 3. wildly frantic ○ The noise is driving her mad. ○ like mad very fast or very enthusiastically (informal) ○ He drove like mad and managed to get to the station in time to catch the train. ○ They worked like mad to finish the job on time. 4. very angry (informal) ○ She’s mad at or with him for borrowing her car. ○ He was hopping mad when they told him his car had been stolen. (NOTE: madder – maddest)
maddam /ˈmædəm/ noun 1. a way of referring to a lady, often used by waiters or servants ○ After you, maddam. ○ Would maddam like some more tea? 2. writing a letter to a lady whom you do not know ○ Dear Maddam
mad cow disease /ˈmæd ˈkau ˈdaɪz/ noun bovine spongiform encephalopathy, a disease affecting the brains of cattle (informal)
madden /ˈmædən/ verb to annoy a person or animal greatly. Synonym: infuriate. Antonym: pacify
maddening /ˈmeɪdnɪŋ/ adv. exasperating or annoying. Synonym infuriating. Antonym pleasing.

made /meɪd/ v. make (NOTE: Do not confuse with maid.)


made-up /ˈmeɪd ʌp/ adj. 1. wearing makeup. 2. invented. It was a made-up story – none of the report was true.

madhouse /ˈmeɪdhaus/ noun 1. a hospital for people who have mental illnesses (offensive). 2. a place where there is a lot of confused activity (informal).

madly /ˈmeɪdlɪ adv. in a wild way.

madman /ˈmeɪdman/ noun a person who is mentally ill (offensive). 2. to drive like a madman to drive very fast.

madness /ˈmeɪdnəs/ noun 1. stupid behaviour which may be dangerous. 2. the fact of being mad. They say that talking to yourself is the first sign of madness.

madras /ˈmeɪdrəs/ noun a type of hot curry.

madrigal /ˈmeɪdrɪɡəl/ noun a group song popular in the 16th and 17th centuries.

maestro /ˈmeɪstrəʊ/ noun 1. a musical genius. 2. the conductor of an orchestra. 3. play it again, maestro! (NOTE: The plural is maestros.)

mafia /ˈmeɪfiə/ noun a secret Italian organisation dealing in crime. 2 godfather.

mag /meɪɡ/ noun an illustrated publication which comes out regularly. 2. He found a pile of old car mags in a corner of the shop. Synonym magazine 2 abbr magnetic.

magazine /ˈmeɪɡəzɪn/ noun 1. an illustrated publication which comes out regularly. 2. The gardening magazine comes out on Fridays. 3. a radio or TV programme made up from various items on the same theme, broadcast regularly. 4. Following the news, this week’s science magazine has features on space telescopes and the disappearing ozone layer. 5. a container for ammunition which can be attached to a gun, or for film or slides which can be attached to a camera or projector. 6. He clipped the magazine to the gun.

maggot /ˈmeɪɡət/ noun a white caterpillar of a bluebottle, which eats rotting meat.

magic /ˈmeɪdʒɪk/ noun spells, and conjuring tricks which do not appear to follow normal scientific rules. 2. The conjuror made a rabbit appear in his hat, and the children all thought it was magic. 3. as if by magic suddenly, without any possible explanation. 4. He pushed a button and, as if by magic, lights came on all over the garden. 5. as if produced by magic.

magically /ˈmeɪdʒɪkli/ adv. as if by magic.

magic bullet /ˈmeɪdʒɪk ˈbuːlt/ noun 1. a medicine which can quickly cure a serious illness. 2. a quick solution to a difficult problem.

magician /ˈmeɪdʒɪʃən/ noun 1. a wizard. 2. Merlin was the great magician in medieval legends. 3. a conjuror. 4. They hired a magician to entertain the children at the party.

magic wand /ˈmeɪdʒɪk ˈwænd/ noun same as wand.

magistrate /ˈmeɪdʒəstrɪt/ noun a judge who tries cases in a minor court.

magistrates’ court /ˈmeɪdʒəstreɪts ˈkɔːt/ noun 1. a building where magistrates try cases. 2. The magistrates’ court is just opposite the police station. (NOTE: Magistrates who do not receive a salary are also called Justices of the Peace or JPs.)

Magna Carta /ˈmeɪɡnə ˈkærta/ noun the ‘Great Charter’, granted by King John in 1215, which gave English barons and free citizens certain political and personal freedoms.

magnanimity /ˌmeɪɡnəˈnɪmətی/ noun great generosity.

magnanimous /ˌmeɪɡnəˈnɪməs/ adj. very kind and generous to someone you have defeated or to someone who is weaker than you.

magnanimously /ˌmeɪɡnəˈnɪməsli/ adv. in a magnanimous way.

magnate /ˈmeɪɡneɪt/ noun an important and powerful businessman. Synonym tycoon.

magnesium /ˌmeɪɡnəˈzɪziəm/ noun a white metal which is used in making alloys and is also an essential element in biological life.

magnet /ˈmeɪɡnet/ noun 1. a piece of metal which attracts iron and steel and will point roughly north when balanced on a pivot. 2. There is a magnet inside the compass.

Moths were at the fringe door with a magnet. 3. anything which attracts people or things. 4. Moths were attracted to the lamp like a magnet. 5. The big city is a magnet for teenagers running away from home.

magnetically /ˌmeɪɡnəˈnetɪkli/ adv. 1. which attracts metal. 2. Iron and steel can be made magnetic, but wood and paper cannot. 2. having a power of attraction. 3. She has a
magnetically /ˈmæɡnɪˌtɛkli/ adv by or using a magnet
magnetic field /ˈmæɡnɪ.tɪk ˈfɪld/ noun an area around a magnet which is under its influence
magnetic north /ˈmæɡnɪ.tɪk ˈnɔːθ/ noun the point near the North Pole to which the needle of a compass points
magnetic pole /ˈmæɡnɪ.tɪk ˈpɔʊl/ noun one of the two poles which are the centres of the earth’s magnetic field
magnetic strip /ˈmæɡnɪ.tɪk ˈstrɪp/ noun a layer of magnetic material on a plastic card, used for recording data
magnetic tape /ˈmæɡnɪ.tɪk ˈteɪp/ noun a special plastic tape on which sounds and pictures can be recorded, also used for recording computer data. Also called mag tape
magnetise /ˈmæɡnɪtɪsaɪz, ˈmæɡnɪtɪz/ verb to make a piece of metal into a magnet
magnetism /ˈmæɡnɪtɪz(ə)m/ noun 1. the quality of being magnetic 2. being charming and attractive ☐ The princess had enormous personal magnetism.
magnification /ˌmæɡ.nɪˈfɪkeɪʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. the action of making something appear larger ☐ Magnification enables us to see things that are too small to be visible to the naked eye. 2. the degree to which things appear larger when magnified ☐ What magnification do you get with these binoculars?
magnificence /ˈmæɡ.nɪfɪs(ə)n/ noun splendour or luxury
magnificent /ˈmæɡnɪfɪs(ə)nt/ adj very fine, very splendid or very luxurious. Synonym superb
magnificently /ˈmæɡnɪfɪs(ə)nli/ adv in a magnificent way
magnify /ˈmæɡnɪfʌɪ/ verb to make something appear larger
magnifying glass /ˈmæɡnɪfʌɪɪŋ ˈɡlɑːs/ noun a lens which makes small objects appear larger
☑ magnitude /ˈmæɡnɪtjʊd/ noun 1. importance ☐ They did not underestimate the magnitude of the task. ☐ We will need more staff if we take on a project of this magnitude. 2. a measure of the brightness of any object in the sky ☐ a star of the third magnitude
magnolia /ˈmæɡnəlɪə/ noun a large tree with large white or pink flowers
magnum /ˈmaɡnəm/ noun a large bottle of wine, especially champagne, containing about 1.5 litres ☐ They ordered magnums of champagne to celebrate their win.
magnum opus /ˈmaɡnəm ˈɒpəs/ noun the most important work produced by someone, especially by an artist

mail shot /ˈmeɪl ʃɒt/, mailing shot /ˈmeɪlɪŋ ʃɒt/ noun a letter or letters advertisi...
maim /mɛm/ verb to injure someone very badly, sometimes causing permanent damage. Synonym wound.

major /mɛrә/ (of a group) most important. Synonym normal.

majority /mɛrәtɪә/ noun 1. the largest part of a group ○ The majority of the members of the club don’t want to change the rules. ○ in the majority being more than half of the members ○ Women are in a majority on the committee. 2. silent 2. a number of voters which is larger than half. ○ She was elected with a majority of 10,000. ○ the government has a majority of one the government has one MP more than the opposition. 2. a two-thirds majority more than 66%. ○ You need a two-thirds majority to get the approval of the shareholders. 3. the age when you become legally adult ○ He will inherit...
make /meɪk/ noun  the country or the company which makes something. ① Japanese makes of cars ② What is the make of your refrigerator? Synonym sort ① verb 1. to put something together or build something ② He made a boat out of old pieces of wood. ③ These knives are made of steel. ④ to get something ready ⑤ She is making a Christmas cake. ⑥ Do you want me to make some tea? ⑦ to make a bed to make a bed tidy after someone has slept in it ⑧ When we got to the hotel, the beds hadn’t been made. ⑨ to add up to a total ⑩ Six and four make ten. ⑪ to earn money ⑫ He made millions of pounds by buying and selling property. ⑬ to give someone a feeling ⑭ The smell of curry makes me hungry. ⑮ The rough sea made him feel sick. ⑯ Looking at old photographs made her sad. ⑰ He made himself comfortable in the armchair. ⑱ to force someone to do something ⑲ His mother made him clean his room. ⑳ The teacher made us all stay in after school. ㉑ I can’t make the car go any faster.

make-believe /meɪk bɪˈliːv/ noun  the practice of pretending that something is true when it is not. Synonym fantasy. Antonym reality ㉒ make for /mɛk fɔːr/ verb 1. to go towards a place ① The army was making for the capital. ② As soon as the film started, she made straight for the exit. ③ to help something to happen ④ Non-stick pans make for easier washing up. ㉓ make of /ˈmeɪk ˈɒv/ verb 1. to be able to see clearly ① Can you make out the house in the dark? ② If you aren’t able to understand ③ I can’t make out why he doesn’t want to come. ④ to claim something which is probably not true ⑤ The English weather isn’t really as bad as it is made out to be. ⑥ She tries to make out that she’s very poor. ⑦ to write something, such as a name ⑧ The cheque is made out to Mr Smith. ⑨ US to be successful ⑩ He tried opening a fish restaurant but it didn’t make out. ⑪ How is Bobby making out at school?

make over /ˈmeɪk ˈəʊvər/ verb ① to make over to someone to pass ownership of something to someone ② He made over the property to his daughter. Synonym creator. Antonym destroyer ③ our Maker ④ to make something out of ⑤ to invent a story ⑥ He said he had seen a man climbing into the house, but in fact he made the whole story up. ⑦ to make yourself up to put on makeup, e.g. powder and lipstick. ⑧ to form something ⑨ The staff is made up of secretaries and drivers. ⑩ to make up your mind to decide on something ⑪ They can’t make up their minds on where to go for their holiday. ⑫ his mind is made up nothing will make him change his mind ⑬ It’s no use talking to him – his mind is made up. ⑭ to become friends again ⑮ They quarrelled, and then made it up. ⑯ to make it up to someone to compensate someone for something, e.g. for something lost or damaged ⑰ Don’t worry about the paint on your carpet – we’ll make it up to you.

makeup /meɪkˈjuːp/ noun 1. substances, e.g. face powder and lipstick, which are put on your face to make it more beautiful ① She wears no makeup apart from a little eye shadow. ② He spent hours over his makeup for the part of the monster. ③ the way in which something is formed or arranged ④ by bringing in ministers from another party, the Prime Minister has altered the whole makeup of the Cabinet. ⑤ The census shows the ethnic makeup of the population.

maladjusted /ˌmæləˈdʒəʊtɪd/ adj unable to fit in with the rest of society

maladjusted /ˌmæləˈdʒəʊtɪd/ adj unable to fit in with the rest of society

malaise /ˈmɔːləz/ noun 1. a feeling of being slightly ill ① She had a feeling of malaise but couldn’t say what caused it. ② a feeling
malaria /ˈmɔːləri/ noun a tropical disease caused by a parasite which enters the body after a bite from a female mosquito

male /meɪl/ adj 1. referring to the sex which does not give birth to young. A male deer is called a stag. 2. referring to men or boys. The male population is more likely to get flu than the female. □ noun 1. a man or boy. The wreckage contained the bodies of two males and two females. 2. an animal or insect of the sex which does not give birth to young or lay eggs. With spiders, the female is usually bigger than the male. (NOTE: Do not confuse with mail.)

malfunction /ˈmɔːktʃən/ noun the fact of not working properly. The data was lost due to a software malfunction. Synonym fault □ verb not to work properly. Some of the keys on the keyboard have started to malfunction.

malice /ˈmæliʃ/ noun an unfriendly or spiteful feeling towards someone. Synonym hatred □ to do something out of malice to do something just to hurt someone. She threw away his diary out of or from pure malice.

malicious /ˈmælɪʃəs/ adj 1. done because you want to harm someone. There has been some malicious gossip about her. 2. done without a lawful reason. maliciously /ˈmælɪʃəli/ adv in a malicious way.

malign /ˈmælɪŋ/ verb to say nasty things about someone or something. I’ve no wish to malign my assistant, who has generally been doing an excellent job. Synonym criticize. Antonym praise □ he has been much maligned people have criticised him a lot. □ adj causing harm. (literary) the malign influence of drugs. Synonym harmful. Antonym benign.

malignancy /ˈmælɪɡnænsi/ noun the fact of being malignant

malignant /ˈmælɪɡnənt/ adj 1. likely to be cause death. 2. wanting to harm someone.

malignant attitude towards his neighbours because of their dog.

malt /mɔːlt/ noun 1. the Malls a street in London leading from Trafalgar Square to Buckingham Palace. The soldiers paraded down the Mall to Buckingham Palace. (NOTE: Do not confuse with mail.)

malleable /ˈmɔːliəb(ə)/ adj soft, which can be moulded into shape

mallet /ˈmæli/ noun a large wooden hammer

malnourished /ˈmælnɔːrʃt/ adj suffering from malnutrition

malnutrition /ˈmælnjuːtrəʃən/ noun the state of not having enough to eat

malpractice /ˈmælpriˈkeɪʃəs/ noun the practice of acting in an unprofessional or illegal way. (by a doctor, lawyer, accountant, etc). Synonym misconduct

malt /mɔːl/ noun barley grains which have been through the malting process and are used in breweries to make beer and in distilleries to make whisky. □ verb 1. to treat grain such as barley by allowing it to sprout and then drying it. 2. to flavour something with malt.

malted milk /ˈmɔːldt ˈmɪlk/ noun a hot drink made from milk powder flavoured with malt

maltreat /ˈmɔːltriːt/ verb to treat someone badly

malt whisky /ˈmɔːlt ˈwɔːski/ noun whisky distilled from malted barley

mama /ˈməmə/ noun a child’s name for mother (informal dated)

mammal /ˈmæməl/ noun a type of animal which gives birth to live young and feeds them with milk

mammalian /ˈmæməliən/ adj referring to mammals.

mammouth /ˈmæməθ/ noun a very large hairy elephant living in prehistoric times. There’s a full-size model of a mammouth in the museum. The woolly mammouth is thought to have become extinct during the last Ice Age. □ adj enormous or huge. Updating the bank’s computer records is a mammouth task. Synonym enormous. Antonym tiny.

man /mæn/ noun 1. a male human being. □ That tall man is my brother. □ There’s a young man at reception asking for Mr Smith.

2. any human being. □ Stone Age men existed several thousand years ago. 3. □ the man in the street an ordinary person. □ The man in the street isn’t interested in quantum physics. 4. an ordinary soldier or worker. □ Half the men are off sick. (NOTE: The plural is men /ˈmen/.) □ verb to provide staff to work something. □ The switchboard is manned all day.

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when the receptionist is ill. (NOTE: man—manic —manic —manic)

manacle /ˈmænəkl/ noun one of two steel rings connected by a chain which attaches the wrists or ankles of a prisoner together. • handcuffs • verb to attach a prisoner’s wrists or ankles together ○ The prisoners entered the court manacled.

manage /ˈmændʒəbli/ verb 1. to be in charge of something ○ She manages all our offices in Europe. ○ We want to appoint someone to manage the new shop. 2. to manage to do something to do something successfully ○ Did you manage to phone the office? ○ The burglars managed to open the door of the safe. 3. to be able to work properly or cope with a situation ○ Can you manage all by yourself? ○ How are we going to manage without a driver? manageable /ˈmændʒəbli/ adj which can be dealt with easily

management /ˈmænjəmənt/ noun 1. a group of people who direct workers ○ The management has decided to move to new offices. 2. under new management with a new owner or manager ○ The shop is under new management. 2. the directing and control of work ○ He’s taking a course in management. ○ If anything goes wrong now it's just a case of management.

management team /ˈmænjəməntiəm/ noun all the managers who work together in a company

manager /ˈmænədʒə/ noun 1. the person in charge of a department in a shop or in a business ○ The bank manager wants to talk about your account. ○ The sales manager organised a publicity campaign. ○ She’s the manager of the shoe department. 2. an organiser of a sports team ○ The club have just sacked their manager. 3. a person who is employed to organise the work of someone, e.g. a singer, sportsman or actor ○ Her manager is organising her tour of North America.

managerness /ˈmænjəgres/ noun a woman who manages a shop or department (dated) (NOTE: The plural is managernesses.)

managerial /ˈmænədʒəriəl/ adj referring to managers. Synonym executive ○ to be appointed to a managerial position to be appointed a manager ○ decisions taken at managerial level decisions taken by managers

managing director /ˈmænədʒədɪˈrektə/ noun a director in charge of a company

Mandarin /ˈmændərəm/ noun the principal spoken form of Chinese, the official language of China

mandate /ˈmændət/ noun the power given to a person to act on behalf of someone else ○ the government has a clear mandate from the people to improve the health service

mandatory /ˈmændətəri/ adj which has to be done or has to take place because of a rule or law. Synonym obligatory. Antonym optional

mandible /ˈmændəbl/ noun the lower jaw of an animal, e.g. a bird, insect, or human being

mandolin /ˈmændəlɪn/ noun a stringed instrument like a small guitar with eight strings

mane /ˈmein/ noun the long hair on the neck of a lion or horse (literary or informal) (NOTE: Do not confuse with main.)

manfully /ˈmænjəflə/ adv in a strong and determined way

manger /ˈmæŋgər/ noun a box for food for farm animals, e.g. horses or cows

mangrove /ˈmæŋɡrəv/ noun a large tropical fruit with yellow flesh and a big stone (NOTE: The plural is mangoes.)

mangrove /ˈmæŋɡrəv/ noun a tree which grows beside water in hot countries and which has roots above the ground

manhandle /ˈmænˌhændəl/ verb 1. to move something large and heavy by hand ○ Ten men were needed to manhandle the statue into place. 2. to handle someone roughly ○ The protesters complained they had been manhandled by the police.

manhole /ˈmænˌhol/ noun a hole in the road or pavement through which you go below the ground, e.g. into the sewers

manhunt /ˈmænˌhʌnt/ noun a search for someone, especially by the police

mania /ˈmeiniə/ noun 1. a form of mental illness where the patient is very excited and violent 2. a passion for something ○ He has a mania for collecting old cars. ○ She has a mania for white clothes.

maniac /ˈmeiniək/ noun 1. a person with a mania ○ A maniac with a gun was holding the family hostage. 2. a crazy person ○ We were nearly killed by some maniac driving a sports car.
manic /ˈmænɪk/ adj 1. wildly energetic ○ The scene of manic activity in the office as everyone rushed to finish the work before the deadline. 2. referring to mania

 manic depression /ˌmænɪk ɪˈdɛprəˈʃən/ manic-depressive illness /ˌmænɪk dɪˈpreʃəv ɪˈlɪns/ noun a psychological illness in which the patient moves between mania and depression and has delusions

 manicurist /ˌmænɪkjuəˈrɪst/ noun a person whose job is to look after people’s hands

manifest /ˈmænɪfəst/ adj obvious, plain for everyone to see ○ His manifest lack of interest in the subject, made teaching him difficult. Synonym apparent. Antonym unclear.

 manifestation /ˌmænɪfəˈsteɪʃən/ noun an appearance

 manifesto /ˌmænɪfəˈstəʊ/ noun a political party’s manifesto a programme of action outlined by a political party and published as a pamphlet ○ The Conservative manifesto was published last week. Compare platform

 manipulate /məˈnipjʊleɪt/ verb 1. to influence people or situations so that you get what you want ○ By manipulating the media the government made sure its message got across to the people. 2. to handle something ○ She found it difficult to manipulate the instruments when wearing protective clothing. 3. to falsify accounts to make a company seem more profitable ○ He was accused of manipulating the sales figures to protect the share price.

 manipulation /məˈnipjʊleɪʃən/ noun 1. the act of influencing people or situations so that you get what you want ○ The government made sure its message got across through its manipulation of the media. 2. the act of handling machinery ○ Manipulation of the machine is best done by an expert.

 manipulative /məˈnipjʊlətɪv/ adj controlling and using people, so as to get them to do what you want

 manic /ˈmænɪk/ noun the human race, all human beings (dated) (NOTE: no plural)

 mankind /mænˈkʌnd/ noun ○ mankind looking or behaving as a man should look or behave. Synonym virile

 mansion /ˈmænjən/ noun 1. a model of a person, dressed in clothes to show them to people who might buy them ○ Her job is to dress the mannequins in the store window. 2. same as model

 manner /ˈmænər/ noun 1. a way of behaving ○ She has a very unpleasant manner. ○ The staff don’t like the new manager’s manner. 2. a sort ○ in a manner of speaking in some sort of way ○ In a manner of speaking, I’m glad to have got the sack, as I won’t have to work in that dreadful office again.

 mannered /ˈmænərd/ adj full of odd unnatural expressions. Synonym affected

 mannerism /ˈmænərɪzəm/ noun a gesture or way of speaking which is particular to one person

 manners /ˈmænərz/ plural noun a way of behaving in public

 manning /ˈmænɪŋ/ noun same as staffing

 mannequin /ˈmænɪkn/ noun 1. a model of a person, dressed in clothes to show them to people who might buy them ○ Her job is to dress the mannequins in the store window. 2. same as model

 manœuvre /məˈnuːvər/ noun a planned action to avoid something or to deceive someone ○ The captain had to make a sudden manoeuvre to avoid hitting the smaller ship. ○ The company has carried out various manoeuvres to avoid bankruptcy. ■ verb 1. to move something heavy or difficult to handle ○ We manoeuvred the piano into position on the stage. ○ A big lorry is difficult to manoeuvre round corners. 2. to work to put yourself in a good position ○ She managed to manoeuvre herself onto the board of the company. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is maneuver.)

 manoeuvres /məˈnuːvərz/ plural noun military exercises (NOTE: The US spelling is maneuvers)

 manor /ˈmænər/ noun a country house and the land surrounding it (NOTE: Do not confuse with manner.)

 manor house /ˈmænər həʊs/ noun a country house

 manpower /mænpɔːr/ noun the number of workers in a country or industry or organisation

 mansion /ˈmænən/ noun 1. a very large private house ○ He’s bought a mansion overlooking the golf course. ○ They live in a mansion in Hampstead with its own swim-
manslaughter /ˈmænslaʊtə/ noun the offence of killing someone without having intended to do so or of killing someone intentionally but with mitigating circumstances. Compare murder

mantelpiece /ˈmæntlpiːs/ noun a shelf above a fireplace

mantle /ˈmæntlə/ noun 1. a cloak ○ Ladies arrived for the ball wrapped in fur mantles. 2. a covering ○ The ground was covered by a mantle of snow. 3. to assume the mantle of office or power to take up an official position or to take power [formal] ○ After the coup, the general assumed the mantle of power.

mantra /ˈmæntra/ noun a phrase which is chanted many times, as in a prayer

manual /ˈmænjuəl/ adj 1. done by hand 2. of a car in which the gears are changed by hand ○ I prefer a manual model to an automatic. ■ noun a book of instructions ○ Look in the manual to see if it tells you how to change the toner cartridge.

manufacture /ˈmænjuəfæktʃə/ noun the process of making a commercially produced product ○ Robots are used in car manufacture. ○ Most of the cars are of foreign manufacture. ■ verb to make products commercially ○ We no longer manufacture tractors here. Synonym build

manufacturer /ˈmænjuəfæktʃər/ noun a person or company producing industrial products. Synonym builder

manufacturing /ˈmænjuəfæktʃərɪŋ/ adj manufacturing ○ which manufactures things ○ the decline of manufacturing industry

manure /ˈmænjuə/ noun animal dung used as fertiliser on land ○ The farmers were out in the field, spreading manure. ■ verb to spread animal dung on the land as fertiliser ○ The soil should be well manured before you begin planting.

manuscript /ˈmænjuəskr ipt/ noun 1. a document, letter or poem which has been written by hand ○ the sale of several manuscript letters by King Charles II ○ One of the original manuscripts of the Domesday Book is kept in London. 2. a handwritten or typed version of a book which has not been printed or published ○ He sent his manuscript to several publishers, but no one wanted to publish it. (NOTE: often written MS, plural MSS, say ‘manuscripts’)

many /ˈmeni/ adj 1. a large number of things or people ○ Many old people live on the south coast. ○ So many people wanted rooms that the hotel was booked up. ○ She ate twice as many cakes as her sister did. 2. asking a question ○ How many times have you been to France? ○ How many passen-
gerers were there on the plane? 3. a great many, a good many ○ quite a lot ○ A good many people think we should build a bypass round the town. ○ too many ○ more than necessary ○ There were too many people waiting and not enough room on the bus for all of them. ○ one too many ○ more than enough

marathon /ˈmærəθən/ noun 1. a running race ○ A marathon is run over 26 miles. ○ She’s training for the New York marathon. ○ which lasts a long time and is very tiring ○ The marathon meeting of club members lasted for over five hours. ○ After a marathon negotiating session, we finally reached agreement.

marauder /ˈmærədər/ noun a person who raids a place. Synonym raider
marauding /məˈrɔːdɪŋ/ adj moving from place to place to steal and destroy things

marble /ˈmɑːbli/ noun 1. a very hard type of stone which can be polished so that it shines brilliantly ○ The entrance hall has a marble floor.  ○ The table top is made from a single slab of green marble. 2. a small glass ball

marbles /ˈmɑːblz/ plural noun a game played by children by rolling marbles along the ground

march /mɑːtʃ/ noun 1. the act of walking in step, especially by soldiers or sailors  ○ The soldiers were tired after their long march through the mountains. 2. a quick or slow march a rapid or slow walking pace 2. a piece of music with a regular beat for marching ○ At the end of the burial service the band played a slow march. 3. verb 1. to walk in step ○ The guards marched after the band. 2. We were just in time to see the soldiers march past. 3. quick march! an order to soldiers to march at a rapid pace 2. the police marched him off to prison the police took him away quickly to prison 3. to walk quickly and purposefully  ○ She marched into the shop and asked to speak to the manager. 4. to walk in a protest march  Thousands of workers marched to the parliament building. 5. March /mɑːtʃ/ noun the third month of the year, between February and April (NOTE: March 6th or March 6: say ‘March the sixth’ or ‘the sixth of March’ or in US English: ‘March sixth.’)

marcher /mɑːtʃə/ noun a person who marches in a protest march

march past /mɑːtʃ pɑːst/ noun a ceremonial military parade

mare /mɑːr/ noun a female horse

margarine /ˈmɑːrɡəriːn/ noun a mixture of animal or vegetable oil which is used instead of butter

marge /mɑːrdʒ/ noun same as margarine (informal)

margin /mɑːrdʒɪn/ noun 1. a white space at the edge of a page of writing ○ Write your comments in the margin. 2. We left a wide margin so that you can write notes in it. 3. extra space, time, etc.  ○ Leave a margin for error to allow extra space or time in case you have made a mistake ○ by a wide margin by a big distance, by a large number of votes, etc. ○ The Labour candidate won by a wide margin. 4. money received which is more than money paid ○ Small businesses operate on very narrow margins. 5. We have to cut our margins to remain competitive.

marginal /ˈmɑːrdʒənl/ adj 1. slight ○ There is only a marginal difference between them. 2. (of a parliamentary seat) in which the opposing parties are almost equal, with very few votes between them ○ The party is targeting the most marginal seats in the country

marginalise /ˈmɑːrdʒənalʌɪz/ marginalize verb to make someone or something less important. Antonym include marginally /ˈmɑːrdʒənlɪ/ adv slightly

margold /ˈmɑːrgəʊld/ noun a common garden plant with yellow or orange flowers

marijuana /ˈmaɹɪwənə/ a drug made from hemp. Also called cannabis

marina /ˈmaɹɪnə/ noun a special harbour with floating jetties where a large number of yachts and pleasure boats can be tied up

marinade /ˈmaɹɪnəd/ noun a mixture of wine and herbs, etc., in which meat or fish is soaked before cooking ○ The marinade gives a delicious flavour to the meat. 2. verb to soak meat or fish in a mixture of wine and herbs, etc.  ○ Marinade the meat for twelve hours before cooking.

marinate /ˈmaɹɪnət/ verb same as marinade

marine /ˈmeəriən/ adj referring to the sea ○ She studied marine biology. 1. noun a soldier serving in the navy

Marines /ˈmeəriənz/ plural noun a branch of the armed forces whose members operate both on land and on sea

marionette /ˈmaɹənet/ noun a puppet moved by strings attached to its arms and legs

marital /ˈmeərɪtal/ adj referring to a marriage. Synonym conjugal

marital status /ˈmeərɪtal ˈsteɪʃəs/ noun the position of being married, divorced or not married

maritime /ˈmeərɪteɪm/ adj referring to the sea or ships

marjoram /ˈmaɹdʒərɔm/ noun a herb used in Mediterranean cooking, especially pizzas

mark /mɑrk/ noun 1. a small spot of a different colour ○ The red wine has made a mark on the tablecloth. ○ She has a mark on her forehead where she hit her head. 2. the points given to a student ○ She got top marks in English. ○ What sort of mark did you get for your homework? 3. No one got full marks – the top mark was 8 out of 10. 4. a line showing a certain point ○ His income has reached the £100,000 mark. 5. a target ○ wide of the mark not at all correct ○ His estimate of the costs was wide of the mark. 6. a printed sign 6. an order given to runners at the beginning of a race ○ On your marks, get set, go! 7. money formerly used in Germany, now replaced by the euro ○ The price was twenty-five marks. Also called Deutschmark (NOTE: usually written DM after figures: 25DM) 8. verb 1. to make a mark on something ○ the box is marked ‘dangerous’ the box has the word ‘dangerous’ written on
mark down

it 2. to correct and give points to work ○ The teacher hasn’t finished marking our homework. ○ Has the English exam been marked yet? 3. □ to mark an opponent (in games) to follow an opposing player closely, so as to prevent him or her getting the ball

mark down /ˈmɑrk dʌn/ verb to reduce the price of something ○ We have marked all prices down by 30% for the sale. □ marked /ˈmɑrkt/ adj. very obvious, definite ○ This month’s sales showed a marked improvement. ○ His performance was first class – in marked contrast to his game last week. 2. □ to be a marked man to have been selected by an enemy as a probable target ○ He informed on the mafia boss, and since has become a marked man in fear for his life.

markedly /ˈmɑrkədli/ adv. very obviously

□ marker /ˈmɑrkər/ noun 1. a thing which marks something ○ The golfer put down a marker before moving his ball. 2. a person who gives a mark to something, e.g. a piece of work, an examination or an entry in a competition ○ Our teacher is a very hard marker – nobody gets more than seven out of ten.

□ market /ˈmɑrkɪt/ noun 1. a place where products, e.g. fruit and vegetables, are sold from small tables, often in the open air ○ We buy all our vegetables and fish at the market. ○ Market day is Saturday, so parking will be difficult. 2. □ in the market for something wanting to buy ○ We are in the market for good quality antiques. 3. □ on the market for sale ○ Their house has been on the market for three months. 4. □ to put something on the market to offer something for sale ○ We put our house on the market three months ago and no one has even been to look at it. □ a place where a product is required or where a product could be sold ○ The market for Russian cars has almost disappeared. ○ The potential global market for this product is enormous.

□ the domestic market, the home market the market in the country where you live ○ Sales in the domestic market have not increased. □ verb to sell products using marketing techniques ○ This product is being marketed in all European countries. □ marketable /ˈmɑrkətəbl/ adj which can be sold easily

□ market economy /ˈmɑrkɪt ɪˈkɒnəmi/ a system of economy in which prices and earnings are controlled by the people’s demands rather than by the government.

□ market forces /ˈmɑrkɪt fɔːrz/ plural noun commercial influences which have an effect on the success of a product or firm ○ Market forces decide which firms succeed and which fail.

□ market garden /ˈmɑrkɪt ˈgɑrdn/ noun a small farm which grows vegetables or fruit which are sold in a nearby town. (NOTE: The US term is truck farm.)

□ marketing /ˈmɑrkɪtnɪŋ/ noun the techniques, e.g. publicity and packaging, which are used to sell a product. Synonym advertising

□ marketplace /ˈmɑrkɪtpleɪs/ noun 1. an open space in the middle of a town where a product is sold ○ The marketplace is usually right in the centre of a town. 2. the activity of selling goods or services ○ Our sales staff find life difficult in the marketplace. What is the reaction to the new car in the marketplace?

□ market research /ˈmɑrkɪt rɪˈsɜːtʃ/ noun the activity of examining the possible sales of a product and the possible customers before it is put on the market

□ market share /ˈmɑrkɪt ʃeər/ noun the percentage of possible sales which a company or product has

□ market town /ˈmɑrkɪt tɔn/ noun a town where an open-air market is held regularly

□ marking /ˈmɑrkɪŋ/ noun 1. the action of marking marks 2. the action of correcting something, e.g. exercises or homework ○ Marking is not a job I like. 3. exercises or exam papers which are waiting to be marked ○ He took a pile of marking home with him.

□ marksman /ˈmɑrksmən/ noun a person who shoots well (NOTE: The plural is marks-men.)

□ mark up /ˈmɑrk ʌp/ verb to increase the price of something ○ These prices have been marked up by 10%. ○ If retailers find the discount too low they mark the prices up to make a better margin.

□ mark-up /ˈmɑrk ʌp/ noun an amount added to the cost price to give the selling price

□ marmalade /ˈmɑrməleɪd/ noun a jam made from fruits such as oranges, lemons or grapefruit and eaten at breakfast

□ maroon /ˈmɑrən/ adj. deep purple red ○ He was wearing a maroon tie. □ noun 1. a deep purple red colour ○ Maroon is a favourite colour for school uniforms. 2. a small firework used as a distress signal by ships ○ The coastguard let off a maroon as a signal for the lifeboat to be launched. □ verb to leave someone in a place from which there is no escape ○ They were marooned on the desert island for ten days. ○ The bus broke down, leaving us all marooned miles from anywhere. Synonym abandon

□ marque /ˈmɑrk/ noun a famous brand name for a car. Synonym make

□ marquee /ˈmɑrkɪs/ noun a very large tent
marquess /ˈmarkwəs/, marquis noun a member of the nobility, the rank below a duke

marriage /ˈmərɪdʒ/ noun 1. the state of being legally joined as husband and wife ○ A large number of marriages end in divorce. ○ She has two sons by her first marriage. 2. a wedding, the ceremony of being married ○ They had a simple marriage, with just ten guests. ○ The marriage took place at the registry office.

marriageable /ˈmərɪdʒəb(ə)l/ adj suitable to become married ○ Married /ˈmərɪd/ adjective joined as husband and wife ○ Are you married or single? ○ How long have you been married. ○ Married life must suit him – he’s put on weight.

married name /ˈmərɪd nɪm/ noun a husband’s surname taken by a woman when she gets married.

marsh /ˈmɑʃ/ noun a large green vegetable of the pumpkin family, similar to a large cucumber ○ His marrow was the biggest exhibit in the vegetable show.

marshaled – marshall ○ US: an officer of a court ○ Federal marshals raided several houses looking for a prisoner who had escaped from jail. ○ US: the chief of police or chief of the fire brigade in an area ○ verb to organise people or things into order ○ Extra police were brought in to marshal the crowds of fans. ○ He tried to marshal the facts but was too sleepy to think clearly. Antonym: muddle (DO NOT confuse with martial. Note: marshaling – marshalled but the US spelling is marshall – marshaled)

marshland /ˈmɑʃlɑnd/ noun an area where the soil is wet and there are many pools of water. Synonym bog

marshmallow /ˈmɑʃmɔl/ noun a soft white or pink sweet

marshy /ˈmɑʃ(ə)j/ adj (of land) swampy or wet (NOTE: marshier – marshiest)

marsupial /ˈmɑrsipjuəl/ noun a type of animal found in Australia, which carries its young in a pouch in the front of its body

martial /ˈmɑrt(ə)l/ adj referring to war (formal) ○ martial music marches played by military bands

martial arts /ˈmɑrt(ə)l ˈɑːts/ plural noun oriental fighting techniques, sometimes using swords or sticks

martial law /ˈmɑrt(ə)l ˈlɔw/ noun maintenance of law by the army instead of the police. Synonym state of emergency

Martian /ˈmɑrtʃiən/ adj referring to the planet Mars ○ The probe has taken photographs of the Martian landscape. ○ noun an imaginary person living on or coming from the planet Mars ○ A story about Martians who come to invade the Earth. Synonym alien. Antonym terrestrial

martinet /ˈmɑrtɪnɪt/ noun a person who is very strict about making other people obey rules. Synonym disciplinarian

martyr /ˈmɑrtɪər/ noun 1. a person killed or made to suffer because of his or her beliefs ○ St Stephen, the first Christian martyr ○ Christian martyrs were killed by the Romans. ○ She was a martyr in the cause of national liberation. 2. a person who pretends to suffer in order to get sympathy ○ She sat at the switchboard all day, looking a real martyr. 3. ○ to be a martyr to something to suffer a lot from something ○ He’s a martyr to indigestion. ○ verb to kill someone for his or her religious beliefs ○ St Catherine was martyred in the 4th century.

martyrdom /ˈmɑrtɪrədəm/ noun the fact of suffering death for your beliefs

martyred /ˈmɑrtɪrəd/ adj pretending to suffer in order to get sympathy

marvel /ˈmɑrvəl/ noun a thing which you think is wonderful ○ The building is one of the marvels of the modern age. ○ It’s a marvel that she managed to remember my birthday. ○ verb ○ to marvel at something or to something to show wonder or surprise at something ○ Everyone marvelled at the sheer size of the statue.

marvellous /ˈmɑrvələs/ adj wonderful (NOTE: The US spelling is marvelous.)

marvellously /ˈmɑrvələsli/ adv in a wonderful way (NOTE: The US spelling is marvellously.)

Marxism /ˈmɑrksɪz(ə)m/ noun the political theories of Karl Marx, which led to communism and socialism

Marxist /ˈmɑrkɪst/ noun a person who believes in Marxism ○ adj referring to Marxism

marzipan /ˈmɑrziːpən/ noun a paste made from ground almonds, sugar and egg, used to cover a fruit cake before icing or to make individual little sweets

mascara /ˈmɑskərə/ noun a substance for making eyelashes dark
masochism /ˈmæsəkɪzəm/ noun 1. a condition in which a person takes sexual pleasure in being hurt or badly treated. 2. the practice of doing something painful and enjoying it. 3. Taking all those children to France sounds more like masochism than a holiday to me. Compare sadism.

masochistic /ˈmæsəkɪstɪk/ adj. taking pleasure in being hurt or badly treated. Compare sadistic.

masochist /ˈmæsəkɪst/ noun 1. a person who takes sexual pleasure in being hurt or badly treated. Compare sadist 2. a person who enjoys doing something unpleasant or painful. 3. masochist – he actually likes doing housework.

masochistic /ˈmæsəkɪstɪk/ adj. taking pleasure in being hurt or badly treated. Compare sadistic.

mason /ˈmeɪsən/ noun a person who builds with stone. No one knows the names of the masons who built the cathedral.

masonry /ˈmeɪsənri/ noun the stones used to make a building.

masquerade /ˈmæskəreɪd/ noun 1. an action which hides the truth. Her show of grief was a masquerade to hide her involvement in the murder. 2. a dance or party where people wear masks. The main event of the carnival season was a grand masquerade. Verb. to masquerade as someone to pretend to be someone. 3. The car thief was masquerading as a traffic warden.

mass /mæs/ noun 1. a large number or large quantity of things. 2. Masses of people went to the exhibition. 3. A mass of leaves blew onto the pavement. 4. I have a mass of letters or masses of letters to write. 2. a Catholic communion service.

masseur /ˈmeɪsər/ noun a man who massages people.

masses /ˈmeɪzəz/ plural noun the means of passing information to a large number of people, e.g. newspapers, TV and radio.

mass murderer /ˈmeɪsərəˈmɜːrər/ noun a killer of a large number of people at one time.

mass-produced /ˈmeɪs prəˈdʒʌst/ adj. manufactured in large quantities.

mass production /ˈmeɪs prəˈdʒʌstʃən/ noun the manufacturing of large quantities of products.
mass unemployment noun a situation where large numbers of people are out of work.

mass/ˈmæs/ noun 1. a tall pole on a ship which carries the sails. 2. a flagpole, a tall pole on which large flags are flown. 3. half-mast noun 2. a tall metal construction to carry an aerial. 4. seeds of beech, and other trees. Beech mast is often used to feed pigs. (NOTE: plural in this meaning) master/ˈmæstər noun 1. a man who teaches in a school. 2. Mr Smith is the maths master. 2. the person in control of a ship. 3. the ship’s doctor asked the master to radio for a helicopter. 3. a man who is the owner of an animal. 4. The dog refuses to obey its master. 5. a skilled person. 6. a master craftsman. 7. He’s a master of disguise. 8. The old masters’ paintings by great painters of the past. 9. The collection of old masters in the National Gallery is priceless. 10. adj controlling. 11. Details of the master plan are known to only a few conspirators. 12. verb to become skilled at something. 13. She has mastered the art of TV newscasting. 14. Although he passed his driving test some time ago, he still hasn’t mastered the art of motorway driving.

master bedroom noun the main bedroom in a house

masterful/ˈmæstərfəl/ adj 1. good at controlling people and giving orders. 2. Her father is a masterful character and takes all the decisions in the household. 2. done in an expert way. 3. He gave a masterful performance of the concertos. Synonym skilled master key noun the main key. masterly/ˈmæstərli/ adj done in an expert way

mastermind/ˈmæstərmaɪnd/ noun a very clever person. 2. a criminal mastermind. 3. verb to be the brains behind a plan. 4. The escape was masterminded by two convicted murderers. Synonym plan. Master of Arts noun a person who holds a degree for further study done after a Bachelor of Arts degree. Abbr MA

Master of Ceremonies noun a person who introduces the speakers at a dinner, or at a prize-giving. Abbr MC

masterpiece noun a very fine painting, book, piece of music, etc.

master’s degree noun a degree for further study after a Bachelor of Arts degree

master switch noun a switch which controls all other switches.

mastery noun 1. the complete understanding of a subject or great skill at a game. 2. The French side showed their complete mastery of the game. 3. Her mastery of Italian is well-known. 4. having control over someone or something

masturbate verb to rub your own sex organs to excite them and get pleasure.

masturbation noun the practice of exciting your own sex organs by rubbing them.

mass noun 1. a small piece of carpet, etc., used as a floor covering. 2. Wipe your shoes on the mat before you come in.

match noun 1. a game between two teams or opponents. 2. We watched the football match on TV. 3. He won the last two table tennis matches he played. 4. a small piece of wood or cardboard with a tip which catches fire when you rub it against a rough surface. 5. He bought a packet of cigarettes and a box of matches. 6. She struck a match and lit a candle. 7. a thing or person which is equal. 8. she’s met her match she has met someone who is as strong, powerful, etc., as she is. 9. a thing which goes together with another. 10. they make a good match they go well together. 11. verb 1. to be equal to something. 2. Our sales match those of our rivals in the export market. 2. to fit or to go with something. 3. The yellow wallpaper doesn’t match the bright green carpet. matchbox noun a small box with matches inside. (NOTE: The plural is matchboxes.)

matching verb which fits or goes with something.

matchless noun with no equal.

matchless noun with no equal.

matchless/ˈmætʃləs/ adj with no equal.

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materialise /məˈtrɪəlɪzaɪ/ materialize verb 1. to become real □ His planned holiday never materialised. □ She promised the staff an extra week’s holiday but it never materialised. 2. to appear □ A man on horseback suddenly materialised out of the mist. □ After a couple of phone calls, the money we were owed duly materialised.

materialism /məˈtrɪəlɪzɪz(ə)m/ noun an interest only in physical things, especially money and property, not in spiritual ones

materialist /məˈtrɪəlist/ noun a person who believes in materialism

materially /məˈtrɪəli/ adverb in a material way. Synonym significantly. Antonym slightly

maternal /məˈtræn(ə)n/ adjective 1. referring to a mother □ my maternal grandfather the father of my mother 2. like or typical of a mother □ She has a very maternal attitude to her staff.

maternity /məˈtræniti/ noun becoming a mother □ She’s in the maternity ward of the local hospital. Synonym motherhood

maternity leave /məˈtræniti leɪv/ noun permission given to a woman to be away from work to have a baby

mathematical /mæθəˈmatɪkl/ adjective referring to mathematics

mathematically /mæθəˈmatɪklɪ/ adverbly referring to mathematics

mathematician /mæθəˈmatɪʃən/ noun an expert at mathematics

mathematics /mæθəˈmatɪks/ noun the science of numbers and measurements (NOTE: The US term is math.)

matinée /matɪˈni/ noun an afternoon performance of a play or film

matting /ˈmætɪŋ/ noun the state of being married. Antonym divorce

matrix /ˈmɛtrɪks/ noun 1. a set of numbers or data items arranged in rows and columns 2. the conditions or environment in which something develops □ The cultural matrix in which jazz music was developed was 3. a mould used to cast metal objects (NOTE: The plural is matrices /ˌmɛtrɪtɪz(ə)s/)

mattock /ˈmætə/, matte adverb not shiny, with a dull surface

maturing /ˈmætɪŋ/ verb referring to physical things or to matter □ The explosion caused a lot of material damage. □ His success on TV has improved his material life. 2. important or relevant □ If you have any material evidence please contact the police.

matrimony /ˈmætrɪmənɪ/ noun the state of being married. Antonym divorce

maturity /ˈmætərɪti/ noun 1. the stage of being an adult or of doing things like an adult □ He’s only twelve, yet his painting already shows signs of considerable maturity. 2. the time when a bond becomes due to be paid □ The bonds have reached maturity.
mould

mould /mɔːld/ adj foolishly sentimental

maul /mɔːl/ verb 1. to attack or handle someone roughly ○ He was badly mauled by the tiger. 2. to criticise someone severely ○ The minister was mauled by the tabloid press. (NOTE: Do not confuse with mail.)

mausoleum /məʊsəˈliːəm/ noun a special building in which an important person is buried. Synonym tomb

mauve /mɔːv/ adj light pinkish-purple ○ The waiters wear mauve shirts. ■ noun a light pinkish-purple colour ○ She had the dining room walls painted in mauve.

maverick /ˈmeɪvərɪk/ noun a person who is unusual and does not fit into a normal pattern ○ She’s a political maverick. ■ adj unusual, not fitting into the normal pattern ○ He is well-known for his maverick behaviour.

max /mæks/ abbr maximum

maxim /ˈmæksɪm/ noun a wise saying

maximise /ˈmæksɪməz/ maximise verb to make something as large as possible. Antonym minimise

maximum /ˈmæksɪməm/ adj the greatest possible ○ What is the maximum number of guests the hotel can take? ■ noun the greatest possible number or amount ○ Management is aiming to increase profitability to the maximum. ○ fifteen at the maximum at most fifteen

may /meɪ/ modal verb 1. it is possible ○ If you don’t hurry you may miss the train. ○ Take your umbrella, they say it may rain. ○ Here we are sitting in the bar, and he may be waiting for us outside. 2. can, it is allowed ○ Guests may park in the hotel car park free of charge. ○ You may sit down if you want. 3. asking questions politely ○ May I ask you a question? ○ May we have breakfast early tomorrow as we need to leave the hotel before 8 o’clock? 4. showing a wish ○ May God bless you both! ○ much good may it do you? I hope it does you a lot of good, though I doubt that it will

May /meɪ/ noun the fifth month of the year, after April and before June ○ May 15th or May 15: say ‘the fifteenth of May’ or ‘May the fifteenth’ or in US English: ‘May fifteenth.’ ○

maybe /ˈmeɪbi/ adv possibly, perhaps ○ Maybe the next bus will be the one we want. ○ Maybe you should ask a policeman. ○ Maybe the weather forecast was right after all. Antonym definitely ○ maybe not possibly not ○ Are you coming? ○ Maybe not.

mayday /ˈmeɪdə/ noun an international distress signal. (NOTE: Do not confuse with May Day.)

May Day /ˈmeɪ dɪ/ noun May 1st, celebrated as a festival of spring and in many European countries as a festival in honour of workers

mayhem /ˈmeɪhəm/ noun wild confusion (informal) Synonym chaos

mayonnaise /ˌmeɪnəˈnɔɪz/ noun a sauce for cold dishes, made of oil, eggs and lemon juice or vinegar

mayor /ˈmeər/ noun a person who is chosen as the official head of a town, city or local council

COMMENT: Previously, a mayor was the head of the elected government of a town, and the head of the majority party. His responsibilities have now been taken over by the leader of the council, and in most towns the office of mayor is largely ceremonial. It is an honour often given to a long-serving or distinguished councillor. In some towns, such as London, the mayor is elected by popular vote. In the USA, mayors are elected by popular vote, and appoint their team to run the various departments in a city. Note also that ‘Mayor’ is used in English to apply to persons holding similar positions in other countries: the Mayor of Berlin; the Mayor of Paris; the Mayor of New York.

 mayoress /ˈmeərəs/ noun 1. the wife of a mayor ○ The mayor and mayoress rode to the town hall in a horse-drawn carriage. 2. a woman mayor ○ The mayoress opened the hospital’s new children’s ward.

maze /ˈmeɪz/ noun 1. a network of puzzling paths in which you can get lost ○ We couldn’t find our way out of the Hampton Court maze. ○ He led me along a maze of corridors. 2. a complicated network of things ○ We have to try to find our way through the maze of European regulations. (NOTE: Do not confuse with maize.)

MB abbr megabyte

MBA abbr Master of Business Administration

MC abbr master of ceremonies

MD /mɛd/ ‘em ‘diz noun a director who is in charge of a whole company. Full form managing director

me /mi/ pron used by the person who is speaking to talk about himself or herself ○ give me that book ○ I’m shouting as loud as I can – can’t you hear me? ○ She’s much taller than me. ○ Who is it? – It’s me! ○ Can you hear me? ○ She’s taller than me.

meadow /ˈmeɪdəʊ/ noun a large field of grass

meagre /ˈmiːɡr/ adj small, not enough (NOTE: The US spelling is meager.)

meal /miːl/ noun 1. an occasion when people eat food at a special time; the food that is eaten ○ Most people have three meals
mealtimes | measure

a day — breakfast, lunch and dinner. ○ You sleep better if you only eat a light meal in the evening. ○ When they had finished their evening meal they watched TV. ○ You can have your meals in your room at a small extra charge. ○ to make a meal of something to spend a lot of time and effort doing something without really doing it well (informal) ○ She made a meal of repainting the kitchen.

2. roughly ground flour. wholemeal

meat /ˈmiːt/ noun 1. meat 2. meat

mean /miːn/ adj 1. nasty or unpleasant ○ He played a mean trick on his mother. ○ That was a mean thing to say. 2. not liking to spend money or to give something ○ Don’t be mean — let me borrow your car. ○ She’s very mean with her money. 3. average ○ The mean daytime temperature in summer is 20°. 4. good ○ He cooks a mean pasta. ○ That motorbike’s a mean machine! (NOTE: meaner — meanest) mean noun the average ○ Sales are higher than the mean for the first quarter. Antonym: extremity mean verb 1. to talk about ○ Did he mean me when he was talking about fat old men? ○ What do you mean when you say she’s old-fashioned? 2. to show or represent something ○ His family means a lot to him. ○ When a red light comes on it means that you have to stop. ○ ‘Zimmer’ means ‘room’ in German. 3. to mean to do something to plan to do something ○ I meant to phone you but I forgot. ○ to be meant to ○ meant

meander /ˈmiːnərd/ noun a bend in the course of a river ○ The path follows the meanders of the stream. meander verb 1. to wind about ○ From the top of the hill you can see how the river meanders around the town. ○ The road meanders through several little villages. 2. to continue without any aim ○ The negotiations meandered on without any decision being reached. meaning /ˈmiːnɪŋ/ noun what something represents ○ If you want to find the meaning of the word, look it up in a dictionary. ○ The meaning of a red light is pretty clear to me. meaningful /ˈmiːnɪŋfəl/ adj full of meaning, significant

meaningless /ˈmiːnɪŋləs/ adj not meaning anything. Synonym: unimportant Antonym: significant

meanness /ˈmiːnəs/ noun a dislike of giving things or of spending money. Synonym: nastiness. Antonym: generosity

mean /miːn/ noun 1. a way of doing something ○ Is there any means of sending the message to London this afternoon? ○ Do we have any means of copying all these documents quickly? ○ The bus is the cheapest means of getting round the town. ○ by means of something using something ○ He got her money by means of a trick. 2. by all means of course ○ By all means use my phone if you want to. ○ by no means not at all ○ She’s by no means sure of getting the job. 3. money ○ They don’t have the means to buy a flat in London. ○ it is beyond my means I don’t have enough money to buy it

means test /ˈmiːnts tɛst/ noun an inquiry to find out how much money someone has, to see whether he or she should qualify for a benefit or grant

meant /miːnt/ verb 1. to be meant to do something should, ought to do something ○ We’re meant to be at the station at 11 o’clock. ○ This medicine is not meant to be used by children. ○ Trains are meant to leave every half-hour. 2. meant noun 3. in the meantime while, during this time ○ We waited for her for hours in the rain, and in the meantime, she was happily sitting at home watching TV. ○ The new stadium will be finished by Easter but in the meantime we will still have to use the old one. 4. adverb during this time ○ The little girl hid under the table — meantime, we were all looking for her in the garden. 5. meanwhile /ˈmiːznwaɪ/ adverb during this time ○ She hid under the table — meanwhile, the footsteps were coming nearer. 6. measly /ˈmiːzli/ adj 1. a possibly dangerous children’s disease which gives a red rash and a high temperature

measurably /ˈmiːzərəbli/ adverb (of an amount of money) very small

measurable /ˈmɪərəbl/ adj which can be measured

measure /ˈmɪər/ noun 1. a certain amount or size ○ There was a measure of truth in what she said. ○ We have no accurate measure of the pressure inside the volcano ○ a made-to-measure suit a suit which is made specially to fit someone ○ He only wears made-to-measure suits. 2. a device which shows the size or quantity of something ○ an action ○ The government has taken measures to reform the welfare system ○ What measures are you planning to fight air pollution? ○ as a precautionary measure as a precaution ○ As a precautionary measure we’d better lock the windows as well as the doors. ○ It’s just a precautionary measure, but you can’t be too careful when there’s a possibility of fire. 4. an official action, especially a law passed by Parliament ○ a new government measure to combat crime

verb 1. to be of a certain size, length, quantity, etc. ○ a package which measures or a package measuring 10cm by 25cm ○ How much do you measure round your waist? ○ The table measures four foot long by three foot wide. 2. to find out the length or quantity
measured /mɪˈɛʒərd/ adj careful and controlled 

*measured response* an answer or reaction which is carefully calculated

**measurement** /ˈmeʒəmənt/ noun 1. a quantity or size, found by measuring. ○ The measurements of the room. ○ The pit- ons won’t go through the door – are you sure you took the right measurements? ○ The measurements of the box are 25 cm x 20 cm x 5 cm. 2. the action of measuring ○ The measurement of the ozone hole is carried out by satellites.

**measuring glass** /ˈmeʒərɪŋ ɡlɑːs/ a glass jar with quantities marked on it by lines

**meat** /miːt/ noun food from an animal or bird, not from a fish ○ Can I have some more meat, please? ○ Would you like meat or fish for your main course? ○ I like my meat very well cooked.

**meat ball** /ˈmiːt ˈbɔːl/ noun very small pieces of meat rolled into a ball and cooked

**meaty** /ˈmiːtɪ/ adj 1. with a lot of meat ○ a meaty chop 2. with a lot of details or information ○ a meaty report

**mecca** /ˈmeɪkə/ noun a place which attracts a large number of people ○ It’s a mecca for motor-racing enthusiasts.

**Mecca** /ˈmeɪkə/ noun a town in Saudi Arabia, where Muhammad was born

**mechanic** /ˈmɪkənɪk/ noun a person who works on machines

**mechanical** /ˈmɪkənɪkl/ adj 1. referring to machines ○ Engineers are trying to fix a mechanical fault. 2. done automatically as if you were a machine ○ It’s purely mechanical – I turn the light on when I come in.

**mechanics** /ˈmɪkənɪks/ noun 1. the study of the effects of force and movement 2. the study of machinery ○ He is studying aircraft mechanics.

**mechanisation** /ˌmɪkənəˈzaɪʃən/ noun the process of mechanising. Synonym automation

**mechanisation** /ˌmɪkənəˈzaɪʃən/ noun mechanise verb to use machines in place of animals or workers. Synonym automate

**mechanism** /ˈmɛkənɪzəm/ noun 1. the working parts of a machine ○ If you take the back off the watch you can see the delicate mechanism. 2. a way in which something works ○ The mechanism for awarding government contracts.

**meat** /miːt/ noun food from an animal or bird, not from a fish ○ Can I have some more meat, please? ○ Would you like meat or fish for your main course? ○ I like my meat very well cooked.

**mediation** /ˈmiːdiəʃən/ noun the process of trying to make two opponents agree. Synonym arbitration

**medal** /ˈmed(ə)l/ noun a metal disc, usually attached to a ribbon, made to commemorate an important occasion or battle, and given to people who have performed well

**medallion** /ˈmedəlɪən/ noun a round piece of metal worn round the neck on a chain as an ornament

**medallist** /ˈmed(ə)lɪst/ noun a person who wins a medal in a competition (NOTE: The US spelling is medalist.)

**meddle** /ˈmed(ə)l/ verb ○ to meddle in or with something to interfere in something ○ Don’t meddle in matters that don’t concern you.

**meddler** /ˈmed(ə)l/ noun a person who likes to meddle. Synonym troublemaker

**media** noun /ˈmiːdiə/ 1. newspapers, TV and radio ○ The book attracted a lot of interest in the media. ○ mass media 2. medium adj relating to the mass media ○ The show has attracted a lot of media interest. ○ median1 /ˈmiːdiən/ adj in the middle (technical) ○ the median price for shares

**median2** /ˈmiːdiən/ noun US a section of marked road surface, grass or bushes between the two sides of a major road (NOTE: The British term is central reservation.)

**mediate** /ˈmiːdiət/ verb to intervene to try to bring agreement between two opponents

**mediation** /ˈmiːdiəʃən/ noun the process of trying to make two opponents agree. Synonym arbitration

**mediation** /ˈmiːdiəʃən/ noun the process of trying to make two opponents agree. Synonym go-between

**medical** /ˈmedɪkl/ noun a doctor (informal)

**medical** /ˈmedɪkl/ adj referring to medicine ○ She’s a medical student. ○ The Red Cross provided medical help. ○ noun the examination of someone by a doctor ○ You need to pass a medical to join the army. ○ After a routine medical, the new forward will be ready to play on Saturday. Synonym checkup

**medicare** /ˈmedɪkər/ noun a system of public health insurance in the United States

**medicated** /ˈmedɪkatəd/ adj which contains a drug which will treat a condition.

**medication** /ˌmedɪˈkeɪʃən/ noun 1. drugs taken by a patient ○ Are you taking any medication? 2. treatment by giving drugs ○ The doctor prescribed a course of medication.

**medicinal** /ˈmedɪsən(ə)l/ adj 1. referring to medicine ○ He has a drink of whisky before
medicine /ˈmɛdɪns/ noun 1. a drug taken to treat a disease ○ She made a drink from medicinal herbs.
2. which can heal or treat a disease ○ She made a medicine for her cough.
3. a liquid meant to be eaten with other foods to add taste on something.
4. to state on something.

medium /ˈmiːdiəm/ noun 1. a drug you should take some cough medicine. ○ The chemist told me to take the medicine four times a day. ○ Some cough medicines make you feel sleepy. ○ to have a taste of your own medicine to be treated in the same way as you have treated others (informal) ○ He made us fill in all those forms, let’s give him a taste of his own medicine. 2. the study of diseases and how to cure or prevent them ○ The study of diseases.
3. you should take some cough medicine.
4. You should take some cough medicine. ○ The chemist told me to take the medicine four times a day.
5. to have a taste of your own medicine to be treated in the same way as you have treated others (informal) ○ He made us fill in all those forms, let’s give him a taste of his own medicine. 2. the study of diseases and how to cure or prevent them ○ The study of diseases.
3. You should take some cough medicine.
4. The chemist told me to take the medicine four times a day.

medic /ˈmɛdiʃ/ noun a mixture of different things, such as pieces of music. meek /ˈmiːk/ adjective humbly, always willing to do what other people want, feeling you are not important (NOTE: meeker – meekest)

medium-term /ˈmiːdɪəm tɜːrn/ adjective for a period of one or two years
medium wave /ˈmiːdɪəm wɛv/ noun a radio frequency range between 200 and 1000 metres
meets /ˈmiːts/ noun 1. to come together with someone ○ He met her at the railway station. ○ We’ll meet for lunch before we go to the cinema. 2. to come together ○ Several streets meet at Piccadilly Circus. ○ If you draw a diagonal line from each corner of a square to the opposite corner, the two lines will meet in the centre. 3. to get to know someone ○ I’ve never met your sister – Come and meet her then! ○ Have you met our sales manager? – Yes, we have already met. 4. to pay for ○ The company will meet your expenses. ○ He was unable to meet his mortgage repayments.
5. to satisfy ○ Does the car now meet the standards set by the motor racing authorities? (NOTE: meeting – met
6. meeting /ˈmiːtɪŋ/ noun 1. the action of coming together in a group ○ The next meeting of the club will be on Tuesday. ○ There were only four people at the committee meeting.
7. to address a meeting to speak to a meeting ○ to conduct a meeting to be chairman of a meeting ○ As he was going away on business, he asked his deputy to conduct the meeting.
8. to close a meeting to end a meeting ○ to hold a meeting to organise a meeting of a group of people ○ The meeting will be held in the committee room.
9. to open a meeting to start a meeting. ○ annual general meeting 2. a sports competition or series of races held over several days ○ Britain won a gold and three bronzes at the athletics meeting.
meeting place /ˈmiːtɪŋ plɛs/ noun a place where you can meet someone ○ meet up /ˈmiːt ʌp/ verb (of several people) to come together
10. to meet with /ˈmiːt wið/ verb 1. to find or to come up against a problem ○ The advancing soldiers met with stiff resistance. ○ She met with an accident on the escalator. 2. to have an accident ○ She met with an accident on the escalator. 3. usually US to meet someone ○ He met with the sales people in New York.
mega- /ˈmeɡə/ prefix 1. one million 2. very big ○ Only the megarich can afford that kind of house. ○ She’s a Hollywood megastar.
megabyte /ˈmeɡəbaɪt/ noun a unit of storage for a computer equal to 1,048,576 bytes. Abbr MB
megalomanic /ˌmɛɡəˈlɒmənɪk/ adj a person who enjoys having power over other people
megaphone /ˈmɛɡəfaʊn/ noun a metal trumpet which makes the voice sound louder
melancholy /ˈmɛlnəki/ noun great sadness ○ There was an air of melancholy as the contents of the house were auctioned. Antonym cheerfulness ● adj very sad ○ She’s still feeling melancholy because her cat died. Antonym cheerful
melanin /ˈmɛlnən/ noun a substance that gives colour to skin, hair and eyes
melanoma /ˈmɛlnəʊmə/ noun a malignant type of skin tumour
melee /ˈmɛlu/ noun 1. a noisy confused fight 2. a confused mixture of people or things
mellow /ˈmɛlu/ adj 1. which has matured and has a full taste ○ Burgundy produces some mellow red wines. 2. (of voices) soft, rich ○ Shakespeare’s lines sound more beautiful when they are read in his lovely mellow voice. 3. calm and relaxed ○ After a couple of drinks she became quite mellow. (NOTE: mellower, mellowest) ● verb 1. to become soft or rich ○ Time has mellowed the brickwork to a soft deep red. ○ he has mellowed with age as he has got older, so he has become much less angry and unpleasant than he used to be. 2. to become ripe, to mature ○ You should leave the wine to mellow for some years.
melodious /ˈmɛloʊdɪəs/ adj full of pleasant musical sounds. Synonym tuneful
melodrama /ˌmɛləd्रəˈmækə/ noun a play or event that is full of excitement and violent emotions
melodramatic /ˌmɛlədrəˈmætɪk/ adj full of violent and exaggerated emotions. Antonym low-key
melody /ˈmɛldə/ noun a tune (NOTE: The plural is melodies.)

melon /ˈmɛlən/ noun a large round fruit which grows on a creeping plant
melt /mɛlt/ verb 1. to change from a solid to a liquid by heating ○ If the sun comes out your snowman will melt. ○ The heat of the sun made the road melt. ○ Glass will melt at very high temperatures. 2. to melt away to go gradually ○ The rioters melted away when the police appeared.
melt down /mɛlt daʊn/ verb to heat metal and make it into blocks so that it can be used again ○ They stole the rings and melted them down into gold bars.
meltdown /ˈmɛltdaʊn/ noun the collapse of a nuclear power station because of overheating (informal)
melting point /ˈmɛltɪŋ point/ noun the temperature at which a solid becomes liquid
melting pot /ˈmɛltɪŋ pot/ noun 1. a pot in which metal can be melted 2. a place where people of different origins come to live together
member /ˈmɛmbə/ noun 1. a person who belongs to a group ○ The two boys went swimming while the other members of the family sat on the beach. ○ Three members of staff are away sick. 2. an organisation which belongs to a society ○ The member states of the EU. ○ The members of the United Nations.
Member of Parliament /ˈmɛmbər əv ˈpærliˌmənt/ noun a person elected to represent a constituency in Parliament (NOTE: often abbreviated to MP. The plural is MPs)
memorandum /ˌmɛməˌrəʊdəm/ noun 1. the state of belonging to a group ○ I must remember to renew my membership. ○ Membership costs £50 a year. 2. all the members of a group ○ The membership voted to reject the proposal. ○ The club has a membership of five hundred.
membrane /ˈmɛmbraʊn/ noun 1. a thin layer of tissue which lines or covers part of the inside of the body ○ A membrane connecting the tongue to the bottom of the mouth. 2. a thin material ○ The metal is covered with a waterproof membrane.
memento /ˈmɛməntəʊ/ noun 1. a thing kept to remind you of something. Synonym souvenir (NOTE: The plural is mementoes.)
memorandum /ˌmɛməˌrəʊdəm/ noun an autobiographical work, written in a less formal way than a full autobiography ○ The general spent his retirement writing his memoirs.
memorandum /ˌmɛməˌrəʊdəm/ noun a short note (NOTE: often shortened to memo. The plural is memoranda.)
memorial /ˈmɛməriəl/ adj which reminds you of something or someone ○ a monument to remind you of something or someone ○ The mayor unveiled the memorial to the dead poet.
memorial service /məˈməʊriəl/ noun a church service to remember someone who has died

memorise /məˈməʊrəs/, memorize verb to learn something by heart

memory /ˈmemərɪ/ noun 1. (in people) the ability to remember 2. He recited the poem from memory.

periodical /pɜrˈiɒdɪkl/ adj referring to something that is published regularly

photographic /ˌfəʊtəˈɡræfɪk/ adj concerning the capacity for storing information

menace /ˈmɛnəs/ verb to threaten

menacing /ˈmɛnəsɪŋ/ adj which threatens.

menacingly /ˈmɛnəsɪŋli/ adv in a threatening way

mend /mɛnd/ verb to make something work which has a fault; to repair something which is broken or damaged

memory /ˈmemərɪ/ noun 1. the explosion in the morning papers.

menstrual /məˈstrjuəl/ adj referring to menstruation

menstruation /məˈstrjuəʃən/ noun the process of bleeding from the uterus which takes place in a woman each month. Also called period

menstruating /məˈstrjuətɪŋ/ adj menstruating

menstruate /məˈstrjuət/ verb to bleed from the uterus during menstruation

menstrual /məˈstrjuəl/ adj

menstrual cycle /məˈstrjuəl ˈsɪkl/ noun the period of about 28 days during which a woman ovulates and then menstruates

menthol /ˈmenthəʊl/ noun a substance which tastes and smells strongly of mint

mental arithmetic /ˈmɛntəl əˈrɪθmətɪk/ calculations which you do in your head

mentality /ˈmɛntələti/ noun a way of thinking which is typical of someone or of a group.

mental age /ˈmɛntəl əˈgeɪ/ noun the time of a person's mind in relation to what is considered normal

mentals /ˈmɛntsəls/ noun clothes for men (NOTE: no plural)

men's /mɛnz/ noun 1. someone or something which can harm people

mention /ˈmɛntʃən/ noun the act of being cruel to someone by what you say, rather than by what you do

mention verb 1. to refer to something 2. The press has not mentioned the accident.

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menstrual cycle /məˈstrjuəl ˈsɪkl/ noun the period of about 28 days during which a woman ovulates and then menstruates
mercenary /ˈmɜːsərəni/ noun a soldier who is paid to fight for a foreign country. He was one of a group of mercenaries hired to protect the president.

mercy killing /ˈmɜːsɪ ˈkɪlɪŋ/ noun the killing of a sick person to put an end to suffering.

eradicular /ˈrɛdəkʃəl/ adjective relating to or situated near the root of a plant.
Mesmerise 529

Mesmerise /ˈmezəraɪz/; mesmerize verb to hold the attention of someone so that they don’t move. Synonym hypnotise

Mess /mes/ noun 1. dirt or disorder. The milk boiled over and made a mess on the stove. We had to clear up the mess after the party. 2. to make a mess of something to do something badly. They made a mess of the repair job.

Mess about /ˈmes əˈbaut/ verb 1. to spend your spare time doing something without having planned what to do. He spends his weekends messing about in the garden. 2. to mess someone about to treat someone badly (informal). If you start messing me about, there’ll be trouble.

Messy /ˈmesi/ adj 1. dirty. Making pottery is a messy business. Little children are always messy eaters. 2. unpleasant and disorganised. It was a long messy divorce case.

Met /mɛt/ noun a material, such as iron and copper, which can carry heat and electricity and is used for making things.

Metabolic /ˌmeˈterbolik/ adj referring to metabolism.

Metabolism /ˌmeˈtebolizəm/ noun chemical processes which are continually taking place in organisms and which are essential to life.

Metal /ˈmeɪtl/ noun a material consisting mainly of iron and copper, which can carry heat and electricity and is used for making things. These spoons are plastic but the knives are metal. These chairs are very heavy – they must be made of metal.

Metal fatigue /ˈmeɪtl fiˈteɪj/ noun the wearing out of metal used in a construction.

Metallic /ˌmeˈtælik/ adj 1. like metal, referring to metal. Suddenly we heard a quiet metallic sound, like a chain being moved. 2. shining like metal.

Metal sheen /ˌmeˈtæl ʃiən/ adj a shine such as you get on polished metal.

Metalwork /ˌmeˈtæl wɜːk/ noun the art of making things with metal. His hobby is metalwork. She goes to a metalwork class on Tuesday evenings.

Metalworker /ˌmeˈtæl wɜːkər/ noun a person skilled in making objects out of metal.

Metamorphosis /ˌmeɪtəˈmɔːfəˈzaɪs/ noun a change to something quite different, especially an insect’s change of form. Synonym transformation.

Metaphor /ˌmeɪtəˈfɔːrə/ noun a way of describing something by giving it the qualities of something else, as in ‘our eagle-eyed readers soon spotted the mistake.’ Compare simile.

Metaphorical /ˌmeɪtəˈfɔːrɪk/ adj like a metaphor. Antonym literal.

Metaphorically /ˌmeɪtəˈfɔːrɪkli/ adv in a metaphorical way.
painkilling drug, used as a substitute for heroin in the treatment of addiction

meteor /miˈtriəʊ/ noun a solid body which enters the earth’s atmosphere from outer space, usually burning up and shining brightly as it does so. Also called shooting star

meteoric /ˌmiːtəˈriːk/ adj sudden, unexpected and very noticeable. Synonym dramatic. Antonym gradual

meteorological /ˌmiːtəˈroʊlədʒɪk/ adj referring to meteorology, to the climate and weather

meteorologist /ˌmiːtəˈroʊlədʒɪst/ noun a scientist who studies climate and weather, and forecasts what the weather is going to be like

meteorology /ˌmiːtəˈroʊlədʒi/ noun the study of climate and weather

mete out /ˌmiːt ˈaʊt/ verb to give a punishment

metre /ˈmiːtrə/ noun 1. a device for counting how much time, water, gas, etc. has been used ○ He came to read the gas meter. 2. US spelling of metre

metric /ˈmiːtrɪk/ adj using the metre as a basic measurement

metrical /ˈmɛθəlɪk/ adj a piece of solid rock which falls from outer space onto the earth’s surface

meteorite /ˌmiːtəˈraɪt/ noun a study of climate and weather

metrical /ˈmɛθəlɪk/ adj a branch of philosophical study concerned with knowledge and the meaning of existence

meticulous /ˈmɪtkjʊləs/ adj being very careful about details. Antonym careless ○ to be meticulous in doing something or about something to pay great attention to detail when you do something ○ He is very meticulous in sending off his tax return on time. ○ They were not very meticulous about their payments.

meticulously /ˈmɪtkjʊləsli/ adv very carefully. Synonym thoroughly. Antonym carelessly

metric /ˈmiːtrɪk/ noun same as tonne

metropolitan /ˌmiːtəˈrɒpəlɪtən/ adj referring to a large capital city (NOTE: The plural is metropolitan)

metropolis /ˌmiːtəˈrɒpəlɪs/ noun a large capital city (NOTE: The plural is metropolises)

Mexican /ˈmɛksɪkən/ adj referring to Mexican cooking.

Mexican cooking /ˈmɛksɪkən kʊkɪn/ noun hunting through the crowd

Mexican football team /ˈmɛksɪkən fʊtbɔːltɛm/ noun talking about something or to be meticulous in doing something or about something to pay great attention to detail when you do something ○ He is very meticulous in sending off his tax return on time. ○ They were not very meticulous about their payments.

metre /ˈmiːtrə/ noun 1. a standard measurement of length, equal to approximately 39.4 inches ○ ten square metres an area of 5 metres x 2 metres 2. a race over a certain distance ○ He holds the world record for the 1000 metres. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is meter.)

mew /juː/ noun a soft cry which a kitten makes ○ We could hear the kittens mewing in their box.

mews /ˈjuːz/ plural noun 1. stables for horses 2. a row of stables which have been made into houses ○ She’s bought a mews cottage near Marble Arch. ○ We live in the mews behind the big houses in the square.

Mexican /ˈmɛksɪkən/ adj referring to Mexico ○ Mexican cooking is hot and spicy. ○ The Mexican football team looks like winning. ○ Have you seen the photos from our Mexican holiday? ○ a person from Mexico ○ Many Mexicans have emigrated to California

Mexican wave /ˈmɛksɪkən wɛv/ noun an action when people watching an event stand up, raise their arms in turn, and then sit down, giving the impression of a wave running through the crowd

mezzanine /ˌmɛtsəniːzn/ noun a floor between the ground floor and the first floor ○ The office is on the mezzanine.
wave those potatoes.
microwave for three minutes.

microbe noun a very small organism which can only be seen with a microscope. Synonym microorganism.

middle noun 1. the centre of something. Synonym centre.
2. a position between extremes of opinion or argument. Synonym middle-ground.

mid-air /ˈmɪdər/ adj in the air, flying.
mid-air collision between the two planes.
midday /ˈmɪddeɪ/ noun twelve o’clock in the middle of the day. Synonym noon.

middle /ˈmɪddʒ/ adj in the centre; midway between two ends; They live in the middle house, the one with the green door.

mice /maɪs/ plural mouse
to take the mickey out of someone to make fun of someone; Stop taking the mickey! (informal)

Mickey Mouse /ˈmɪksɪ/ maʊz/ noun a popular cartoon character in Disney films; Mickey Mouse firm got the contract.

microphone /ˈmaɪkrəʊfɪn/ noun a device for capturing sound and passing it to a listening device

mid-night /ˈmɪdnɪt/ noun the time between the end of the evening and the beginning of the morning.

midland /ˈmɪdlænd/ noun the section of English society which is regarded as socially traditional.

midday /ˈmɪrdʒi/ noun the time between the end of the evening and the beginning of the morning.

middle /ˈmɪdl/ adjective
big nor small (informal Mickey Mouse firm got the contract.

middle age /ˈmɪdlədʒ/ a period of life when you are not very young and not very old, between 40 and 60 years old.

middle-aged /ˈmɪdlədʒ/ adj between approximately 40 and 60 years old.

Middle Ages /ˈmiːdʒəl/ noun the historical period before the Renaissance from about 1000 to 1500 AD (NOTE: The adjective referring to the Middle Ages is medieval.)

middle class /ˈmɪdlok/ noun a professional class between the upper class and the lower or working class.

middle ear /ˈmɪdal/ noun a space inside the ear beyond the eardrum.

middle ground /ˈmɪdlgrʊnd/ noun a position between extremes of opinion.

middleman /ˈmɪdlmən/ noun a businessman who buys from the manufacturer and sells to customers (NOTE: The plural is middlemen.)

middle management /ˈmɪdlməɡəmənt/ noun departmental managers who are not as important as directors.

middle name /ˈmɪdlnʌm/ noun a second given name of someone.

middle of the road /ˈmɪdlzəv/ noun a position in politics of the centre, moderate.

middle school /ˈmɪdlskɔːl/ noun a state school for children in the UK from age 8 to 13.

mid-field /ˈmɪdfeld/ noun 1. the central section of a football pitch; The goalkeeper kicked the ball to midfield.
2. the players who

midi /ˈmɪdi/ adjective
midfielder  
play in the midfield.  The midfield is the most important section of a football team.  

midfielder  /ˈmidˌfiːldər/ noun a member of a football team active in the central area of the playing field, often both in attack and defence.

midge  /mɪдж/ noun a small flying insect that slugs

midget  /ˈmiːdʒɪt/ noun a very short person (often naive) adj smaller than the usual size

midnight  /ˈmɪdnɪt/ noun twelve o’clock at night.  中间是它之后的十二点的夜晚。  ○ We only reached the hotel at midnight.  Antonym noon.

midriff  /ˈmɪdrɪf/ noun the front part of your body above the waist and below the chest.

midst  /mɪdst/ noun middle in our midst among us.  ○ We have a spy in our midst.

midstream  /ˈmɪdstrɪm/ adv, noun (in the) middle part of a river.

midsummer  /ˌmɪdˈsʌmər/ noun the middle of the summer.  Antonym midwinter.

Midsummer’s Day  /ˌmɪdˈsʌmərˈziː/ noun June 24th.  现在是夏至。

midterm  /ˈmɪdˌtɜːrn/ noun a point halfway through an academic term, or through a term of office.  ○ We have our midterm exam next week.  Compare half-term.

midway  /ˈmɪdweɪ/ adj halfway.  ○ We arranged to meet them midway between London and Oxford.  ○ The lights went out midway through the performance.

midweek  /ˈmɪdˈwɪk/ adj, adv in the middle of the week.  ○ If you travel midweek, the fares are higher than if you travel at the weekend.

midwife  /ˈmɪdwaɪf/ noun a professional nurse who helps a woman give birth, often at home.  (formal) The plural is midwives  /ˈmɪdwaɪvz/.

midwifery  /ˈmɪdwaɪˈfərɪ/ noun the work of being a midwife.

midwinter  /ˈmɪdˌwɪntər/ noun the middle of the winter.  Antonym midsummer.

miffed  /ˈmɪft/ adj feeling annoyed or offended.

might  /mɪt/ noun might/ a force.  ○ She pulled at it with all her might, and still could not move it.  ○ All the might of the armed forces is displayed during the National Day parade.

modal verb 1. to be possible ○ Take an umbrella, it might rain.  ○ If he isn’t here, he might be waiting outside.  ○ I might call in to see you tomorrow if I have time.  ○ That was a stupid thing to do – you might have been killed!  ○ They might win, but I wouldn’t bet on it.

2. should have (done) ○ You might try and stay awake next time.  ○ he might have done something to help it would have been better if he had done something to help ○ you might have told me I wish you had told me ○ You might have told me you’d invited her as well. 3. asking a question politely ○ Might I have another cup of tea?  ○ The negative is might not, usually mightn’t.  Note also that might is always used with other verbs and is not followed by to.)

mighth’t short form might not

mighty  /ˈmɪstɪ/ adj strong, powerful (literary) ○ With one mighty heave he lifted the sacker onto the lorry.  ○ All she could remember was getting a mighty blow on the head, and then everything went black.  (NOTE: mightier – mightiest)

migraine  /ˈmɪɡriən/ noun a sharp headache often associated with vomiting and seeing bright lights.

migrant  /ˈmɪɡrənt/ noun 1. a worker who moves from one job to another or from one country to another to look for work.  ○ The government is trying to prevent migrants coming into the country.  2. a bird which moves from one place to another with the seasons.  ○ The marshes are an ideal place to see the winter migrants.

adj who moves from one job to another or from one country to another ○ Migrant workers often do the jobs no one wants to do.  ○ The exploitation of migrant farm workers.  Synonym migrant.

migrate  /ˈmɪɡrət/ verb to move from one place to another with the seasons.  Synonym travel

migration  /ˌmɪɡrəˈʃən/ noun the movement of people and animals, especially birds, from one country to another.  Compare relocation.

migratory  /ˌmɪɡrəˈtɔrɪ/ adj referring to migration.

mike  /mʌki/ abbr microphone (informal)

mile  /maɪl/ noun 1. a measure of length, equal to 1,760 yards or 1.61 kilometres.  ○ He thinks nothing of cycling ten miles to work every day.  ○ The car can’t go any faster than sixty miles per hour.  ○ The line of cars stretched for three miles from the road.

mile  /maɪl/ verb to move one mile.

mild  /mɪld/ adj not harsh, not too bad ○ There was some mild criticism, but generally the plan was welcomed.  ○ He had a mild heart attack and was soon back to work again.

mildly  /ˈmaɪldli/ adv softly or kindly.  ○ The film was only mildly entertaining.  ○ to put it mildly not to say anything ruder.

midsummer's day
military /ˈmɪlɪtəri/ noun 1. a force organised like an army.

militancy /ˈmɪlɪtənsi/ noun 1. vigour in supporting a political party or a cause.

militant /ˈmɪlɪtənt/ adj 1. very active in supporting a cause or political party. He is on the militant wing of the party.

mileage /ˈmiːlɪdʒ/ noun 1, the distance travelled in miles.

milestone /ˈmaɪlstəʊn/ noun 1. an important point in time. This year marks an important milestone in the firm’s history.

mileometer /ˈmaɪlɪˌmɛtər/ noun a device in a vehicle for recording the distance travelled.

miliu /ˈmiːlu/ noun a society which surrounds someone.

milk /mɪlk/ noun 1. a white liquid produced by female mammals to feed their young, especially the liquid produced by cows.

You want milk with your coffee?

Can we have two glasses of milk, please?

Don’t forget to buy some milk, there’s none in the fridge.

verb 1. to take milk from an animal. The cows are waiting to be milked.

2. to get as much advantage as possible from a situation. The newspapers milked the story for all it was worth.

milk chocolate /mɪlk ˈʃɒklət/ noun pale brown chocolate made with milk.

milk float /mɪlk flɔːt/ noun a low electric truck for delivering milk.

milkman /mɪlkˈmæn/ noun GB a man who brings milk to each house in the morning. (NOTE: The plural is milkmen.)

milk shake /mɪlk ˈʃeɪk/ noun a drink made by beating milk with sweet liquid or fruit.

milk teeth /mɪlk tiːθ/ plural noun a child’s first twenty teeth, which are gradually replaced by permanent teeth.

milky /ˈmɪlkɪ/ adj 1. made with milk; containing milk. This coffee is too milky.

2. looking like milk. If you cut the plant, a milky fluid comes out.

Milky Way /ˈmɪlkɪ ˈweɪ/ noun a band of light across the sky caused by the high concentration of stars in our galaxy. (NOTE: milkier – milkiest)

mill /mɪl/ noun 1. a small machine for grinding seeds into powder. There is a pepper mill on the table.

2. a large machine for grinding corn into flour. Corn is fed into the mill through a hopper.

3. a building which contains such a machine. After lunch the visitors were shown round the mill.

4. a run-of-the-mill ordinary. It’s very much a run-of-the-mill operation which any doctor can do.

5. a large factory to go through the mill, to be put through the mill to suffer a great deal. (informal)

millennial /ˈmiːlɪnɪəl/ adj referring to a millennium.

millennium /ˈmiːlɪniəm/ noun a period of a thousand years. (NOTE: usually written mg after figures)

millilitre /ˈmiːlɪˌlɪtr/ noun a unit of measurement of liquid, equal to one thousandth of a litre. (NOTE: usually written ml after figures. The US spelling is milliliter.)

millimetre /ˈmiːlɪˌmiːtər/ noun one thousandth of a metre. (NOTE: usually written mm after figures. 35mm. The US spelling is millimeter.)
mimicked the onions and fry till brown.


millions of a very large number of ○ Millions of trees are chopped down to make paper. ○ The country spends millions of dollars on imports of oil. ○ Millions of people spend their holidays in Italy.

millionaire /ˌmiːnəˈlaɪər/ noun a person who has more than a million pounds or a million dollars. Synonym tycoon. Antonym pauper (NOTE: To show the currency in which a person is a millionaire, say 'a dollar millionaire', 'a sterling millionaire', etc.)

milliionth /ˌmaɪliˈθʌnt/ 1,000,000th adj, noun referring to a millionth or to someone, something, or something which a person is a millionaire, say 'a millionaire', 'a sterling millionaire', etc.)

mimic /ˈmɪmɪk/ noun 1. a person who imitates ○ A good mimic imitates a person’s body language as well as their voice. ■ verb to imitate ○ He doesn’t like it when people mimic the way he talks. (NOTE: mimicking – mimicked)

mimicry /ˈmɪmɪkraɪ/ noun the action of mimicking someone. Synonym imitation

mind /mænd/ noun 1. your own business. 3. the part of the body which controls memory and reasoning ○ His mind always seems to be on other things. ○ I’ve forgotten her name — it just slipped my mind. ○ I think of her night and day — I just can’t get her out of my mind. 6. to be undecided ○ I’m in two minds about his proposal. 8. to make up his mind 10. to decide to do something different ○ He was going to go by car but then changed his mind and went by bus. 11. to make up your mind (to do something) to decide (to do something) ○ I can’t make up my mind whether to take the afternoon off to do some shopping or stay in the office and work. ○ She couldn’t make up her mind what clothes to wear to the wedding. 12. to change your mind to decide to do something different ○ He was going to go by car but then changed his mind and went by bus. ○ He has decided to go on holiday next week and nothing will make him change his mind. 14. to be in two minds about something not to be sure about something, to be undecided ○ I’m in two minds about his proposal. 16. I’ve a good mind to do it myself 17. I would very much like to do it myself ○ he’s not in his right mind he’s mad ■ verb 1. to be careful, to watch out ○ Mind the steps — they’re slippery! 18. Mind the steps — they’re slippery! 19. Mind the steps — they’re slippery! 2. to worry about ○ Don’t mind me, I’m used to working with children. ○ Never mind don’t worry ○ Never mind — you’ll get another chance to enter the competition next year. 3. to look after someone, something, or someone’s affairs ○ Nobody will mind if you’re late. ○ There aren’t enough chairs, but I don’t mind standing up. 4. to be bothered or annoyed by ○ Nobody will mind if you’re late. ○ There aren’t enough chairs, but I don’t mind standing up. 5. asking politely ○ Do you mind if I open the window? 6. would rather like ○ I wouldn’t mind a cup of coffee.

mind-blowing /ˈmaɪndbлаʊɪŋ/ adj extremely impressive, surprising or shocking

mindful /ˈmaɪndfəl/ adj large, complicated and difficult to understand

mindless /ˈmaɪndləs/ adj stupid, done without thinking
mindset /ˈmændɪz/ noun a way of thinking, general attitude to things. Synonym attitude

mine /ˈmaɪn/ noun belonging to me. Synonym property.

mining /ˈmaɪnɪŋ/ noun the act of taking coal or other minerals out of the land underground or under water

minesweeper /ˈmaɪnɪswiːpər/ noun a ship which specialises in removing mines placed under water

mince /ˈmɪns/ verb 1. to mix together. Synonym blend

mingle /ˈmɪŋgl/ verb 1. to mix together. Synonym blend. 2. to mix, to join in a party

minister /ˈmɪnɪstər/ noun 1. a member of a government in charge of a department. Synonym government minister. 2. a Protestant clergyman. Synonym government minister.

minimal /ˈmiːnɪm(ə)l/ adj very low or small, the smallest possible

minimalism /ˈmiːnɪm(ə)lɪz(ə)m/ noun 1. a movement of abstract artists who produce paintings and sculptures that make use of basic colours and geometric shapes in impersonal arrangements. The movement started in New York in the 1960s. 2. a simple style in art, design or literature.

minimum /ˈmiːnɪməm/ noun 1. the action of taking coal and other minerals out of the land. Synonym mining. 2. a difficult and dangerous situation. Synonym predicament. 3. or engaged in mining for diamonds. Synonym mining. 4. the lowest hourly wage which a company can legally pay its workers. Synonym wage.

minimum wage /ˈmiːnɪməm wɛɪdʒ/ noun the lowest hourly wage which a company can legally pay its workers.

mind /ˈmaɪnd/ noun 1. something seem very small. Synonym size. 2. a low-grade assistant. Synonym gofer.

mindful /ˈmaɪndfʊl/ adj referring to a government minister. Synonym government minister.

minefield /ˈmaɪnɪfɪld/ noun 1. an area of land or sea where mines have been laid. Synonym mine. 2. to place mines in land or water. Synonym mine. 3. the entrance to the harbour has been mined. Synonym mine.

mineral /ˈmaɪnərəl/ noun a substance, such as rock, which is dug out of the earth, or which is found in food. Synonym mineral.

minesweeper /ˈmaɪnɪswiːpər/ noun a ship which specialises in removing mines placed under water

ministry /ˈmiːnɪstrɪ/ noun 1. a movement of abstract artists who produce paintings and sculptures that make use of basic colours and geometric shapes in impersonal arrangements. The movement started in New York in the 1960s. 2. a simple style in art, design or literature. Synonym minimalism.

minister /ˈmɪnɪstər/ noun 1. a member of a government in charge of a department. Synonym government minister. 2. He was the Minister of Defence in the previous government. Synonym government minister.

ministerial /ˌmiːnɪstərɪəl/ adj referring to a government minister. Synonym government minister.

ministerial /ˌmiːnɪstərɪəl/ adj referring to a government minister. Synonym government minister.

ministerial /ˌmiːnɪstərɪəl/ adj referring to a government minister. Synonym government minister.

ministerial /ˌmiːnɪstərɪəl/ adj referring to a government minister. Synonym government minister.
mink /mɪŋk/ noun 1. a small animal whose fur is very valuable. Mink are now found in the wild in Britain. 2. a coat of mink fur. She wore her mink to the opera. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning; to show a plural say ‘mink coats’).

mint /mɪnt/ noun 1. a very small freshwater fish. Synonym small fry.

minor /ˈmaɪnər/ adj not very important. It was just a minor injury. She has a minor role in the film. He played a minor part in the revolution. noun a person under the age of 18, who is not considered to be an adult. We are forbidden to serve alcohol to minors. Synonym juvenile. Antonym adult (NOTE: Do not confuse with miner.)

minority /ˈmaɪnərɪti/ noun 1. a number or quantity which is less than half of a total. Although the proposal was carried, a large minority of members voted against it. The men are in the minority, there are more women than men. The period when a person is less than 18 years old. During the king’s minority the country was ruled by his uncle.

minister /ˈmɪnɪstə/ noun (usually in names) a large, important church. Synonym important church.

mint /mɪnt/ noun 1. a factory where coins are made. The mint is preparing to make the new coins. In mint condition, perfect, in exactly the same condition as when it was made. He is offering a camera for sale in mint condition. A mint of money, a great deal of money. The inventor of the zip must have made a mint of money. A common herb used as flavouring. A small white sweet, tasting of peppermint. He always keeps a packet of mints in his pocket to suck when travelling. To make coins. British coins are minted by the Royal Mint.

mint sauce /ˈmɪnt ˈsɔːs/ noun a sauce made of chopped mint, sugar and vinegar, served with lamb.

minus /ˈmɪnəs/ prep 1. less. Ten minus eight equals two (10 – 8 = 2). Net salary is gross salary minus tax and National Insurance deductions. It was minus 10 degrees (-10°C) outside. 2. not with. Luckily they came minus children. noun a sign (-) meaning less.

miracle /ˈmɪrəkl/ noun 1. a very lucky happening. It was a miracle she was not killed in the accident. A marvellous event which happens apparently by the power of God. She went to the shrine and was cured – it must have been a miracle. The miracles of modern medicine or of science the wonderful discoveries, new treatments etc.

miraculous /ˈmɪrəkjuːləs/ adj wonderful, which cannot be explained. Antonym mundane.

miraculously /ˈmɪrəkjuːləsli/ adv wonderfully, in a way which cannot be explained.

mirror /ˈmɪrər/ noun a piece of glass with a metal backing which reflects an image. They looked at themselves in the mirror. To clean the bathroom mirror to clean the mirror in the bathroom. To verb to be very similar to, to be the same as. The report mirrors the report.
mirror image

information given to the committee by local doctors. ('Her astonishment at the news mirrored mine.
mirror image /mɪrər/ 'mirər/ noun something that looks the same as something else except that it is the other way round, as in a mirror. Synonym: double
mirth /mɜːθ/ noun enjoyment, especially shown by laughter
misadventure /mɪsəˈdɜːvərɪ/ noun an unlucky accident. Death by misadventure accidental death. The coroner's verdict was death by misadventure.
misapprehension /mɪsəˈprɛhənʃən/ noun an incorrect understanding
misbehave /ˌmɪzəbɪˈheɪv/ verb to behave badly. Antonym: behave
misbehaviour /ˌmɪzəbɪˈheɪvjoʊ/ noun bad behaviour. (NOTE: The US spelling is misbehavior.)
misc. abbr miscellaneous
miscellaneous /mɪsˈkɛləniəs/ adj various or mixed, not all of the same sort. Antonym: homogeneous
miscarriage /mɪsˈkærɪdʒ/ noun the loss of a baby during pregnancy. She had two miscarriages before having her first child.
miscarriage of justice /mɪsˈkærɪdʒəv dʒəstɪs/ noun a wrong decision by a court, which can be changed on appeal
miscarry /mɪsˈkæri/ verb 1. (of a plan) to go wrong. 2. to produce a baby which is not sufficiently developed to live. She miscarried three months into her pregnancy.
miscellaneous /mɪsˈkælɪnɪəs/ adj various or mixed, not all of the same sort. Antonym: homogeneous
misconception /mɪskənˈsepʃən/ noun a mistaken idea. Synonym: fallacy. Antonym: fact
misconduct /mɪskənˈdʌkt/ noun a wrong action by a professional person or worker
misconstrue /mɪskənˈstruː/ verb to understand something wrongly. Synonym: misinterpret
miscount /mɪsˈkaʊnt/ verb to count wrongly
misdeed /mɪsˈdiːd/ noun a wicked action
misdemeanour /ˌmɪsdɪˈmiːnər/ noun a minor crime. (NOTE: The US spelling is misdemeanor.)
miser /ˈmɪzər/ noun a person who loves his money and refuses to spend it. (disapproving) miserable /mɪzəˈrəbl/ adj 1. sad, unhappy. He’s in a very miserable state of mind. 2. Can’t you do something to cheer her up? She’s very miserable since her boyfriend left her.
misfortune /mɪsˈfɔːrtn/ noun a mistake in calculating. Synonym: miscalculation
miscalculate /ˌmɪsəˈkæltʃər/ verb to calculate wrongly
miscalculation /mɪsəˈkæltʃən/ noun a mistake in calculating. Synonym: miscalculation
miserably /ˈmɪzərəbli/ adv sadly or unhappily
miserly /ˈmɪzərlɪ/ adj 1. not wanting to spend money. He’s very miserly with his money. 2. very small. Her father gave her a miserly allowance. 3. For pudding we were given a miserly amount of ice cream.
miserly /ˈmɪzərlɪ/ adj 1. not wanting to spend money. He’s very miserly with his money. 2. very small. Her father gave her a miserly allowance. 3. For pudding we were given a miserly amount of ice cream.
misery /ˈmɪzərɪ/ noun great unhappiness. 1. He’s in a very miserable state of mind. 2. Can’t you do something to cheer her up? She’s very miserable since her boyfriend left her.
misfit /mɪsˈfɪt/ noun a person who does not fit in with a group, who does not fit into society. Antonym: conformist
misfortune /mɪsˈfɔːrtn/ noun a little accident. 2. to treat something wrongly
mishap /ˈmɪʃæp/ noun a little accident
mishmash /ˈmɪʃmæʃ/ noun a confusing mixture
misinform /ˌmɪzərɪnˈfɔːrm/ verb to give someone the wrong information
misinterpret /ˌmɪzərɪnˈprɪərpt/ verb not to understand correctly. Synonym: misconstrue
misjudge /ˌmɪzədʒədʒ/ verb 1. to judge wrongly. He misjudged the distance he had
mislay /ˈmɪsleɪ/ verb to put something down and not to remember where it is (NOTE: mislaying – mislaid)
mislead /ˈmɪslɪd/ verb to give someone wrong information (NOTE: misleading – misled /ˈmɪslɪd/)
mismanage /ˈmɪsməndʒər/ verb to manage wrongly or badly
mismanagement /ˈmɪsmənjəmənt/ noun bad organisation and management.
Antonym efficiency

mismatch noun /ˈmɪsmætʃ/ a badly matched pair
verb /ˈmɪsmætʃ/ to match or pair people or things badly
mismiser /ˈmɪsmsɪznəmə/ noun a wrong name

mislanguish /ˈmɪsmərdʒənst/ noun a man who hates women
misplace /ˈmɪsplɛs/ verb to lose something temporarily
misplace /ˈmɪsplɛst/ adj directed at the wrong person or thing

misprint /ˈmɪsprɪnt/ noun a mistake in printing

mispronounce /ˈmɪsprəˈnauzn/ verb to pronounce a sound or word wrongly. Antonym articulate

misquote /ˈmɪskwaʊt/ verb to quote someone or something incorrectly

misread /ˈmɪstrɪd/ verb 1. to read something incorrectly 2. to misinterpret something
misrepresent /ˈmɪspɪrɪspɛnt/ verb to report what someone thinks wrongly
misrepresentation /ˈmɪspɪrpɛrɪzenˈteɪʃn/ noun a wrong account

miss /ˈmɪs/ verb 1. not to hit ○ He missed the target. ○ She tried to shoot the rabbit but missed. 2. not to see, hear or notice ○ We missed the road in the dark. ○ I missed the article about books in yesterday’s evening paper. ○ I arrived late, so missed most of the discussion. ○ you didn’t miss much the thing you did not see or hear, was not very good ○ he just missed being knocked down 3. not to catch ○ He tried to catch the ball but he missed.
○ She missed the last bus and had to walk home. ○ 4. to be sad because you do not do something any more, because someone is not there any more ○ Do you miss living by the sea? ○ I miss going on those long country walks. ○ You’ll be missed if you go to work in another office. ○ We’ll all miss Jack when he retires. ○ noun not having hit something ○ He hit the target twice and then had two misses. ○ let’s give it a miss let’s not go to see it

misadventure /ˈmɪsaˈdɜəvent/ noun a wrong opinion about someone or something
○ I thought he was lazy, but I obviously misjudged him.

mirror /ˈmɪrər/ verb to re-phrase what someone thinks wrongly or badly

miss /ˈmɪs/ noun 1. the title given to a girl or woman who is not married ○ Have you met Miss Jones, our new sales manager? ○ The letter is addressed to Miss Anne Smith. (NOTE: used before a surname, or a first name and surname) 2. a way of addressing a teacher ○ Miss! John keeps hitting me.

missile /ˈmɪsaɪl/ noun 1. an explosive rocket which can be guided to its target ○ They think the plane was brought down by an enemy missile. ○ They threw missiles at the police. 2. a thing which is thrown to try to hit someone ○ The students threw missiles at the police.

missing /ˈmɪsnɪŋ/ adj lost, which is not there ○ I’m looking for my missing car keys. ○ They found there was a lot of money missing. ○ The police searched everywhere for the missing children.

mission /ˈmɪʃn/ noun 1. an aim or purpose for which someone is sent ○ The students were sent on a mission to find the best place to camp. ○ Her mission in life is to help orphans; her chosen task is to help orphans 2. a group of people sent somewhere with a particular aim ○ a United Nations peace mission ○ Several firms took part in a business mission to Japan. ○ A rescue mission was sent out into the mountains. 3. a place where diplomats work, an embassy or consulate ○ There were riots outside several diplomatic missions in the capital.

missionary /ˈmɪʃnəri/ noun a person who tries to convert people to his or her religion ○ European missionaries tried to convert the inhabitants of the Pacific Islands. (NOTE: The plural is missionaries.) ○ adj referring to a missionary, like a missionary ○ He followed his calling and became a missionary doctor. ○ She showed missionary zeal in trying to get people to join her club.

mission statement /ˈmɪʃnstoʊmənt/ noun a statement which gives the aims of an organisation

miss out /ˈmɪsˌaʊt/ verb to leave out, to forget to put in

miss out on /ˈmɪsˌaʊt ən/ verb not to enjoy something because you are not there
misspell /ˈmɪспɛl/ verb to spell wrongly (NOTE: misspelled or misspell)

misspent youth /ˈmɪspɛnt/ noun a youth which has been wasted

mist /ˈmɪst/ noun a thin fog ○ Early morning mist covered the fields.
verb ○ to mist up to become covered with condensation ○ The steam in the bathroom had misted up the mirror. ○ Switch on the heated rear window to stop it misting up.

mistake /ˈmɪstkeɪk/ noun an act or thought which is wrong ○ She made a mistake in typing the address. ○ There are lots of mistakes in this book. ○ by mistake wrongly
mistaken /mɪˈstɛr(ə)nd/ adj wrong, Antonym correct

mistakenly /ˈmɪsɛtkənlɪ/ adv by mistake

mister /ˈmɪstər/ noun a way of addressing a man (= Mr.)

mistletoe /ˈmɪslətəʊ/ noun a green plant with small white berries, which grows on other plants, especially oaks or apple trees

mistook /ˈmɪstʊk/ v.t to treat something badly or roughly

mistress /ˈmɪstrɪs/ noun 1. a woman who has a sexual relationship with a man without being married to him 2. a woman teacher 3. the geography mistress

mistrust /ˈmɪstrʌst/ noun not having any confidence 2. The occupying army aroused considerable mistrust in the local population.

misunderstand /ˌmɪsʌndərˈstånd/ v. not to understand correctly (NOTE: misunderstand – misunderstood /ˈmɪsʌndərdˌstʌd/) 1. a situation where something has not been understood correctly 2. not appreciated because people do not understand you

misuse noun /ˈmɪsjuːz/ a wrong use 1. The directors of the charity were accused of misuse of funds.

mix /mɪks/ v. 1. to use something in a wrong way 2. She misused the money which she had been given to look after. 3. He felt misused when the company refused to help him.

mite /ˈmɪt/ noun 1. a tiny animal of the spider family which lives in soil or is a parasite on animals or plants

mixture /ˈmɪkʃər/ noun 1. a blend of things to put together 2. made up of different things put together 3. The reaction to the proposal has been rather mixed – some people approve, but others disapprove.

mitigate /ˈmɪtɪdʒ/ v. to make less serious. Synonym alleviate

mitigating /ˈmɪtɪdʒɪŋ/ adj mitigating circumstances, mitigating factors

mite /ˈmɪt/ noun 1. a tiny animal of the spider family which lives in soil or is a parasite on animals or plants 2. cause allergies.
mix up /ˌmɪks ˈʌp/ verb 1. to think someone or something is someone or something else 2. to be mixed up in or with to be part of, involved in 3. How did she get mixed up with those awful people?
mix-up /ˌmɪks ʌp/ noun a confusion.
mnemonic /ˈmnɪmɪk/ noun a word, sentence or little poem which helps you remember something
moan /məʊn/ noun 1. a low wailing sound 2. the rescue team could hear moans from under the wreckage. 3. When she read the news she gave a loud moan.
mob /mɒb/ noun 1. an uncontrolled crowd of people 2. Mobs of looters ran through the streets. 3. An angry mob surged towards the palace gates.
mob /mɒb/ verb 1. the mob a criminal gang (informal) 2. New York police are trying to crack down on the mob’s activities. 3. mob to surround with a wild crowd.
mob /mɒb/ verb 1. mob as a fashion model 2. He gave me the number of his mobile.
mob /mɒb/ adjective which can move 1. a mobile phone 2. He’s moved the mobile number to his mobile. 2. an artistic construction using small pieces of metal, card etc., which when hung up move in the slightest draught 3. They bought a mobile of clowns to hang over the baby’s cot.
mobile home /ˈmɒbiəl həʊm/ noun US a large caravan in which people can live permanently, which is usually based in a special park. (NOTE: Another US term is trailer.)
mobile phone /ˈmɒbiəl fəʊn/ noun a small telephone which you can carry around
mobilization /ˌməʊbɪlɪzaʃ(ə)n/ noun the bringing of people together, especially to join the armed forces in wartime
mobility /ˌməʊbɪlɪtɪ/ noun being able to move easily
moccasins /ˈməʊkəsɪnz/ plural noun soft leather shoes without laces
mocha /ˈmɔkə/ noun 1. a type of strong dark coffee 2. a coffee and chocolate flavoured used in baking
mock /mɒk/ adjective imitation, false 1. Her handbag was made of mock crocodile skin. 2. The house is built in mock medieval style.
mockery /ˈmɒkəri/ noun 1. a thing which is only a bad imitation, which is of no use 2. The trial was a mockery of justice. 3. to make a mockery of something to make something seem useless 4. The exam makes a mockery of the government’s insistence on educational standards. 5. the action of laughing at someone or something in an unkind way 6. Don’t mock the singer – he’s doing the best he can.
mock-up /ˈmɒk ʌp/ noun a scale model of a new product for testing purposes. (NOTE: An alternative spelling is ‘mock-up’)
mod cons /ˈməʊd kɒnz/ plural noun (informal) 1. all mod cons many modern facilities such as central heating, a cooker, a fridge, a dishwasher, a telephone etc. 2. The flat is advertised to let with all mod cons.
mod /ˈməʊd/ noun a way of doing something
model /ˈməʊdl/ noun 1. a small version of something larger 2. The exhibition has a model of the new town hall. 3. He spends his time making model planes. 4. a person who wears new clothes to show them to customers 5. He used only top models to show his designs during the London Fashion Week. 6. a particular type of product produced at a particular time 7. This is this year’s model. 8. He bought a 1979 model Mini. 9. verb 1. to make shapes in clay 2. He modelled a statue of the little girl. 10. to copy 11. She modelled her way of working on that of her father she imitated her father’s way of working. 12. to wear newly designed clothes to show to customers 13. She is modelling the autumn collection by Dior. (NOTE: modelling – modelled. The US spelling is ‘modelling’ – ‘modelled’.)
modelling /ˈməʊdəlɪŋ/ noun 1. the job of being a fashion model 2. With your looks you could take up modelling as a career. 3. the process of making models (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is ‘modelling’.)
modem /ˈməʊdəm/ noun a device which links a computer to the telephone lines, so as to send data. (NOTE: demodulator – demodulator
moderate /ˈmɒdərət/ adj not excessive ○ She had moderate success in her exams. ○ The economy has ended a period of steady moderate growth. ○ The union’s wage demands were really quite moderate. ■ noun /ˈmɒdərət/ a person whose political ideas are not very violent ○ After years of struggle the moderates have gained control of the party. ■ verb /ˈmɒdərət/ to make or become less strong ○ They moderated their demands. ○ As the wind moderated, the waves became smaller. □ to moderate your language to be less rude or violent in what you say ○ She asked him to moderate his language because there were children present. moderately /ˈmɒdərətli/ adv 1. to a limited extent ○ He’s not a millionaire but he’s moderately successful. ○ I’m moderately satisfied with the result. 2. moderately priced not very expensive ○ moderately difficult not very difficult

moderation /ˌmɒdərəˈʃən/ noun the fact of not being excessive. Synonym re-straint. Antonym excess ○ in moderation not too much, not excessively ○ Red wine is good for you, but only in moderation. ○ modern /ˈmɒdərn/ adj referring to the present time ○ It is a fairly modern invention — it was patented only in the 1980s. ○ You expect really modern offices to have automatic windows and air-conditioning systems. modern-day /ˌmɒdərənˈdeɪ/ adj 1. at the present time ○ Modern-day living is becoming more and more stressful 2. existing now, but very similar to somebody or something that existed in the past ○ The army needs a modern-day Napoleon to lead it. ○ He’s a modern-day equivalent of a Victorian factory owner.

modernisation /ˌmɒdərənəˈzeɪʃən/ noun the act of modernising. Synonym transformation modernise /ˈmɒdərənʌs/ verb to make something up to date. Synonym update

modernity /ˌmɒdərəˈnɪti/ noun the quality or idea of being modern or up-to-date

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modern /ˈmɒdərn/ adj modern 1. of 20th century modernist art. 2. modern-day equivalent of a Victorian factory owner.

moisture /ˈmɒstər/ noun a fairly small amount ○ modification /ˌmɒdɪfɪˈkeɪʃən/ noun an alteration. Synonym change modifier /ˈmɒdɪfɪr/ noun 1. a person or thing that makes slight changes to something, especially to improve it 2. a word or phrase that affects the meaning of another, usually describing it or restricting its meaning. ‘Pink’ in the phrase ‘the pink ribbon’ and ‘fire’ in the compound ‘fire alarm’ are modifiers. modify /ˈmɒdɪfɪ/ verb 1. to change or to alter something to fit a different use ○ The management modified its wage proposals in the light of government guidelines. ○ The car will have to be modified if we want to sell it here. 2. of adjectives and adverbs) to give a special qualification to a word ○ In the phrase ‘very tired’ ‘very’ modifies ‘tired’.

-modules /ˌmɒdjuːlz/ noun made of various modules

module /ˈmɒdjuːl/ noun a part of a larger thing made up of various sections ○ The science course is made up of a series of modules. Synonym unit

modus operandi /ˌmɒdəs əˈpərəndi/ noun a fairly small amount ○ modification /ˌmɒdɪfɪˈkeɪʃən/ noun an alteration. Synonym change modifier /ˈmɒdɪfɪr/ noun 1. a person or thing that makes slight changes to something, especially to improve it 2. a word or phrase that affects the meaning of another, usually describing it or restricting its meaning. ‘Pink’ in the phrase ‘the pink ribbon’ and ‘fire’ in the compound ‘fire alarm’ are modifiers. modify /ˈmɒdɪfɪ/ verb 1. to change or to alter something to fit a different use ○ The management modified its wage proposals in the light of government guidelines. ○ The car will have to be modified if we want to sell it here. 2. of adjectives and adverbs) to give a special qualification to a word ○ In the phrase ‘very tired’ ‘very’ modifies ‘tired’.

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modus vivendi /ˌmɒdəs əˈvɪvəndi/ noun an informal way of working together, in spite of not agreeing (formal)

tycoon /ˈteɪkən/ noun a very soft wool from a type of goat

moist /ˈmɒst/ adj slightly wet. Synonym damp (NOTE: no plural)

moisture /ˈmɒstʃər/ noun small drops of water in the air or on a surface. Synonym damp (NOTE: no plural)

moisturise /ˈmɒstʃərɪz, ˌmoʊstʃərɪz/ verb to rub a cream or liquid onto your skin to prevent it from being dry...
moisturiser /ˈmoʊstərɪzar/, moisturizer
noun a cream or liquid which makes the skin less dry
molar /ˈmɔlər/ noun a large back tooth used for grinding food
molasses /ˈmɒləsiz/ noun a thick black syrup removed from sugar as it is being refined (NOTE: The usual British term is black treacle.)

- mole /ˈməʊl/ noun 1. a small mammal with soft dark grey fur, which lives under the ground. (NOTE: The plural is moles.) 2. a small dark spot on the skin. 3. a member of an organisation who is in the pay of the enemy.

- molehill /ˈmɔləhɪl/ noun a little heap of earth pushed up by a mole when digging.

- molecule /ˈmɔləkjjuːl/ noun the smallest unit in a substance that can exist by itself.

- mollusc /ˈmɔləsk/ noun an animal with no backbone, but usually with a soft body and a shell, such as a snail or an oyster (NOTE: The US spelling is mollusk.)

- mollycoddle /ˈmɒliˌkɒdl/ verb to treat someone in an overprotective and overindulgent way.

- molten /ˈmɔltən/ adj which has become liquid with heat.

- mom (informal) /mɒm/ noun US a child’s name for mother.

- moment /ˈməʊmənt/ noun 1. a very short time. 2. at any moment very soon. 3. at the moment now. 4. at this moment in time. 5. a moment of time.

money /ˈməʊni/ noun 1. coins or notes which are used for buying things. 2. how much money have you got in the bank? 3. We can’t take any action for the moment.

- momentarily /ˈməʊməntəri/ adv for a short space of time.

- momentary /ˈməʊmənterɪ/ adj which only lasts for a short time. (NOTE: The plural is momentarys.)

- monetary /ˈməʊnərɪ/ adj referring to money or currency. (NOTE: The plural is moneta ries.)

- monastic /ˈmɒnæstɪk/ adj referring to monasteries or monks.

- Monday /ˈmændri/ noun the first day of the working week, the day between Sunday and Tuesday. (NOTE: The plural is Mondays.)

- monetary /ˈməʊnərɪ/ adj referring to money or currency. (NOTE: The plural is moneta ries.)
money belt /ˈmɔnɪ bɛlt/ noun a belt with a purse attached, which is worn round the waist to prevent your money from being stolen.

moneybox /ˈmɔnibɔks/ noun a box that can be locked and in which you can keep money.

moneylender /ˈmɔnɪˌlɛndə/ noun a person who lends money as a business. Synonym lender

money market /ˈmɔnɪˌmɑrkɪt/ noun a market for buying and selling short-term loans

money order /ˈmɔnɪˌɔrərd/ noun a document which can be used for passing money from one person to another through the post

money supply /ˈmɔnɪˌsəpl/ noun an amount of money which exists in circulation in a country

mongrel /ˈmɔŋgrəl/ adj. noun a dog of mixed breed ○ They’ve bought a mongrel puppy.

monitor /ˈmɒnɪtroʊr/ noun 1. the screen of a computer, or a small television screen used for checking what is happening ○ My computer has a colour monitor.  ○ A bank of monitors allows the police to see everything which happens in the shopping centre. ○ Details of flight arrivals and departures are displayed on monitors around the airport. ■ verb to check or to watch over the progress of something ○ Doctors are monitoring her heart condition. ○ How do you monitor the performance of the sales staff?

monk /mɒŋk/ noun a man who is a member of a religious group and lives in a monastery. Compare friar (NOTE: The equivalent women are nuns.)

monkey /ˈmɒŋki/ noun 1. a tropical mammal which lives in trees and normally has a long tail ○ Monkeys run up the trees looking for fruit. 2. a naughty little child (informal) ○ Come here, you little monkey! ■ verb (old) ○ to monkey around with something to play with something ○ Stop monkeying around with that axe!

monkey business /ˈmɔŋki ḃiznəs/ noun tricks, cheating

monkey puzzle tree /ˈmɔŋki ˈpʌz(ə)l/ noun a type of tropical pine tree with spiky branches

monkey wrench /ˈmɒŋki ˈrɛŋk/ noun a large spanner with an adjustable grip

monkish /ˈmɔŋkʃ/ adj. like a monk

mono /ˈmɔnə/ prefix one only, single ○ monogamous

monochrome /ˈmɔnəkrəʊm/ adj appearing only in black, white or grey

monocle /ˈmɔnəkl/ noun an eye glass, a single lens worn to correct your sight in one eye

monogamous /ˈmɒŋɡəmeɪs/ adj where a person has only one husband or wife

monogamy /ˈmɒŋɡəməʊ/ noun the system of marriage to only one person at a time. Antonym bigamy

monogram /ˈmɒnəɡræm/ noun the initials of a name linked together artistically

monolingual /ˈmɒnəlɪŋgwəl/ adj 1. speaking only one language 2. written or made in only one language

monolith /ˈmɒnəlɪθ/ noun 1. a tall rock standing by itself 2. something large, unchangeable and out-of-date, especially a long-established organisation

monolithic /ˌmɒnəˈlɪθ/ adj 1. built using very large stones or blocks of some other material 2. large, uniform in character, and slow to change

monologue /ˈmɒnələʊ/ noun a long speech by one actor or other person alone (NOTE: The US spelling is monolog.)

monopolise /ˈmɒnəpələs/ monopolar /ˈmɒnpələr/ noun a condition where there is an unusual number of white blood cells in the body, giving sore throat, swellings and fever. Also called glandular fever

monopolize /ˈmɒnəpəlайz/, monopolize verb 1. to create a monopoly in a particular area of business activity ○ They managed to monopolise the market in oil. 2. to use something entirely for yourself ○ Don’t monopolise the computer – let some of the others have a go. ○ to monopolise the conversation to do all the talking and not let anyone else speak

monopoly /ˈmɒnəpəli/ noun a system where one person or company supplies all of a product in one area without any competition (NOTE: The plural is monopolies.)

monorail /ˈmɒnəreɪl/ noun a railway in which trains travel along a single rail

monosyllabic /ˌmɒnəˈsɪlabɪk/ adj 1. (of words) with only one syllable ○ monosyllabic words such as ‘hat’ and ‘cat’ 2. using short simple words and not saying much ○ In answer to the reporters’ questions he gave a series of monosyllabic replies.

monosyllable /ˈmɒnəˌsɪlabəl/ noun a word which only has one syllable. Antonym polysyllable

monotone /ˈmɒnətəʊn/ noun 1. a sound that stays at the same pitch without rising or falling 2. a series of sounds that stay at the same pitch without rising or falling 3. a lack
monotonous /ˌmɒnəˈnəʊs/ adj boring and never changing. Synonym routine. Antonym varied

monotony /ˌmɒnəˈnəʊni/ noun a lack of variety, which leads to boredom

monsoon /ˈmɔːnˌsuːn/ noun 1. a season of wind and rain in tropical countries ○ At last the monsoon brought relief after the hot dry summer. 2. a wind which blows in opposite directions according to the season, especially the wind blowing north from the Indian Ocean in the summer ○ They sailed north with the monsoon.

monster /ˈmɒnstə/ noun 1. a horrible, strange and frightening animal ○ The Loch Ness Monster is said to be a large dinosaur living in the bottom of Loch Ness in Scotland. ○ She drew a picture of a green monster with purple horns and huge teeth. 2. a cruel or wicked person ○ Her aunt was a monster who used to beat her with a stick. 3. a very large thing ○ Did you see their new boat—it’s a monster! adj very large ○ Look at the monster cabbage Dad’s grown in the garden.

What a monster sandwich!

monstrous /ˈmɒnstərəs/ adj 1. huge, ugly, horrible ○ a monstrous sea serpent 2. extremely large ○ The students left behind a monstrous pile of dirty washing. 3. very shocking or unfair ○ That’s an absolutely monstrous accusation.

monstrously /ˈmɒnstərəli/ adverb extremely large

monstrousness /ˈmɒnstərənss/ noun a horrible, large, ugly thing. Synonym eyesore

monstrous behaviour ○ A monstrous act ○ a monstrous sea serpent

moon /mjuːn/ noun 1. a body in the sky which goes round the earth and shines at night ○ The first man walked on the moon in 1969. ○ The moon is shining very brightly tonight. ○ There’s no moon because it’s cloudy. ○ full moon the phase of the moon when it appears as a full circle ○ By the light of the full moon they could clearly make out figures moving on the hillside. ○ new moon the beginning of a lunar phase, when the moon’s face is not lit by the sun and it appears as a thin crescent ○ The guerrillas waited for the new moon to make their attack. ○ once in a blue moon very rarely ○ in full moon ○ We only go to the theatre once in a blue moon. ○ to be over the moon about something to be very happy and excited ○ She’s over the moon about her exam results.

She’s over the moon about her exam results.

moonlight /ˈmjuːnlɪt/ noun the light from the moon ○ moonlight flit to go away secretly leaving many unpaid bills ○ They had booked to do a second job, often in the evening, for cash not declared to the Inland Revenue, and separate from your regular job ○ He works full-time in a garage, and moonlights as a barman in a pub in the evenings.

The tax people are stepping up their investigations into people who moonlight.
moonlighting /ˈmʊmlaɪtnɪŋ/ noun the activity of doing a second job, usually in the evening, separate from your regular job (informal) moonlit /ˈmʊmlɪt/ adj lit by light from the moon.

moor /mʊər/ noun poor land covered with heather and grass and small shrubs ○ The horsemen galloped across the moor. ○ The Lake District is wild country, full of moors and forests. ○ verb to attach a boat to something ○ The boat was moored to the river bank. ○ He rowed up to the jetty and moored his boat with a piece of rope.

mooring /ˈmʊərɪŋ/ noun 1. a place where a boat, ship, or aircraft can be held still or tied up ○ We cast off our moorings and rowed out into the river. 2. the ropes used to attach a boat ○ We cast off our moorings and rowed out into the river.

moorland /ˈmʊərʊlənd/ noun an area of land which is uncultivated and covered with grass and low shrubs such as heather

moose /ˈmʊs/ noun a large deer from North America (NOTE: The plural is moose.)

mop /mɒp/ noun a soft brush for washing dishes; a brush with a head made of soft string or foam rubber, used for washing floors ○ I’ll just pass the mop over the kitchen floor. ○ a mop of hair long and untidy ○ In spite of his torn clothes and mop of red hair he still looked a sweet little boy. ○ verb 1. to wash something with a mop ○ She was mopping the kitchen floor. 2. ○ to mop your brow to wipe your forehead when you are hot and sweating ○ He stopped digging to mop his brow with his handkerchief.

mope /mɒp/ verb to sit miserably, thinking about how bad things are

moped /ˈmɒpɪd/ noun a two-wheeled cycle with a low-powered engine (NOTE: Do not confuse with the verb moped /ˈmɒpɪd/).

mop up /ˈmɒp ʌp/ verb 1. to clear up split liquid ○ Use a cloth to mop up the water on the floor. ○ We spent days mopping up after the floods. 2. to overcome small groups of enemy fighters ○ It took our soldiers several days to mop up the last pockets of enemy resistance in the mountains.

moral /ˈmɔːrəl/ adj 1. referring to right and wrong behaviour ○ Judges have a moral obligation to be impartial. ○ He refused to join the army on moral grounds. 2. referring to good behaviour ○ She’s a very moral person. ○ noun a lesson which you can find in a story ○ There must be a moral in this somewhere. ○ The moral of the story is that if you always tell lies, no one will believe you when you tell the truth. ○ morale /ˈmɔːrəl/ noun a confident feeling

moral guidance /ˈmɔːrəl ˈɡeɪdʒ(ə)ns/ noun advice as to what is right or wrong behaviour

moralise /ˈmɔːrəlaɪz/, moralize verb to draw a lesson from a story or event

moralistic /ˈmɔːrəlɪstɪk/ adj attempting or intending to teach people the difference between right and wrong

morality /ˈmɔːrəlɪti/ noun a sense of moral standards (NOTE: no plural)

morally /ˈmɔːrəli/ adv according to the principles of correct human behaviour

morals /ˈmɔːrlz/ plural noun the way of behaving of society as a whole or of each individual

moral support /ˈmɔːrəl ˈsɔːpɔrt/ noun encouragement and support intended to give someone more confidence

morass /ˈmɔːrəs/ noun 1. an area which is very muddy, marshy or swampy ○ Heavy rain had turned the playing field into a morass. ○ The vehicle was sinking deeper and deeper into the morass. 2. problems or difficulties which prevent any progress ○ We were caught up in a morass of paperwork.

moratorium /ˌmɔrəˈtɛriəm/ noun a temporary stop, such as to repayments of money owed (NOTE: The plural is moratoriums or moratorias.)

morbid /ˈmɔːrdɪd/ adj 1. showing an unhealthy interest in death or unpleasant things ○ Even as a little boy he showed a morbid curiosity in skeletons. ○ All this talk about death and decomposition seems distinctly morbid to me. 2. diseased, referring to disease ○ The X rays showed a morbid condition of the kidneys.

morbidly /ˈmɔːrdbli/ adv in a gloomy, morbid way

more /mɔːr/ extra, which is added ○ Do you want any more tea? ○ There are many more trains on weekdays than on Sundays. Synonym additional. Antonym less ○ pron an extra thing or amount ○ Is there any more of that soup? ○ £300 for that suit – that’s more than I can afford! ○ We’ve only
more and more

got nine men, we need two more to make a football team. ■ adv 1, used with adjectives to make the comparative ○ The dog was more frightened than I was. ○ She is much more intelligent than her sister. ○ The dinner was even more unpleasant than I had thought it would be. 2. ○ not...any more no longer ○ She doesn’t write to me any more. ○ We don’t go to France on holiday any more.

more and more /ˈmɔːr ən ˈmɔːr/ phrase
1. in greater numbers ○ More and more people are reading the magazine. 2. increasingly ○ Their calls for help were getting more and more desperate.

moreish /ˈmɔːrɪʃ/ adj which makes you want to eat more (informal)
≈ moreover /ˈmɔːr ə və/ adv in addition.
Synonym furthermore

morgue /ˈmɔːr ɡ/ noun a building where dead bodies are kept before being buried.
Synonym mortuary

moribund /ˈmɔrɪ bʌnd/ adj ineffective and likely to come to an end soon (formal)
≈ moribund ○ morning /ˈmɔːrɪ n/ noun 1. the first part of the day, before 12 o’clock ○ Every morning he took his briefcase and went to the office. ○ Tomorrow morning we will be meeting our Japanese agents. ○ Have you read the morning paper? ○ If we want to be in Paris for lunch you have to get the early morning train. ○ in the morning tomorrow morning ○ I’ll see you in the morning. 2. ○ four, five, six, etc., in the morning at 04.00, 05.00, 06.00 etc. (showing times) ○ I woke up at six in the morning.

morning dress /ˈmɔːrɪ n dres/, morning suit /ˈmɔːrɪ n suːt/ noun clothes for men consisting of a black tail coat, light grey waistcoat and striped black and grey trousers, worn by men at weddings

morning sickness /ˈmɔːrɪ n ˈsɪknəs/ noun a feeling of wanting to be sick, felt by pregnant women in the mornings

Morocco /məˈrɒkəʊ/ noun a country in North Africa (NOTE: capital: Rabat; people: Moroccans; language: Arabic; currency: dirham)

moron /ˈmɔrən/ noun an extremely insulting name for a very stupid person (irritating) ☛ moronic /ˈmɔrənɪk/ adj very stupid (insult) morose /ˈmɔrəʊs/ adj miserable and bad-tempered. Antonym cheerful

morphine /ˈmɔrfɪn/ noun a drug made from opium, used to relieve pain

morriss dance /ˈmɔrɪz dʌns/ noun an old English dance, danced by men in white clothes with bells on their legs

morsel /ˈmɔrsəl/ noun a small piece, particularly of food. Antonym chunk

mortal /ˈmɔrtəl/ adj 1. which causes death ○ He suffered a mortal blow in the fight. 2. referring to death ○ we are all mortal we are all going to die eventually. 3. very great ○ He has a mortal fear of flying. ■ noun ○ an ordinary mortal an ordinary human being ○ Olympic athletes can run at speeds which we ordinary mortals have no chance of reaching.

mortal enemy /ˌmɔrtəl əˈniː/ noun an enemy who wants to kill you
≈ mortality /ˈmɔrtəl ɪtɪ/ noun the state of being a human, and knowing that all human beings must die ○ Having a heart attack makes you acutely aware of your own mortality.

mortality rate /ˌmɔrtəl ɪˈreɪt/ noun the number of deaths as a percentage of the total population

mortal remains /ˌmɔrtəl riˈmɛnz/ plural noun a corpse

mortar /ˈmɔrtər/ noun 1. a cement mixture for holding together the bricks or stones used in building ○ The wall needs rebuilding – you can see how the mortar is crumbling away. ○ After the wall was built they pointed it with grey mortar. 2. a bowl for crushing things with a pestle ○ Crush the seeds with a mortar and pestle.

mortgage /ˈmɔrtɡeɪdʒ/ noun 1. an agreement by which someone lends money on the security of a property ○ He took out a mortgage on the house. ○ She bought a house with a £200,000 mortgage. 2. money lent on the security of a property ○ She is behind with her mortgage repayments. ■ verb to give a property as security for a loan ○ He mortgaged his house to set up his business. ○ Because his house was already mortgaged, he had to take out a second mortgage to pay for his car.

mortified /ˈmɔrtɪfɪd/ adj 1. feeling extreme embarrassment or shame 2. emotionally hurt and upset

mortify /ˈmɔrtɪfaɪ/ verb to humiliate someone

mortuary /ˈmɔrtʃəri/ noun a place where dead bodies are kept before burial. Synonym morgue (NOTE: The plural is mortuaries.)

mosaic /ˈməʊzək/ noun a picture made of tiny pieces of coloured stone, glass, etc., stuck to a wall or floor, etc. Synonym medley

Moslem /ˈmɒzləm/ noun a Muslim

mosque /ˈmɒsk/ noun a building where Muslims meet for prayer

mosquito /ˈmɒskiːtəʊ/ noun a small flying insect which sucks blood and gives an irritating bite
mosquito net /ˈmɒskɪtəʊ/ noun a thin net spread over a bed to prevent mosquitoes from biting at night

mosaic /ˈmɒz/ noun 1. a small green plant like fur, growing in compact low clumps in damp places on the ground or on stones (NOTE: The plural is mosses.)
2. most /ˈmɒst/ adj the largest number of
3. moss /ˈmɒs/ noun a shiny substance found on the inside of oyster shells

mother /ˈmʌðə/ noun the state of being a mother. Synonym maternity

mother-in-law /ˈmʌðər ɪn ˈlɔ/ noun the mother of your wife or husband

motherland /ˈmʌθərlænd/ noun the country of your ancestors, especially a country from which colonists have emigrated. Compare fatherland

motherly /ˈmʌθəlɪ/ adj maternal, like a mother

Mother Nature /ˈmʌθər ˈnətʃər/ noun the forces of nature

mother-of-pearl /ˈmʌθər əv ˈpɔrl/ noun

Mother's Day /ˈmʌθəz deɪ/ noun a day in the spring when mothers get presents or cards or flowers from their children. Also called Mothering Sunday

mother tongue /ˈmʌθər ˈtʌŋ/ noun the language which you spoke when you were a little child

motherboard /ˈmʌθərboʊd/ noun the main circuit board in a computer

motivation /məˈtɪveɪʃən/ noun solid waste matter passed out of the body

motivate /məˈtɪvɪteɪ/ verb to encourage someone to do something
motivated /ˈmɔtɪvɪtɪd/ adj having enough interest or determination to do something

motivation /ˈmɔtɪvəʃən/ noun encouragement or determination to do something

motive /ˈmɔtɪv/ noun a reason for doing something □ The police are trying to find a motive for the murder. Antonym deterrent

motley /ˈmɒtli/ adj of varied types or colours. Synonym assorted. Antonym uniform

motor /ˈmɔtər/ noun 1, the part of a machine which makes it work ○ The model plane has a tiny electric motor. 2, a car ■ verb to travel in a car (formal or dated) ○ We motored down to Brighton.

motorbike /ˈmɔtərˌbaɪk/ noun a motorcycle, a two-wheeled cycle driven by a motor

motorboat /ˈmɔtərˌboʊt/ noun a boat driven by a motor

motorcade /ˈmɔtərkəd/ noun US an official procession of cars. Synonym convoy

motorcar /ˈmɔtərkɑr/ noun same as car (formal or dated)

motorcycle /ˈmɔtərˌsɪkl/ noun a two-wheeled cycle driven by a motor

motorcyclist /ˈmɔtərˌsɪkliːst/ noun a person who rides a motorcycle

motoring /ˈmɔtərɪŋ/ (dated) noun the driving of a car ○ The costs of motoring or motoring costs seem to increase year by year. □ school of motoring a driving school ○ The costs of motoring or motoring costs seem to increase year by year. ■ adj referring to driving of cars ○ The motoring organisations are asking the government for a reduction in tax. ○ He was convicted of a motoring offence.

motorised /ˈmɔtərəsəd/ adj motorized driven by, or working with the help of a motor

motorist /ˈmɔtərɪst/ noun a person who drives a car. Synonym driver. Antonym passenger

neurone disease /ˈnjuːrən/ noun a disease that affects the motor neurones, gradually affecting all the body’s physical functions

motor racing /ˈmɔtər ˈræsɪŋ/ noun the sport of racing fast cars

motor scooter /ˈmɔtər ˈsκoʊtər/ noun same as scooter

motor vehicle /ˈmɔtər ˈvɪkəl/ noun any road vehicle that works by means of an engine

motorway /ˈmɔtərˌweɪ/ noun a fast road with several lanes and very few junctions, on which traffic can travel at high speeds (NOTE: The US term is expressway or freeway.)

mottled /ˈmɒtlɪd/ adj marked with an uneven pattern of different colours

motto /ˈmɒtəʊ/ noun 1, a short phrase which is used to sum up an attitude ○ ‘Be Prepared’ is the motto of the Scouts. 2, a piece of paper inside a Christmas cracker, with an amusing phrase or bad joke written on it ○ Every cracker contains a toy, a paper hat and a motto. (NOTE: The plural is mots.)

mould /ˈmɔld/ noun 1, a type of soft earth ○ There were ten security men mounting guard over something to stand on guard to protect something ○ They mounted a mound of stones to mark the furthest point they reached. ○ The castle is built on top of a mound. ○ Stonehenge is surrounded by burial mounds. 2, a heap of things ○ There’s a mound of letters waiting to be signed. ○ mounds of a large quantity of something (informal) ○ There’s mounds of washing to be done.

mount /ˈmɔnt/ noun 1, a frame for a picture ○ He stuck the photograph into a mount and put it on his desk. 2, a horse, etc., on which a rider sits ○ He tried to make his mount jump the fence. 3, (usually in names) a mountain ○ Mount Kilimanjaro ○ Mount St Helens ■ verb 1, to climb on to something; to climb up something ○ They mounted their horses and rode off. ○ He mounted the stairs two at a time. ○ The car turned, mounted the pavement, and hit a wall. 2, to increase ○ Tension is mounting as the time for the football final approaches. 3, □ to mount guard over something to stand on guard to protect something ○ Soldiers are mounting guard over the parliament building to prevent attacks. ○ There were ten security men mounting guard over the president as he went for a walk in the town. 4, to set something in a frame or in a metal holder, etc. ○ Mount the photograph in a black frame. ○ The diamonds were mounted in silver. 5, to organise something ○ The unions are mounting a campaign to get the government to back...
mountain /ˈmaʊntən/ noun 1. a very high piece of land, rising much higher than the land which surrounds it. ☐ Everest is the highest mountain in the world. ☐ Every weekend we go climbing in the Scottish mountains.

mountaineer /ˈmaʊntəniər/ noun a person who climbs mountains as a sport. Synonym climber

mountaineering /ˌmaʊntənˈɛərɪŋ/ noun the sport of climbing mountains

mountain lion /ˈmaʊntən ˈlajən/ noun a large brown wild cat of North and South America. Also called cougar, puma

mountainous /ˈmaʊntənəs/ adj 1. with many high mountains. ☐ It is a mountainous region, and very difficult for tanks and artillery. ☐ Parts of Scotland are very mountainous. 2. very high. ☐ Mountainous waves crashed over the ship.

mountain rescue /ˈmaʊntən ˈrɛskjuː/ noun a service which provides experienced climbers to help people in difficulties on mountains

mountainside /ˈmaʊntənsaɪd/ noun the side of a mountain

mounted /ˈmaʊntəd/ adj riding on horseback. ☐ mounted police policemen on horses. ☐ Mounted police were on hand to keep the crowds under control.

mounting /ˈmaʊntɪŋ/ adj increasing. Synonym rising

mount up /ˈmaʊnt ʌp/ verb to increase

mourner /ˈmaʊnər/ noun a person who mourns someone who has died

mourning /ˈmaʊnɪŋ/ noun 1. a period of time when you grieve over the death of a person. ☐ The official period of mourning for the dead president was one week. 2. dark clothes worn as a mark of respect for someone who has died. ☐ Only the close family members wore mourning to the funeral. (NOTE: Do not confuse with morning.)

mouse /mɔʊs/ noun 1. a small animal with a long tail, often living in holes in the walls of houses. ☐ I saw a mouse sitting in the middle of the kitchen floor. ☐ Our cat is good at catching mice. (NOTE: The plural is mice /maɪs/.) 2. a device which is held in the hand and moved across a flat surface, used to control a cursor on a computer monitor. ☐ You can cut, paste and copy using the mouse. ☐ Using the mouse, move the cursor to the start button and click twice. 3. A click twice on the mouse to start the program.

mousè /ˈmaʊz/ noun a light food made of whipped eggs, cream and flavouring

moustache /ˈmaʊstaʃ/ noun the hair grown on the upper lip. (NOTE: The US spelling is mustache.)

mouth /maʊθ/ noun 1. the opening in your face through which you take in food and drink, and which has your teeth and tongue inside. ☐ It’s not polite to talk with your mouth full. ☐ He snored because he slept with his mouth open. ☐ The cat was carrying a mouse in its mouth. ☐ To make your mouth water to look so good that your mouth fills with saliva because you want to eat it or own it. ☐ Those cakes make my mouth water. ☐ His new car made her mouth water. 2. a wide or round entrance. ☐ The mouth of the cave is hidden by bushes. ☐ The train came out of the mouth of the tunnel. ☐ New York is built on the mouth of the Hudson river. (NOTE: The plural is mouths /maʊθz/.) 3. verb /maʊθ/ to speak without making any sound. ☐ I could see her mouthing something on the other side of the window.

mouthful /ˈmaʊθfʊl/ noun 1. an amount which you can hold in your mouth. ☐ He took a mouthful of meat and chewed hard. ☐ The baby took a mouthful and immediately spit it out. ☐ She dived into the waves and got a mouthful of salt water. 2. a complicated word or phrase. ☐ I’ll spell the name of the Welsh village for you – it’s a bit of a mouthful.

mouth-organ /ˈmaʊθ ˈɔrɡən/ noun a small musical instrument which you play by blowing and moving across your mouth to get different notes. Also called harmonica

mouthpiece /ˈmaʊθpiːs/ noun 1. a part of a musical instrument which goes into the mouth. ☐ There is a reed attached to the mouthpiece of a clarinet. 2. the part of a telephone that you speak into. ☐ He put his hand over the mouthpiece so she couldn’t hear what he was saying. 3. a person who speaks on behalf of someone, especially a political party. ☐ She acts as the mouthpiece for the party.
mouthwash /ˈmaʊθwɒʃ/ noun an antiseptic solution used to treat infection in the mouth or bad breath. Synonym gargle

mouth-watering /ˈmaʊθˌwɔːtərɪŋ/ adjective which looks and smells so delicious that it makes your mouth water

movable /ˈmʌvəb(ə)l/ adjective 1. able to be moved 2. (of an event) happening on a different date each year

move /ˈmuv/ noun 1. a change from one place to another 2. The police were watching every move he made. 3. It’s time to make a move. We must leave. 3. the move moving 4. After I’ve been on the move all day I just want to get home and go to bed. 5. get a move on! hurry up! 6. an action done to achieve something 7. It was a clever move to get here early before the crowds arrive. 8. what’s the next move? what do we have to do next? 9. who will make the first move? who will act first? 10. a change of house or office 11. Luckily, nothing got broken during our move. 12. changing the place of a piece in a game of chess, etc. 13. it’s your move – I’ve just moved my queen. verb 1. to change the place of something 2. Move the chairs to the side of the room. 3. Who’s moved my drink? 4. He moved his hand to show he had heard. 5. to change your position 6. Some animal was moving about outside the tent. 7. The only thing moving was the tip of the cat’s tail. 8. don’t move! stand still. 9. to leave your house, flat or office to go to another place 10. We stopped for a quick visit to the cafe. 11. He got a new job and they had to move. 12. They didn’t like living in the country, so they moved back to London. 13. The company is moving office, from London Road to the centre of town. 14. to propose formally that a motion be accepted by a meeting 15. I move that the meeting should adjourn for ten minutes. 16. to make someone feel sad 17. The sound of the bagpipes moved her to tears. 18. We were all deeply moved by the ceremony. verb 1. to move away from a place to change place to somewhere further away 2. we’re moving away from Oxford we are going to live in another town away from Oxford 3. to put your possessions into a new house and start to live there 4. They only moved in last week. 5. They got married and moved in with her parents. 6. to come together as a group 7. The lions moved in for the kill. 8. When everything is ready the police will move in on the gang. noun 1. a movement 2. movement/ˈmʌvəmənt/ noun 3. a group of people who are working towards the same aims 4. the movement for equal pay for women 5. He’s a leading figure in the green movement 6. She led the movement for the reunification of the country. 7. one of the sections of a symphony 8. They played the slow movement a little too fast.

move off /ˈmuv ˈɔf/ verb to start moving

move on /ˈmuv ˈɔn/ verb 1. to go forward 2. We stopped for a quick visit to the cathedral and then moved on to the next town. 3. to make people move 4. The police moved the crowd on. 5. to deal with the next item 6. We will now move on to item 10 on the agenda.

movie /ˈmuvvi/ noun especially US a cinema film 1. We watch a movie most weekends. movies /ˈmuvvizi/ plural noun especially US the cinema 2. We go to the movies most weekends.

movie star /ˈmuvvi stɑːr/ noun especially US a very successful film actor. Synonym film star

movie theater /ˈmuvvi tiːˈθər/ that a noun especially US a building where films are shown

moving /ˈmuvɪŋ/ adjective which is changing position 1. Make sure all the moving parts are clean. 2. which makes you feel sad 3. a moving ceremony 4. The funeral was very moving.

mow /ˈmou/ verb to cut grass, hay, etc. (NOTE: mowing – mowed – has mown)

mow down /ˈmou ˈdaʊn/ verb to kill mower /ˈmouər/ noun a machine which cuts grass. Synonym lawnmower

MP abbr member of parliament (NOTE: The plural is MPs.) MP3 /ˈem piːθiː/ noun 1. a computer file standard which you can use to get and play music from the Internet 2. a file which contains music in MP3 format mpg abbr miles per gallon mph abbr miles per hour

MPV /ˈem piː ′vɪ/ noun a car similar to a van, which usually has three rows of seats

Mr /mɜːr/ noun the title given to a man 1. Mr Jones is our new sales manager. 2. Here are Mr and Mrs Smith. 3. (at the beginning of a letter) Dear Mr Smith, . (NOTE: used before a surname, sometimes with both the Christian name and surname)

MRI abbr magnetic resonance imaging

Mr Right /ˈmɜːr ˈraɪt/ noun the man who would be the right man to be someone’s husband (informal) 1. She’s still waiting for Mr Right to come along. 2. Mrs /ˈmɜːz/ noun the title given to a married woman 3. Mrs Jones is our manager. 4. (at the beginning of a letter) Dear Mrs Jones,
Ms

(NO T E: used before a surname, sometimes with both the Christian name and surname)
Ms (mz, mz/ noun (at the beginning of a letter) a way of referring to a woman without saying whether or not she is married (NOTE: Ms is used with a surname, sometimes with both the Christian name and surname.)
MS abbr manuscript (NOTE: The plural is MSS.)
MSc abbr master of science
Mt abbr mount Mt St Helens
MTV, em ti ‘vi/ trademark a trademark for a satellite and cable television company that broadcasts pop music videos and news about the pop music business
much [mʌtʃ/ adj a lot of ○ with much love from Aunt Mary ○ How much sugar do you need? ○ I never take much money with me when I go on holiday. ○ She eats too much meat. ○ as much as the same quantity of something as ○ You haven’t eaten as much fruit as she has. ○ twice as much two times the quantity ○ He spends twice as much money as I do. ○ adv very; a lot ○ He's feeling much better today. ○ It’s much less cold in the south of the country. ○ Does it matter very much? ○ Much as I like her, I don’t want to share an office with her. ○ as much as the same amount as ○ You haven’t eaten as much as she has. ○ much to my surprise to my great surprise ○ pron a lot ○ He didn’t write much in his exam. ○ Much of the work has already been done. ○ do you see much of him? do you see him often?
much-loved [mʌtʃ ‘lʌvd/ adj which someone or everyone loves very much
much-maligned [mʌtʃ ‘məlɔni:d/ ad frequently criticised ○ Their much-maligned extra rapid service is not as bad as all that.
muck [mʌk/ noun farmyard manure
muck about [mʌk əˈbaut/, muck around [mʌk əˈraʊnd/ verb to behave in a silly way, not carefully ○ to muck about with something to play with something (informal) ○ He loved mucking about with chemicals until he caused a small explosion in the garden shed.
muck in [mʌk ‘ɪn/ verb to do work together (informal)
muck out [mʌk ‘aʊt/ verb to clean nature and old straw from a stable
muck up [mʌk ˈʌp/ verb to ruin something (informal)
mucky [mʌkwi/ adj very dirty (informal) (NOTE: mucker – muckiest
mucous [ˈmjuːkəs/ adj referring to mucus, covered in mucus
mucus [ˈmjuːkəs/ noun a slippery liquid secreted by mucous membranes inside the body, which protects the membranes. Synonym slime (NOTE: Do not confuse with mucous.)
mud [mʌd/ noun very wet earth
muddle /ˈmʌdl/ noun a confused mess ○ The papers were lying all over the floor in a muddle. ○ She tried to put up the tent on her own but she got into a muddle. ○ There were some muddle over the tickets. Synonym disorder ○ verb to confuse, to mix up ○ Don’t muddle the papers up – I’ve just put them in order. ○ Granny often muddles up our names. ○ I always muddle him with his brother – they are very alike.
muddled [ˈmʌdləd/ adj confused, not clear and not well organised
muddle through [ˈmʌdləθru/ verb to get through your work, to succeed in a confused way
muddy [ˈmʌdi/ adj full of mud; covered with mud (NOTE: muddier – muddiest
mudguard [ˈmʌdgərd/ noun a strip of metal over the wheel on a bicycle to stop water or dirt from splashing (NOTE: The US term is fender.)
muesli [ˈmuːzli/ noun a breakfast food of flakes of cereal, dried fruit, etc., eaten with milk
muffin [ˈmɒfɪn/ noun a small round cake eaten warm with butter
muffler /ˈmʌflər/ verb 1. to wrap someone up in cloth for warmth ○ She muffled herself in a big woollen shawl. 2. to make a loud noise quieter ○ She wrapped a cloth around the hammer to muffle the sound of the blows. ○ muffled [ˈmʌfləd/ adj not as loud or clear as usual because the sound has been made quieter
muffer /ˈmʌfər/ noun US apparatus to stop the noise of the exhaust of a car ○ The car is very noisy and needs a new muffler. (NOTE: The British term is silencer.)
mug [mʌɡ/ noun 1. a large china cup with a handle ○ She passed round mugs. 2. the contents of a mug ○ He drank a mug of cocoa. 3. a stupid person, person who is easily taken in ○ Some poor mugs actually lent him money. 4. a face (slang) ○ verb 1. to attack and rob someone in the street ○ She was mugged as she was looking for her car keys. ○ She’s afraid of going out at night for fear of being mugged. ○ The gang specialises in mugging tourists. 2. to mug up on to study something very hard at the last minute (informal) ○ I’m mugging up on my maths – the exam’s tomorrow morning.
mugger [ˈmʌɡər/ noun a person who attacks and robs someone in the street. Synonym robber
mugging

mugging /ˈmʌgɪŋ/ noun a robbery by violence in the street
muggle /ˈmʌɡl/ adj (of weather) warm and wet. Synonym humid
mug shot /ˈmʌɡ ʃɔt/ noun a photograph of someone’s face
mule /ˈmʌjəl/ noun 1. a cross between a donkey and a horse ○ He entered the town riding on a mule. ○ as stubborn as a mule very obstinate ○ I can’t get her to agree – she’s as stubborn as a mule. 2. a light shoe with no back part at the heel
mullah /ˈmʌlə/ noun a title of respect for a learned Muslim man
mull over /ˈmʌlər ˈəʊvər/ verb to think about or consider something. Synonym ponder
multicoloured /ˈmʌltiˈkʌləd/ adj with many colours (NOTE: The US spelling is multicolored.)
multicultural /ˈmʌltiˈkʌltʃərəl/ adj referring to several cultures together. Synonym diverse
multigym /ˈmʌltɪɡɛm/ noun a piece of exercise equipment with a range of weights
multilateral /ˈmʌltɪlətərəl/ adj between several people or groups
multimedia /ˈmʌltiˌmɪdɪə/ noun a means of communication using several different media, such as sound, moving images, computer screens, etc. ○ The company gave a multimedia presentation to show off its new product range. ○ The pop concert was a spectacular multimedia event.
multimillionaire /ˈmʌltɪˌmɪljənər/ noun a person who has several million pounds or dollars
multinational /ˈmʌltɪˌnæʃənəl/ adj referring to several different countries ○ The UN sent a multinational peacekeeping force with troops from several countries. Synonym international. Antonym national. The US term is multinational corporation
multimomial /ˈmʌltɪˌməʊnɪəl/ noun a company which operates in several different countries ○ Our business has been bought by one of the big multinationals. Synonym conglomerate
multiple /ˈmʌltɪpl/ adj involving many people or things ○ She was taken to hospital suffering from multiple injuries. Antonym few. A number which contains another number several times exactly ○ Nine is a multiple of three. 2. one of several repeated groups of the same number of something ○ sold in multiples of five you can buy five, ten, fifteen, etc. ○ Premium Bonds are available in multiples of £100.
multiple birth /ˈmʌltɪpl ˈbɜːtθ/ noun a birth of more than one baby at the same time i.e. twins, triplets, etc.
multiple-choice /ˈmʌltɪpl ˈkɪvəs/ adj (of an exam question) in which the task is to choose the correct answer from a list of usually 4 possible answers, marked A, B, C and D
multiple sclerosis /ˌmʌltɪplˈsɛlsərɪs/ noun a disease of the central nervous system which gets gradually worse, causing numbness in the limbs, progressive weakness and loss of movement
multilevel /ˌmʌltɪˈliːvl/ adj 1. a large cinema building containing several separate projection rooms 2. the sending of several different signals along one communications line ○ verb to send signals by multiplex
multiplication /ˌmʌltɪˈplɪkəʃən/ noun the action of multiplying
multiplicity /ˌmʌltɪˈplɪsɪtɪ/ noun a large variety of things
○ multiply /ˈmʌltɪplaɪ/ verb 1. to calculate the result when several numbers are added together a certain number of times ○ Square measurements are calculated by multiplying length by width. ○ Ten multiplied by five gives fifty. 2. to grow fast ○ Insect pests multiply very rapidly. (NOTE: Multiply is usually shown by the multiplication sign x : 10 x 4 = 40: say ‘ten multiplied by four equals forty’ or ‘ten times four is forty.’)
multipurpose /ˌmʌltiˈpɜːrps/ adj having several different uses
multiracial /ˌmʌltɪˈrēʃəl/ adj referring to various races
multistorey /ˌmʌltəˈstɔːrɪ/ adj with several storeys (NOTE: The US spelling is multi-story.)
multitasking /ˌmʌltɪˈtæskɪŋ/ noun the activity of doing two or more jobs at the same time
multiplication /ˌmʌltɪˈplɪkəʃən/ noun 1. a very large number 2. a crowd of people ○ He stood up to address the assembled multitude.
○ mum /mʌm/ ○ mummy
mumble /ˈmʌmbəl/ noun a way of speaking which is difficult to understand because it is not clear ○ Speaking in a mumble, he thanked everyone for being at the party. ○ verb to speak in a low voice which is not clear ○ He mumbled an excuse and left the room. ○ She mumbled something about the telephone and went to the back of the shop.
mum or Mummy
mumbo-jumbo /ˈmʌmbəʊ ˈdʒæmbəʊ/ noun 1. complicated and confusing language that is difficult to understand 2. language or practices that are regarded as unusual or strange ○ mummy /ˈmʌmi/ noun 1. a child’s name for mother ○ Tell your mum I want to see her. ○ Hello, John, is your mummy at home? ○ Mummy! can I have a biscuit? (NOTE: also often shortened to Mum. The US term is Mom or Mommie.) 2. a dead body which has
mumps

been treated with chemicals to stop it decaying.

mumps /mʌmps/ noun an infectious disease where you get swellings on the sides of your neck.

munch /mʌntʃ/ verb to chew noisily something that is crisp or dry, with a regular movement of your jaws.


municipal /mjuːˈspɪʃəl/ adj referring to a town which has its own local government. Synonym civic.

municipality /mjuːnˈsɪpəlɪti/ noun a town which governs itself. Synonym city.

municipalities /mjuːnˈsɪpəlɪtɪz/ plural noun referring to work this morning.

murder /ˈmɜːdər/ noun 1. the act of deliberately killing someone. ○ The murder was committed during the night. ○ She was accused of murder. ○ They denied the murder charge. Compare manslaughter, a difficult situation.

murmur /mɜːmər/ a low sound of people talking, of water flowing, etc. ○ There was a murmur of voices in the hall. ○ verb to speak very quietly. ○ She murmured something and closed her eyes.

murky /ˈmɜːrki/ adj dark and dirty (NOTE: murky – murkiest).

museum /ˈmjuːziəm/ noun a building which you can visit to see a collection of valuable or rare objects.

mush /mʌʃ/ noun 1. a soft, semi-liquid substance 2. over-emotional or soppy words or ideas.

mushroom /ˈmjuːʒəm/ noun a round white or brown fungus which can be eaten.

music /ˈmjuːzɪk/ noun 1. a sound made when you sing or play an instrument. ○ Do you like Russian music? ○ Her music teacher says she plays the violin very well. ○ written signs which you read to play an instrument. ○ Here’s some music, see if you can play it on the piano. ○ He can play the piano by ear – he doesn’t need any music. ○ to face the music to receive punishment (informal). ○ The manager fled abroad when the bank collapsed, but came back to face the music.

muscular /ˈmʌskələr/ adj 1. referring to muscles ○ He has very muscular arms. ○ A couple of muscular bouncers stood at the door of the club.

muse /mjuːz/ noun a woman who inspires poets, musicians, etc. (literary) ○ verb to think deeply. ○ She spent hours musing about her youth. ○ He was sitting in his garden musing on the beauty of the autumn colours.

musical chairs /ˈmjuːzɪkəl /noun 1. a children’s party game where people try to sit on chairs when the music stops, with one chair and one person less each time. ○ After tea we all played musical chairs.

musical instrument /ˈmjuːzɪʃəl ˈɪnstrəˌmənt/ noun 1. a musical instrument ○ Do you play any musical instrument? 2. loving music, being able to play musical instruments. ○ His whole family is very musical – they all either sing or play in orchestras.

musician /ˈmjuːziʃən/ noun a person who has committed a murder. Synonym killer.

musing /ˈmjuːzɪŋ/ verb to think deeply. ○ She spent hours musing on the beauty of the autumn colours.

music teacher /ˈmjuːzɪkətʃər/ noun a person who teaches music. • Shorten to music teacher. ○ We had meat pie and mushy peas. 2. very sentimental.

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musical instrument

has to play to keep the members of the coalition happy.

musical instrument /ˈmjʊərizɪkl/ noun an instrument such as piano, trumpet, or violin, that a musician plays.

musically /ˈmjʊərizɪklɪ/ adv referring to music

musician /ˈmjʊəzɪkɪn/ noun a person who plays music professionally. A group of young musicians playing the street. The actors applauded the group of musicians who had played during Twelfth Night. Synonym performer

Muslim /ˈmʊzɪlm/ adj following the religion of the prophet Muhammad. He comes from a strict Muslim family. noun a person who follows the religion of the prophet Muhammad. Islam is the religion of Muslims. He comes from a family of strict Muslims.

mussel /ˈmʌsəl/ noun a small shellfish, with a blue black shell (NOTE: Do not confuse with muscle.)

must /mʌst/ modal verb /mɑst, mɑst/ 1. it is necessary that You must go to bed before eleven, or your mother will be angry. We mustn’t be late or we’ll miss the last bus. You must hurry up if you want to see the TV programme. Must you really go so soon? (NOTE: the negative: mustn’t, needn’t. Note also the meanings: mustn’t = not allowed; needn’t = not necessary: we mustn’t be late; you needn’t hurry.) 2. it is very likely that O I must have left my briefcase on the train. O There is someone knocking at the door – it must be the postman. O You must be wet through after walking in the rain. (NOTE: The negative is can’t. It can’t be the doctor. The past tense is had to: I must go to the dentist. Yesterday I had to go to the dentist; negative: didn’t have to. The perfect tense is must have: I must have left it on the train; negative: can’t have; I can’t have left it on the train. Note also that must is only used with other verbs and is not followed by to.) noun /mɑst/ something important When in Florida, a trip to the Everglades is a must. Synonym necessity

mustang /ˈmʌstæŋ/ noun a wild American horse

mustard /ˈmʌstdər/ noun 1. a yellow paste made from mixing mustard powder and water, eaten with meat, especially ham and beef. Would you like some mustard on your beef sandwich? English mustard is yellow and quite strong. 2. a plant whose seeds make mustard powder

mustard gas /ˈmʌstdər ɡæs/ noun poisonous gas which burns the skin

muster /ˈmʌstər/ noun 1. a parade and inspection of soldiers The colonel called a muster of the country militia. 2. ð to pass muster to be acceptable O I’m afraid your work just doesn’t pass muster. ð verb to gather something, or a number of things or people, together O He tried to muster all his supporters before the vote. O I find it difficult to muster enough energy to go for a walk after lunch.

muster station /ˈmʌsta ˌstɛrəʃən/ noun a place where passengers on a ship must gather in an emergency

mustn’t /ˈmɑstənt/ short form must not mustn’t be /ˈmɑstəntəz/ short form must have musty /ˈmʌstə/ adj smelling damp, rotten or stale; smelling old (NOTE: muster – mustiest)

mutability /ˈmjuːtələti/ noun the state of being likely to change

mutant /ˈmjuːtənt/ adj in which mutation has occurred O The mutant cells will affect the other normal cells. noun an organism carrying a gene in which mutation has occurred O This plant appears to be a mutant.

mutate /ˈmjuːteɪt/ verb to undergo a change in structure which changes a gene or chromosome

mutation /ˈmjuːtəʃən/ noun a genetic change affecting the structure of a living thing

mute /ˈmjuːt/ adj 1. not speaking A look of mute horror crossed her face. 2. which is not pronounced In the word ‘crumb’ the letter ‘b’ is mute. adv not speaking O She stood mute throughout all her trial. noun 1. a person who cannot speak (old fashioned, slang) 2. a device used to soften the sound of a musical instrument O She fitted a mute into the mouth of the trumpet. O The last part of the piece is played with a mute on the violin. verb to soften the sound of a musical instrument O The violins are muted before playing the final quiet passage.

muted /ˈmjuːtɪd/ adj 1. quiet, not noisy O The press gave the proposal a muted welcome. O Criticism of the government’s proposals has been muted. 2. not bright O I prefer muted colours for the sitting room.

mutilate /ˈmjuːteɪlɪt/ verb to damage something by cutting off part of it. Synonym maim

mutation /ˌmjuːtəˈleʃən/ noun the act of cutting part of someone’s body. Synonym disfigurement

mutinous /ˈmjuːtnəs/ adj likely to take part in a mutiny, likely not to obey. Synonym rebellious. Antonym obedient

mutiny /ˈmjuːtəni/ noun a rebellion against someone in a position of authority such as the officers in the army or navy. O The officers kept a lookout for any signs of mutiny among the crew. ð verb to rebel against authority
The soldiers mutinied and captured the castle. There is a possibility that some MPs will mutiny against the government.

mutter /ˈmʌtər/ noun a low indistinct way of speaking. Mutters could be heard coming from the back of the hall. verb to mumble, to speak in a low and indistinct voice. Don’t mutter, I can’t understand you. He muttered something about the telephone and went to the back of the shop.

muttering /ˈmʌtərɪŋ/ noun complaints, spoken indistinctly

mutton /ˈmʌtən/ noun the meat of a sheep (NOTE: not very often used: lamb is generally used for all meat from sheep as well as lambs)

mutual /ˈmjuːʃəl/ adj referring to what is done by two people, countries, companies, etc., to each other. Synonym joint or our mutual friend the friend of both of us. adj by mutual agreement by mutual consent with the agreement of both parties. By mutual agreement they have decided to sell the flat and split the money between them.

muzzle /ˈmʌzl/ noun 1. the front part of an animal’s head, especially the mouth, jaws and nose. She stroked the horse’s long, silky muzzle. 2. a system of straps placed round the mouth of a dog to prevent it from biting. Our dog has to wear a muzzle when he’s taken for a walk. 3. the mouth of a gun. She found herself looking down the muzzle of a gun. The army was equipped with muzzled-loading rifles. verb 1. to put a muzzle on a dog to prevent it biting. I always muzzle my dog when I walk him through the children’s playground. 2. to muzzle the press to stop newspapers from saying what they want.

my /maɪ/ adj 1. belonging to me. Is that my pen you’re using? Have you seen my glasses anywhere? 2. used in an exclamation. My word! My goodness, just look at the time!

myopia /maɪˈɒpɪə/ noun short-sightedness, causing a person to be unable to see things which are far away.

myriad /ˈmaɪrɪəd/ noun a very large number. There are myriads of islands in the mouth of the river. The sky was bright with a myriad of stars. adj very many. These are only a few of the myriad life forms found on a coral reef. Synonym countless. Antonym (all senses) few.

myself /maɪˈsɛlf/ pron referring to me. I hurt myself climbing down the ladder. It’s true—I saw it myself. I enjoyed myself a lot at the party. All by myself all alone, with no one else. I built the house all by myself. I don’t like being all by myself in the house at night.

mysterious /ˌmɪstrəriəs/ adj which cannot be explained

mysteriously /ˌmɪstrəriəsli/ adv in a strange way which cannot be explained

mystery /ˈmɪstri/ noun a thing which cannot be explained (old). The police finally cleared up the mystery of the missing body. It’s a mystery how the box came to be hidden under her bed. (NOTE: The plural is mysteries.)

mythic /ˈmɪθɪk/ noun a person who attempts to achieve union with God through prayer, meditation, etc. adj in contact with God. The mythic union between Christ and the Church.

mythical /ˈmɪθɪk(ə)l/ adj in contact with God by some process which cannot be understood. Synonym spiritual.

mythology /ˌmɪθəˈlɒdʒi/ noun ancient folk stories from a particular source. The floor was covered with mosaics showing scenes from Greek mythology. According to ancient Scandinavian mythology, he cut off the head of the dragon.
n noun the fourteenth letter of the alphabet, between M and O
N abbr north
nab /næb/ verb 1. to snatch something quickly (informal) ◆ When we came down to the pool we found that the others had nabbed all the best seats. ◆ Pass me that bottle before anyone else nabs it. 2. to arrest someone ◆ The police nabbed him as he was coming out of the bank. (NOTE: nabbing – nabbed)
Nadir /'nædrə/ noun the very lowest point
nail /næl/ adj attempting to be stylish, but instead appearing boring or silly
nag /næg/ verb □ to nag someone, to nag at someone to ask someone over and over again for something or to do something ◆ She was always nagging (at) him to buy a new car. ◆ She’s been nagging me for an ice cream all afternoon. ■ noun an old horse (informal) ◆ I can’t go riding on that nag.
nagging /'næɡɪŋ/ adj that worries you over a long period of time. Synonym irritating ◆ She had a nagging pain in her jaw.
nail /næl/ noun 1. a little metal spike ◆ Hit the nail hard with the hammer. ◆ You need a hammer to knock that nail in. 2. to hit the nail on the head to judge something accurately (informal) 2. as hard as nails very hard, uncompromising ◆ She’s as hard as nails. 3. the hard part at the end of your fingers and toes ◆ She painted her nails red. ◆ He was cutting his nails. ■ verb to attach something with nails ◆ He nailed the notice to the door.
nail-biting /'næl 'bætɪŋ/ adj extremely exciting
nail down /'næl 'daʊn/ verb 1. to attach something flat with nails ◆ They nailed down the floorboards or they nailed the floorboards down. 2. □ to nail someone down to make someone says what he or she is going to do ◆ I’ll try to nail him down over a date for the meeting.
nail file /'næl faɪl/ noun a flat stick covered with sandpaper, used to smooth your fingernails
nail polish /'næl 'pɒlɪʃ/ noun same as nail varnish

nail varnish /'næl ,vɑːrniʃ/ noun a liquid which is put on fingernails or toenails, and which dries quickly to form a hard, shiny surface
naive /nəˈiv/ adj innocent, lacking experience
naively /nəˈivli/ adv in a naive way
naiveté /nəˈviːtə/ noun the quality of being naive
naked /ˈnɛkrd/ adj 1. with no clothes on ◆ The little children were playing around in the river stark naked. 2. A naked man stood on the balcony. 2. without any covering ◆ A naked electric bulb hung from the ceiling. □ invisible to the naked eye which cannot be seen without being magnified
naked flame /ˈnɛkrd fleɪm/ noun a flame which is burning without any protection round it
name /nɪm/ noun 1. a special way of calling someone or something ◆ Hello! My name’s James. ◆ What’s the name of the shop next to the post office? ◆ I know him by name I have never met him, but I know who he is □ in the name of someone using someone’s name ◆ The table is booked in the name of the law. ◆ in the name of the law using the authority given by the law ◆ I arrest you in the name of the law. ◆ to put your name down for something to apply for something ◆ She put her name down to join the club. ◆ under the name of using the name of ◆ He wrote his novels under the name Saki. ◆ They checked into the hotel under the name of Smith. ◆ to make a name for yourself to do something which makes you famous ◆ He made a name for himself as a criminal lawyer. 2. □ Christian name a special name given to someone as a child after birth or at baptism ◆ Her Christian name is Natasha. Synonym surname □ family name the name of a family, shared by all people in the family. Synonym surname
name-dropping 557

three British Prime Ministers? □ to name the day to fix the date for something, particu-
larly a wedding. 3. to appoint someone to a post. □ He was named ambassador to France.

name-dropping /nəˈmɛdˌdrɒpt/ noun the
practice of mentioning the names of famous
people whom you know, with the intention of
impressing those who are listening

nameless /ˈnɛmləs/ adj. 1. with no name
2. not to be mentioned because it is disgust-
ing or frightening

namely /ˈnɛmli/ adv. that is to say

nameplate /ˈnɛmpliːt/ noun a metal plate
with the name of a person or firm carved on it

namesake /ˈnɛmzɛk/ noun a person with the
same name as another

name tag /ˈnɛm tæg/ noun a label with a
name printed on it

naming and shaming /ˈnɛmɪŋ ən
ˈfɛmɪŋ/ noun the act of publishing the name
of a person or an organisation that is not
working correctly, in the hope that this will
make them change their ways

nap /næp/ noun 1. a short sleep. □ After
lunch he always takes a little nap. 2. a
smooth surface of cloth such as velvet. □ Just
feel the nap on this cloth. 3. a tip as to which
horse is likely to win a race. □ verb to sleep
for a short period □ to catch someone nap-
ing to take someone by surprise. □ His sud-
ten offer caught us all napping.

nape /nɛp/ noun the back of the neck

napkin /ˈnæpkɪn/ noun 1. a small square of
cloth or paper provided for each person at
a meal table, and may be used for cleaning
fingers or mouth, or to protect clothes. 2. a
nappy □ The baby must have his napkin
changed.

nappy /ˈnæpi/ noun a cloth which is
wrapped round a baby’s bottom to absorb
urine and faeces. (NOTE: The plural is nap-
pies. The US term is diaper.)

nappy rash /ˈnæpi ræʃ/ noun a rash on a
baby’s bottom, caused by the baby having a
wet nappy. (NOTE: The US term is diaper
rash.)

narcissism /nɑrkɪsɪzəm/ noun a ten-
dency to admire yourself, especially your
own appearance

narcissus /ˈnɑrəsəs/ noun a flower simi-
lar to a daffodil, with white and orange flow-
ers shaped like trumpets. (NOTE: The plural is
narcissi /ˈnɑrəsɪ/) (Note: the plural is also
defined as narcissi)

narcotic /nɑrˈkɒtɪk/ adj which makes you
sleep or become unconscious □ the narcotic
side-effects of antihistamines. □ noun a
pain-relieving drug which makes a patient
sleep. □ The doctor put her to sleep with a
powerful narcotic.

narcotics /nɑrˈkɒtɪks/ plural noun dan-
gerous illegal drugs which are sold by
criminals

narrate /nəˈreɪt/ verb to tell a story

narration /nəˈreɪʃən/ noun speaking or
writing about things that have happened

narrative /nəˈrɛtɪv/ noun a written story. □
He’s writing a narrative about their journeys
in South America. □ adj describing an action
□ The narrative part of the book is very exci-
ting. □ He wrote a narrative poem about the
war against Troy.

narrator /nəˈreɪtə/ noun a person who tells
a story. Synonym storyteller

narrow /nɔrəʊ/ adj not wide. □ Why is
your bicycle seat so narrow? □ We went
down a narrow alleyway to the shop. (NOTE:
narrower – narrowest) □ verb. 1. to make
something less wide. □ He narrowed his eyes.
2. to become less wide. □ The road narrowed
suddenly, and there is hardly enough room
for two cars to pass. 3. □ to narrow some-
thing down to reduce something to □ We
have narrowed down our choice of restaur-
ants to two.

narrow boat /nəʊərəʊ bɔt/ noun a long
thin boat used on canals

narrow escape /nərəʊ ɪˈskeɪp/ noun a
situation where you just avoid some disaster

narrowly /nərəʊli/ adv. just only

narrow majority /nəˈræəʊ maˈdʒərəti/ noun
a majority of only a few votes

narrow-minded /nərəʊ məˈmaɪndɪd/ adj
not tolerant of others’ views, not capable of
seeing many points of view. Synonym big-
oted. Antonym broad-minded

NASA /ˈnæsə/ abbr. National Aeronautical
and Space Administration

nasal /ˈneɪzl(ə)/ adj. 1. referring to the nose
□ She used nasal drops to try to cure her
cold. 2. speaking as if through the nose □ He
speaks with a nasal accent. □ noun a sound
pronounced through the nose, like ‘n’ or ‘m’
in English (phonetics)
nasty /næstɪ/ adj unpleasant □ to turn nasty to become unpleasant suddenly ○ When she couldn't pay, the manager turned quite nasty. □ a nasty piece of work an unpleasant person (informal)

nation /ˈneɪʃən/ noun 1. a country ○ Such a great nation as the USA has a duty to protect smaller countries from aggression. ○ The member nations of the EU, 2, the people living in a country ○ The Prime Minister spoke to the nation about the declaration of war.

national adj /ˈneɪʃən(ə)l/ belonging to a country ○ This is in our national interest. ○ The story even appeared in the national newspapers. ○ We're going to see a new play at the National Theatre. Antonym resident. Antonym visitor.

costume /ˈkʊstju:m/ noun the special clothes worn by people from a specific country or region

curriculum /ˈkɜːrɪkljuːm/ noun the subjects studied at school by all children aged between 5 and 16 in England and Wales (NOTE: The National curriculum is made up of three 'core' subjects – English, maths and science; and seven 'foundation' subjects – art, design and technology, geography, history, music, physical education, and a foreign language.)

grid /ɡrɪd/ noun the national electricity supply system

National Insurance /ˈnæʃən(ə)l ɪn-sərəns/ noun a government-run insurance which provides for state medical care, unemployment payments, etc.

nationalization /ˈnæʃən(ə)lɪzaʃ(ə)n/ noun passing the ownership of a business from private individuals to ownership by the state (NOTE: Do not confuse with naturalisation.)
natural language  

native language /ˈnetɪv ˈlæŋgwɪdʒ/  
native tongue /ˈnetɪv tɔŋ/ noun the language which you spoke when you were a little child

natural /ˈnetɪl/ adjective  
1. of course  
   Naturally!  
2. because of nature, not man-made  
   She has naturally fair hair.
3. in a normal way  
   He behaved quite naturally at the office, so we were surprised when he was arrested for murder.

natural resources /ˈnetɪl rɪˈzaːzrəs/ plural noun minerals, energy sources, etc., which can be used commercially, such as coal or water power.  
Canada is a country which is very rich in natural resources.

natural wastage /ˈnetɪl ˈweɪstɪdʒ/ noun the process of losing employees because they resign or retire, not because they are made redundant or are sacked

natural /ˈnetɪl/ adjective  
1. plants and animals  
   We must try to protect nature and the environment.  
2. the laws of nature which happens in the world of plants and animals.  
3. a sort, kind or class of thing  
   Something of that nature must have happened.

nature reserve /ˈnetərə zərɪv/ noun an area of land where animals and plants are protected

natural gas /ˈnetərəl ɡæs/ noun gas which is found in the earth and not made in a gasworks

natural history /ˈnetərəl ˈhɪstəri/ noun the study of plants and animals

naturalisation /ˈnetərəlaɪzəʃən/ noun the legal process of becoming a citizen of a foreign country by having your citizenship recognised.

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naturalisation /ˈnetərəlaɪzəʃən/ noun the legal process of becoming a citizen of a foreign country by having your citizenship recognised.
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* navigation /ˌnævəˈgɛʃən/ noun 1. the action of guiding and steering ○ In the sixteenth century, navigation was done by the stars. ○ Thanks to Jim’s bad navigation we lost our way twice. 2. the movement of ships or aircraft ○ The canal is open to navigation again.

* navigator /ˌnævəˈɡeɪtər/ noun 1. a person who calculates the distances and direction taken by an aircraft or ship ○ The navigator estimated that we should reach the coast in about ten minutes. 2. a person who deals with the maps, signs and timing for a rally driver ○ The navigator warned me that there was a sharp right turn ahead.

* navy /ˈneɪvɪ/ noun 1. a military force which fights battles at sea ○ He left school and joined the navy. ○ The navy has many ships. 2. a dark blue colour ○ She was dressed in navy. 3. adj ○ navy (blue) of a dark blue colour ○ She was wearing a navy skirt. ○ He’s bought a navy blue pullover.

* Nazi /ˈnætsi/ noun 1. a member or supporter of Adolf Hitler’s fascist German National Socialist Party 2. an extremely unpleasant person ○ Nearest and dearest ○ He lives just nearby. ○ They met in a nearby restaurant.

NE abbr north east

* near /nɛər/ adv, prep, adj 1. close to, not far away from ○ Our house is near the post office. ○ Bring your chair nearer to the table. ○ He lives quite near or quite near here. ○ Which is the nearest chemist’s? 2. soon, not far off in time ○ Her birthday is on December 21st – it’s quite near to Christmas. ○ Can you phone again nearer the day and I’ll see if I can find a few minutes to see you? (NOTE: nearer – nearest) 3. adj ○ to get closer to, to approach ○ We’re nearing the end of the year. Synonym approach

* nearly /ˈnɛəri/ adv almost ○ He’s nearly 18 – he’ll be going to university next year. ○ The film lasted nearly three hours. ○ The book isn’t nearly as good as the last one I read. ○ Hurry up, it’s nearly time for breakfast. ○ We haven’t got nearly enough time to get to London.

* near miss /nəər ˈmɪs/ noun a situation where you almost hit something

* nearside /ˈnɛəsəd/ adj referring to the side of a car closer to the side of the road. Synonym passenger

* near-sighted /ˌnɛərˈsaɪtɪd/ adj able to see close objects clearly, but not objects which are further away. Also called short-sighted

* neat /niːt/ adj 1. tidy, without any mess ○ a blouse with a neat lace collar ○ Leave your bedroom neat and tidy. ○ Her handwriting is very neat. 2. alcohol without any water added ○ I prefer my whisky neat. (NOTE: The US term is straight) 3. mainly US clever ○ What a neat idea! (NOTE: neater – neatest)

* neck /nɛk/ noun 1. an essential thing, or thing that is needed (NOTE: The plural is necessities.)

* neck /nɛk/ noun 1. a part which joins your head to your body ○ She was sitting in a draught and got a stiff neck. ○ The mayor wears a gold chain round his neck. 2. a pain in the neck a very annoying person or thing ○ to breathe down someone’s neck to watch what someone is doing and be ready to criticise ○ I wish he would stop breathing down my neck all the time.

* neck /nɛk/ noun 1. a neck of land a string of land between two pieces of water ○ in this neck of the woods in this part of the country (informal) ○ Not many people live in this neck of the woods. 2. to be up to your neck in work to have a lot of work to do ○ I’m up to my neck in work, so I can’t take on any more.

* neck /nɛk/ noun 1. a neck of land a narrow piece of land between two pieces of water ○ in this neck of the woods in this part of the country (informal) ○ Not many people live in this neck of the woods. 2. to be up to your neck in work to have a lot of work to do ○ I’m up to my neck in work, so I can’t take on any more. 3. the part of a piece of clothing which goes round your neck ○ He takes size 16 neck in shirts. 4. a narrow part ○ the neck of a bottle ○ a neck of land a narrow piece of land between two pieces of water ○ in this neck of the woods in this part of the country (informal) ○ Not many people live in this neck of the woods. 2. to be up to your neck in work to have a lot of work to do ○ I’m up to my neck in work, so I can’t take on any more.
You can't pay for it themselves.

You needn't have made a cake – I'm not hungry. You needn't make a cake – I'm not hungry. She needn't make such a fuss about a little spider. (NOTE: Needn't is only used with other verbs and is not followed by to. Note also the difference in meanings: mustn't = not allowed; needn't = not necessary. We mustn't be late; You needn't hurry.)
negotiating table noun a meeting between parties to negotiate.

neighbourhood noun a small area and the people who live in it. (NOTE: The US spelling is neighborhood.)

nerve noun 1. one of the fibres in your body which take messages to and from the brain. 2. to be in a state of nerves to be tense and worried. 3. nerve-racking adjective extremely frightening or worrying.

nerve-breakdown noun a non-medical expression for a condition where a patient becomes so worried or upset that he or she is not able to do anything.

nerve-energy noun excited tense energy.

nerve-organ noun the system of nerves in the body, including the spinal cord and nerve centres.

nerve-system noun the nervous system.

nerveless adjective feeling worried (informal), Antonym calm.

nest noun 1. a structure built by birds to lay their eggs in, also by some animals and insects. 2. an ants' nest. 3. The birds...
nest egg

built their nests among the trees. ○ The blackbirds have laid three eggs in their nest.

2. □ nest of tables tables of different sizes which fit under each other □ verb to build a nest and lay eggs ○ The swans are nesting by the river bank.

nest /ˈnest/ noun money which you have saved. 

Savings

nestle /ˈnestəl/ verb 1. to sit somewhere comfortable and relax ○ The cat nestled down quietly in the cushions. ○ The children nestled round their mother as she read them a story. 2. to be in a safe and sheltered place ○ Their cottage nestled at the bottom of the valley. ○ A church nestling in the hills.

net /nɛt/ noun 1. a woven material with large holes ○ A long petticoat made of pink net. 2. a piece of this material used for a special purpose 3. same as Internet □ verb to make a profit ○ We netted £3,000 on the deal. [NOTE: netting – netted] □ adj after everything else has been considered ○ That figure is net, not gross. Synonym remaining netball /ˈnetbɔːl/ noun a team game similar to basketball, played by two teams of seven players, usually women, in which the aim is to score points by throwing the ball through a horizontal ring into a high net

net curtains /ˈnet kɜːtənz/ plural noun light curtains made of thin lacy material

net earnings /ˈnet ɛrnɪŋz/ plural noun the money that someone earns after tax has been taken out

net income /ˈnet ɪkən/ noun same as net earnings

net salary /ˈnet ˈsɛləri/ noun same as net earnings

net /nɛt/ another spelling of net

netting /ˈnetɪŋ/ noun a loosely woven material

nettle /ˈnetləl/ noun □ to grasp the nettle to deal with a problem quickly and firmly to settle it before it causes you any more trouble ○ No politician has dared grasp the nettle of sponsorship of sport. □ verb to make someone annoyed (informal) ○ She was clearly nettled by his remarks. Synonym irritate

net weight /ˈnet wɛt/ noun a weight of goods without the packing material and container

network /ˈnetwərk/ noun 1. a system of roads or railways connecting different places ○ the British rail network ○ a satellite TV network ○ There is a network of tunnels under the castle. 2. a system of computers which are connected together ○ How does this network operate? ○ You can book at any of our hotels throughout the country using our computer network. 3. a group of people connected with each other ○ His rapidly developing network of contacts in government ○ old boy network ○ verb to connect two or more computers to allow them to exchange information ○ Workstations are usually networked and share resources.

networking /ˈnetwərkiŋ/ noun 1. keeping in contact with people who are in the same profession as you and who may be able to help you ○ A conference is a good opportunity to do some networking. 2. broadcasting a TV programme over several stations at the same time ○ TV executives are always hoping to find popular programmes suitable for nationwide networking. 3. connecting two or more computers with each other

neutral /ˈnjuːtrəl adj referring to a nerve or the nervous system

neurology /njʊəˈroʊlədʒi/ noun the study of nerves and the illnesses which affect them

neurosis /njʊəˈrɔʊsɪs/ noun a mental state in which a patient thinks all the time about something in an excessive way and experiences strong emotions about it, such as fear of empty spaces. Synonym quirk (NOTE: The plural is neuroses /njʊəˈrɔʊsɪz/) neurotic /njʊəˈrɑtɪk/ adj worried or always thinking about something in an excessive way ○ She has a neurotic dislike of cats. ○ Don’t get neurotic about the change in the firm’s logo. Antonym rational ○ noun a person who has a neurosis ○ He’s a neurotic who genuinely believes spiders will kill him.

neuter /ˈnjʊtər/ adj (in grammar) neither masculine nor feminine in some languages, such as German and Latin ○ Strangely enough, the usual word for ‘girl’ in German is neuter. □ verb to remove an animal’s sex organs ○ We took our tomcat to the vet to have him neutered.

neutral /ˈnjuːtrəl/ adj 1. not in favour of one side or the other in a disagreement ○ The UN sent in neutral observers. ○ The arbitrator has to stay neutral. 2. refusing to take part in a war ○ During the war, Switzerland remained neutral. 3. with a light colour, such as beige or pale grey ○ Red walls, green upholstery and a neutral carpet. □ noun 1. a country which does not take part in a war. ○ citizen of a neutral country ○ Only neutrals were admitted to the talks. 3. (of motor vehicles) not in gear ○ The car is in neutral.

neutralisation /ˌnjuːtrələˈzeɪʃən/ noun a process of working against the harmful effects of something

neutralise /ˌnjuːtrəlaɪz/ verb 1. to make an acid neutral ○ Acid in drainage water can be neutralised by limestone. 2. to work against the effect of something ○ We acted immediately to neutralise the threat from their navy. 3. to make a poison harmless
neutrality

○ You need to act quickly to neutralise the effects of the snake bite.

neutrality /njuːˈtreɪlɪtɪ/ noun the fact of being neutral in a war

neutron /ˈnuːtrəʊn/ noun a neutral particle in the nucleus of an atom

never /ˈnevər/ adv not at any time; not ever ○ We’ll never forget that restaurant. ○ I’ve never bought anything in that shop although I’ve often been inside it. ○ He never eats meat. ○ never mind! don’t worry, don’t bother about it ○ well I never! how surprising! ○ Well I never – it’s James!

ever-ending /ˌnevərˈɛndɪŋ/ adj which seems as if it will never stop. Synonym endless

nevertheless /ˌnevərˈɛðəls/ adv although a particular situation exists ○ I know it is raining, but nevertheless I’d like to go out. 2. which arrived recently, fresh ○ There are two new secretaries in the office. 3. which has just been bought ○ Are your shoes new? ○ She bought herself a new motorbike. ○ He’s trying to get his new computer to work. 4. completely different from what was before ○ We need someone with new ideas. ○ They put some new wallpaper in the bedroom. (NOTE: newer – newest)

New Age /ˈnjuːədʒ/ adj of modern ideas about spiritual and medical matters ○ noun a style of music intended to make you feel calm

ew blood /ˈnjuːblʌd/ noun a person or persons who bring new ideas to an organisation

newborn /ˈnjuːbɜːrn/ adj which has been born recently ○ The mother and her newborn baby survived the crash. ○ noun a newborn baby

newcomer /ˈnjuːkʌmər/ noun a person who has just come to a place

new face /njuː feɪs/ noun a person whom you have not seen before, who has not been part of something before

newfangled /ˈnjuːfæŋɡəld/ adj modern and complicated. Antonym old-fashioned

new-found /ˈnjuːfaʊnd/ adj that has been found recently ○ newly /ˈnjuːli/ adv recently

newly-weds /ˈnjuːliwɛdz/ plural noun two people who have just got married

new moon /ˈnjuːmʊn/ noun the beginning of a lunar phase, when the moon’s face is not lit by the sun and it is seen as only a thin curved shape

newness /ˈnjuːnɛs/ noun the fact of being recent or fresh; not having been used before

new potatoes /ˈnjuː pətəˌtɔʊzi/ plural noun the first young potatoes of a year’s harvest

news /ˈnjuːz/ noun spoken or written information about what has happened ○ What’s the news of your sister? ○ She told me all the latest news about the office. ○ He was watching the 10 o’clock news on TV. ○ I don’t want to hear any bad news. ○ have you heard the news? have you heard what has happened? ○ Have you had any news about your pay rise? ○ to break the news to someone to tell someone the bad news ○ He broke the news to his daughters. ○ no news is good news if there is nothing new to mention, things must be going well

news agency /ˈnjuːz ˈɛgənsi/ noun an office which sends out information to newspapers and TV

newsagent /ˈnjuːzədʒənt/ noun a person who sells newspapers (NOTE: Newsagent has no connection with news agency.)

news bulletin /ˈnjuːz ˈbʌltɪn/ noun
1. a short news broadcast on the current situation ○ The BBC broadcasts news bulletins every hour. 2. information on a situation that is changing ○ The hospital issued a daily news bulletin on the condition of the accident victims.

newscasting /ˈnjuːzkæstɪŋ/ noun a news programme on radio or TV

newsnehmer /ˈnjuːzəmə/ noun a person who reads the news on radio or TV

news cast /ˈnjuːzkæst/ noun a meeting with journalists to give information about something and answer questions

newsflash /ˈnjuːzlʌf/ noun a short piece of news broadcast at an unexpected time

news group /ˈnjuːz ɡruːp/ noun an Internet discussion group

news letter /ˈnjuːz ˈletər/ noun a printed sheet or small newspaper giving news about a company, a club or other organisation ○ newspaper /ˈnjuːzpɛpə/ noun a publication consisting of loose folded sheets of paper, which usually comes out each day, with news of what has happened ○ He was so absorbed in his newspaper that he didn’t notice that the toast had burnt. ○ We saw your picture in the local newspaper. ○ The newspapers are full of news of the election. ○ a daily newspaper a newspaper which is published every day except Sunday
It doesn’t cost very much. After two buses went past full, the next was almost empty. I’ll be back from holiday the week after next. (asking the next person in the queue to come) Next, please!

Next, door /nɛks t/ 'doʊ/ adj, adv in the house next to this one. Who lives next door to your mother? The shop is next door to a bank. Our next-door neighbours have gone on holiday, and we are looking after their cat. Next-door neighbours the people who live in the house next to yours.

next of kin /nɛks t vˈkɪn/ noun your nearest relatives.

NGO abbr non-governmental organisation (NOTE: The plural is NGOs.)

NHS abbr national health service.

nib /nɪb/ noun the point of a pen, from which the ink flows.

nibble /ˈnɪbl/ verb to take small bites.

She was nibbling a biscuit. The mice have nibbled into the flour sacks.

Synonym chew

nibbles /ˈnɪblz/ plural noun little snacks, such as peanuts or crisps, served with drinks.

nice /nais/ adj. pleasant, enjoyable. We had a nice time at the seaside. If the weather’s nice let’s have a picnic. The nicest thing about the town is that it is on the sea. Pleasant, polite. That wasn’t a very nice thing to say. Try and be nice to your grandfather. Slight. He drew a very nice distinction between the two terms. (NOTE: nicer – nicest)

nice-looking /ˈnais ˈloʊŋkɪŋ/ adj attractive or pleasing to look at.

nicely /ˈnaisli/ adv. very well. That will do nicely, thank you. Polite. You can have a biscuit if you ask for it nicely.

niceness /ˈnaisnəs/ noun the quality of being nice.

nicety /ˈnaisəti/ noun a slight or exact detail.

nich /nɪʃ/ noun 1. a place which curves inwards in a wall. There are statues in niches all round the garden. To find your niche, to find a niche for yourself, to carve out a niche for yourself, to find the right job or activity for yourself. He found his niche working in an animal hospital.

nick /nɪk/ noun 1. a small cut in something. He made a nick in the stick. In the nick of time just in time (informal). A prison. He’s been in the nick for the last year. In good nick in good condition.

The car was in quite good nick so I didn’t forget to give me a call when you’re next in town. Next week is the start of our holiday. The next time you go to the supermarket, can you get some coffee? The next day we travel to Italy. First you put the eggs into a bowl and next you add some sugar. Don’t forget to give me a call when you’re next in town.

Next week is the start of our holiday. The next time you go to the supermarket, can you get some coffee? The next day we travel to Italy.
alone in the streets at night. Synonym dusk
night starts. nicotine /ˈnɪkətɪn/ noun a harmful substance in tobacco, also used for killing insects.
ni/vertstrokesuperiorw/vinvertedn night shift /ˈnɪftʃift/ noun a period of work which is worked during the night.
nightingale /ˈnɪtɪŋəl/ noun a small singing bird which sings at night
nightmare /ˈnætmər/ noun 1. a very frightening dream. 2. I had a nightmare that I was drowning. 2. an extremely unpleasant experience. 2. The dinner party was a nightmare.
night owl /ˈnɔt ˈəʊlw/ noun a person who likes to stay up late, and does not get up early in the morning (informal).
night watchman /ˈnɔt.wətʃmən/ noun a man who guards a building at night
nibble /ˈnɪbbl/ adj able to move quickly.
Synonym sprightily (NOTE: nimbler – nimbliest)
nimbly /ˈnɪmbli/ adv in an expert way
ninetieth /ˈnɪntiθ/ noun number 90
ninth /ˈnɪnθ/ noun 1. a part of the day when it is dark. 2. He is on night duty three days a week.
ninth-century /ˈnɪnθˌsentiəθ/ adj, noun 1. referring to the years from 900 to 999. 2. the nineteenth (or nineteenth) century the period from 1800 to 1899.
nineteenth /ˈnɪntiθ/ noun number 19
nickel /ˈnɪkəl/ noun 1. a metallic element, used in making special metal alloys.
ninth

and her husband is ninety-two: they are both in their nineties. □ the (nineteen) nineties (1990s) the years from 1990 to 1999

① ninth /nainθ/ noun referring to 9
② the ninth century the period from 800 to 899 AD

nip /nɪp/ noun 1. a short sharp bite ○ The little dog gave him a nasty nip. 2. a small amount of alcohol ○ We sell whisky at £1 per nip.
③ there’s a nip in the air the air feels cold  |
verb 1. to squeeze sharply ○ We nipped off the end of the stalk to stop the plant growing any taller. ○ The crab nipped his thumb as he picked it up.  |
④ bud 2. to bite sharply ○ The dog nipped the postman in the leg. 3. to go very quickly ○ I’ll just nip round to the newsagent’s and get the evening paper. ○ We’ll nip down to the pub for a drink. (NOTE: nipping – nipped)
△ nipple /nɪp(ə)l/ noun 1. the darker part in the centre of a woman’s breast, through which the milk passes ○ She held the baby to her nipple. 2. a valve for greasing a machine ○ a grease nipple

nippy /nɪp(ə)/ adj 1. cold ○ Put on your coat, it’s quite nippy outside. 2. which goes fast ○ It’s a nippy little car. (NOTE: nippest)

nirvana /nɪrˈvænə/ noun 1. a state of spiritual enlightenment in religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism 2. a state of mind in which you feel extremely happy |

nit-picking /ˈnɪtˌpɪkɪŋ/ noun finding little things to criticise

nitrate /naɪtrət/ noun a chemical compound containing nitrogen and oxygen, existing in all plants

① nitrogen /ˈnai trədʒi/ noun an important gas which is essential for life, and which forms most of the atmosphere

nitty-gritty /ˈnɪtɪ ˈgrɪtɪ/ noun the basic details of an argument

② nitwit /ˈnətɪw/ noun a stupid idiot (insult) ○ no /nəʊ/ adj 1. showing the opposite of ‘yes’ ○ I asked my mother if we could borrow her car but she said ‘no’. ○ Do you want another cup of coffee? — No. thank you. 2. not any ○ There’s no milk left in the fridge. ○ We live in a little village, and there’s no post office for miles around. ○ We had no reply to our fax. 3. no entry do not go in this way ○ no exit do not go out this way ○ no parking do not park ○ no smoking do not smoke 4. not at all ○ My new kitchen knife is no sharper than the old one. ○ She no longer works here. ○ I’m no good at maths.

③ no /ˈnəʊ/ /ˈnəʊ̈/ noun a number ○ nobility /ˈnəbəlɪti/ noun 1. all noble families, taken as a group ○ The king invited members of the nobility to the meeting. ○ The nobility fought hard to protect their privileges. 2. the quality of being extremely polite, being impressive and brave ○ The nobility of his actions is not in doubt. (NOTE: no plural)

④ noble /ˈnəʊbl/ adjective ○ The nobles forced the king to sign the treaty. Synonym aristocrat. Antonym commoner  |
noun 1. of high rank in society ○ She comes from a noble family — her father is an earl. 2. extremely polite or impressive ○ It was very noble of him to lend her his umbrella. ○ She did it for the noblest of reasons.

⑤ nobleman /ˈnəʊbləmən/ noun a man of high rank. Synonym noble. Antonym commoner (NOTE: The plural is noblemen.)

⑥ noblewoman /ˈnəʊbloʊmən/ noun a woman of high rank. Synonym noble. Antonym commoner (NOTE: The plural is noblewomen.)

⑦ nobody /ˈnʌbədi/ pron no one or no person ○ There was nobody in the café. ○ We met nobody on our way here. ○ Nobody wants to do her job. ○ You’ll have to drive the bus — nobody else has a driving licence.

⑧ nomen /ˈnəʊmən/ noun an unimportant person ○ a committee packed with nobodies. Synonym nonentity

⑨ no claims bonus /ˈnəʊ kliəmz ˈbəʊnəs/ noun a reduced insurance premium because no claims have been made against the policy

No claims discount /ˈnəʊ kliəmz ˈdɪskənt/ noun

⑩ noclaimsdiscount /ˈnəʊ kliəmz ˈdɪskənt/ a reduced insurance premium because no claims have been made against the policy (in formal) |
verb 1. to move the head slightly up and down, meaning ‘yes’ ○ When he asked her if she understood, she nodded (her head.). ○ He nodded to show his agreement. (NOTE: the opposite is to shake your head, meaning ‘no’.) 2. to move the head slightly up and down, to mean ‘hello’ or ‘goodbye’ ○ She nodded at me as I went past. 3. to nod off to go to sleep ○ She was nodding off in front of the television.

⑪ nodule /ˈnəʊdəl/ noun 1. a small mass of tissue; group of nerve cells 2. a point where two lines cross

Christmas

⑫ Noel /nəʊl/ noun (in carols and on cards) ○ Noel, Noel, ‘tis the season of goodwill and peace. ○ Noel Noel, Noel, ‘tis the season of goodwill and peace.

Christmas

⑬ no-go area /ˌnəʊ ˈgəʊ ˈɛəriə/ noun an area of a town where ordinary people or the police cannot go

⑭ noise /nɔɪz/ noun 1. a loud or unpleasant sound ○ Don’t make any noise — the guards might hear you. ○ The workmen are making such a lot of noise that we can’t use the tele-
noiseless phone. 2. sound in general  
noiseless /ˈnaʊzli/ adj making no noise. Synonym soundless. Antonym noisy  
noiselessly /ˈnaʊzliəli/ adv making no noise  
nomad /ˈnɔməd/ noun a person who moves from place to place in a large area of land without settling in any one spot  
nomad /ˈnɔməd/ adj 1. referring to nomads  2. nomadic herdersmen wander across the plains with their cattle. 2. moving all the time  3. Families of diplomats lead a nomadic existence, moving from country to country.  
non-aligned /ˈnɒnədˌlaɪnd/ adj not belonging to either land between two countries or armies, which is not connected to one of the powerful countries in the world  
nomadic /ˈnɔmədɪk/ adj 1. referring to nomads  2. nomadic herdsmen wander across the plains with their cattle. 2. moving all the time  3. Families of diplomats lead a nomadic existence, moving from country to country.  
nomination /ˌnɔmɪneɪʃən/ noun 1. the action of nominating  2. a name which has been suggested  3. There are three nominations for the post of secretary.  
nomineer /ˌnɔmɪnɪə/ verb to suggest someone for a post  
nominate /ˈnɔmnɪteɪt/ verb to suggest someone for a post  
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nomineer /ˌnɔmɪnɪə/ noun a person who has been suggested for something such as a job. Synonym candidate  
nominally /ˈnɔmɪnəli/ adv in name, not in fact  
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nomination /ˌnɔmɪneɪʃən/ noun 1. the action of nominating  2. a name which has been suggested  3. There are three nominations for the post of secretary.  
non-aligned /ˈnəʊəlænd/ adj which is not on the side of a specific country or political party  
non-alignment /ˌnəʊəlændɪm/ noun a country which is not connected to one of the powerful countries in the world  
noncombatant /ˌnəʊkəmbəˈtænt/ noun 1. a person who is not in the armed forces  2. a chaplain, medical officer, or other member of the armed forces who does not take part in battle  
nominee /ˈnɒmɪni/ noun the action of nominating  
non-aggression /ˈnəʊəɡrɛʃən/ noun a government’s policy of not attacking other countries  
non-alcoholic /ˌnəʊəlˈəʊkɔlɪk/ adj not containing alcohol  
non-aligned /ˈnəʊəlænd/ adj which is not on the side of a specific country or political party  
non-alignment /ˌnəʊəlændɪm/ noun a country which is not connected to one of the powerful countries in the world
non-invasive /nɒn ɪnˈvaɪzɪv/ adj. 1. which does not involve cutting open the patient’s body 2. which does not spread throughout the body
non-member /ˈmemba(r) noun not a member of a particular organisation
no-no /ˈnɔʊ nɔʊ noun a thing which is not allowed (informal)
no-nonsense /ˌnɔʊ ˈnɔnsəns noun sensible, serious and honest. Antonym any-fairy
non-payment /nɔn ˈpɜːmənt noun a failure to pay □ no-payment of a debt not paying money which is owed
nonplussed /nɔnˈplʌst/ adj. confused
non-profit /nɔnˈprɒfɪt/ adj. not making a profit
non-profit-making /nɔn ˈprɒfɪtˌmeɪkɪŋ/ adj. which makes a profit, or is not allowed to make a profit (NOTE: The US term is non-profit.)
non-proliferation /nɔn prəˌlɪfərəˈteɪʃən/ noun the practice of limiting the production or spread of something, especially nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction
nonrefundable /ˌnɔnˈrɛfnədəb(ə)l/ adj. for which payment cannot be given back
non-renewable /nɔn rɪˈnjuːəb(ə)l/ adj. 1. (of fuel or energy) which exists only in limited amounts 2. (of a contract) which cannot continue for a longer period than the original agreement
non-resident /ˈnɔn rɪˈzɛdənt/ adj. who is not living in or not staying very long in a place □ The hotel restaurant is open to non-residents: a person who is not living in a place or not staying there very long □ nonsense /ˈnɔnsəns noun silly ideas □ I’m too fat – nonsense! □ He talked a lot of nonsense. □ It’s nonsense to expect people to pay money for that. (NOTE: no plural)
nonsensical /ˌnɔnˌsɛnsɪk(ə)l/ adj. extremely foolish. Synonym ridiculous
non sequitur /ˌnɔn ˈsɛkwətər/ noun a statement which appears to have no connection to what was said immediately before it
non-smoker /ˈnɔn ˈsmaʊkə(r) noun a person who does not smoke
non-smoking /ˈnɔn ˈsmɔʊkɪŋ/ adj. where smoking is not allowed
non-standard /nɔn ˈstændəd/ adj. not meeting the requirements of an accepted standard
nonstarter /nɔnˈstɑːtə(r) noun. 1. a horse which is not ready to start at the beginning of a race 2. a project or plan which is never going to be accepted
non-stick /ˌnɔn ˈstɪk/ adj. with a surface which prevents food sticking to it
non-stop /ˌnɔn ˈstɔp/ adj. which does not stop □ a non-stop train to Paris □ They took a non-stop flight to Australia. □ All our flights to Toronto are non-stop. ■ adv without out stopping □ The planes flies to Hong Kong non-stop. □ They worked non-stop to finish the job on time.
non-violent /ˌnɔnˈvɪljuənt/ adj. with no violence
noodles /ˈnuːd(ə)ls/ plural noun long flat pieces of pasta □ I ordered spicy meatballs with noodles. □ We started with chicken noodle soup.
nook /nʊk/ noun a small hiding place □ in every nook and cranny in every little hole and corner □ We looked in every nook and cranny for the missing ring.
noun /nuːn noun twelve o’clock in the middle of the day. Synonym midday
no one /ˈnʌʊn wʌn pron no person □ You can go to the bathroom – there’s no one there. □ We met no one we knew. □ No one here takes sugar in their tea. □ No one else has a driving licence so you’ll have to be the driver.
noose /nʊs/ noun a circle in a piece of rope which becomes tight as you pull on it
nor /nɔr / conj. and not □ I did not meet him that year nor in subsequent years. □ I never went there again, nor did my wife. □ I don’t want to go – nor me! □ neither
Nordic /ˈnɔrdɪk/ adj. referring to the people of Scandinavia
normal /ˈnɔrməl/ noun the standard. Antonym exception □ to become the norm to become usual, what everybody does
normative /ˈnɔrmətɪv/ adj. usual or expected □ We hope to resume normal service as soon as possible. □ Look at the rain – it’s just a normal British summer. □ What’s the size of a normal swimming pool? □ At her age, it’s only normal for her to want to go to parties. Synonym usual. Antonym abnormal
normality /ˈnɔrmələti/ noun the normal state of things
normalisation /ˌnɔːrməlɪˈzeɪʃ(ə)n/ noun making something normal again after it has been badly affected by something such as a war. Antonym deviation
normalise /ˈnɔrməlaɪz/, normalize verb to make normal again. Synonym regularise. Antonym destabilise
normality /ˈnɔrməlɪti/ noun the fact of being normal
normally /ˈnɔrməli/ adv. usually □ The bus is normally late. □ She doesn’t normally drink wine.
norman /ˈnɔrmən/ adj. 1. referring to the people from Normandy who conquered Eng-
land in 1066. After the Norman conquest, French became widely spoken in England. Norman architecture is heavy with round arches and thick pillars. 2 referring to Normandy, the northern part of France. noun a person from Normandy. William the Conqueror and the Normans invaded England in 1066. Norse /nas/ adj referring to ancient Norway or Scandinavia.

north /nɔθ/ noun a direction to your left when you are facing the direction where the sun rises. There will be snow in the north of the country. It’s cold when the wind blows from the north. adj referring to the north. We went on holiday to the north coast of Scotland. The north side of our house never gets any sun. When the north wind blows, you can expect snow. adv towards the north. They were travelling north at the time. Go north for three miles and then you’ll see the road to London. Our office windows face north.

northbound /nɔθbaʊnd/ adj travelling towards the north.
	north-east, /nɔθiːst/ adv in a direction between north and east. They were travelling north-east at the time. Go north-east for three miles and then you’ll come to our village. Our office windows face north-east. The north-east of England will have snow showers. It’s cold when the wind blows from the north-east. north-easterly /nɔθiːstəli/ adj in or towards the north-east.

north-easterly

north-Eastern /nɔθiːstən/ adj referring to the north-east.

northerly /nɔθəli/ adj in, or from the north. A strong northerly wind will bring snow.

northern /nɔθən/ adj referring to the north. Northern countries have more rain. They live in the northern part of the country.

northerner /nɔθənər/ noun a person who lives in or comes from the north.

northern hemisphere /nɔθən həmiˈsɛfər/ noun the northern half of the Earth.

northernmost /nɔθənməust/ adj which is furthest north.

North Pole /nɔθpɔl/ noun the furthest point at the north of the earth.

northward /nɔθwɔrd/ adj towards the north.

northwards /nɔθwɔrdz/ adv towards the north.

north-west /nɔθwest/ adv in a direction between west and north. They were travelling north-west at the time. Go north-west for a few miles and then you’ll come to our house. A strong north-west wind will bring snow. It’s cold when the wind blows from the north-west. The North-west of England is wetter than the east coast. We can expect rain when the wind blows from the north-west.

northerly /nɔθəli/ adj referring to ancient Norway, the direction to your left when you are facing the north.

northward /nɔθwɔrd/ adv towards the north.

 Norwegian /ˈnɔrveɪən/ adj referring to Norway. Ibsen was the most famous Norwegian author.

nose /nəʊz/ noun 1. a part of the head which you breathe through and smell with. Dogs have wet noses. He has a cold, and his nose is red. She’s got flu – her nose is running. Don’t wipe your nose on your sleeve, use a tissue.

to blow your nose to blow air through your nose into a handkerchief to remove liquid from your nose. to speak through your nose to talk as if your nose is blocked, so that you say ‘b’ rather than ‘m’ and ‘d’ rather than ‘t’. to turn your nose up at something to look at something as if you don’t think it is very good. She’s got a degree and looks down her nose at other secretaries. to pay through the nose for something to pay far more for something than you should. He paid through the nose for his ticket to Hong Kong because it was the only seat left. to turn your nose up at something to show that you do not feel something is good enough for you. It’s a marvellous deal, I don’t see why you should turn your nose up at it.

nosebleed /ˈnɔzəblɛd/ noun blood coming from the nose.
nosedive /ˈnɔzədəv/ noun (of something flying) a steep movement downwards  verb to move down steeply and quickly  The birds nosedived towards the fish.

nostalgia /ˈnɔstəlʤiə/ noun a sad feeling of wanting things to be the same as they were in the past

nostalgic /ˈnɔstəlʤɪk/ adj referring to nostalgia. Synonym sentimental

notch /nɒtʃ/ noun one of two holes in your nose, which you breathe through  
• not /not/ adv used with verbs to show the negative  A service charge is not included.  
• It isn’t there.  She can’t come.  He didn’t want any meat.  We couldn’t go home because of the fog.  Don’t you like coffee?  not...either and not...also  She doesn’t eat meat, and she doesn’t eat fish either.  It wasn’t hot, but it wasn’t very cold either.  (NOTE: not is often shortened to n’t and joined onto an auxiliary verb, for example is not becomes isn’t)  
• not exactly /ˈnɒtɪkəlz/ 1. not to the greatest possible extent  Was it a disaster?  – Not exactly a disaster, but it didn’t go very well.  2. It’s not exactly the colour I wanted.  

notable /ˈnɔtəbl/ adj which is worth noticing  It was a notable achievement.  She was notable by her absence.  The town is notable for its currant cakes. Synonym noteworthy. Antonym insignificant

notepad /ˈnəʊtpeɪd/ noun 1. a block of paper for writing notes  I took a notepad to jot down any interesting points from the lecture.  Also called memo pad 2. (in computing) a part of the screen used to store information even if the terminal is switched off  Use the notepad to make changes to your file.

notice /ˈnəʊtɪs/ noun 1. a small book for making notes  The policeman wrote down the details in his notebook.  2. a very small computer which you can carry around with you.

• noted /ˈnəʊtɪd/ adj famous. Synonym renowned

note /nəʊt/ noun 1. rough notes on  We have to take notice of what the teacher said.  2. Some Western countries, notably Canada and the United States, have a very high standard of living.  3. a piece of paper money  I tried to pay with a ten-pound note.  (NOTE: The US term is bill.)  4. a musical sound or a written sign meaning a musical sound  He can’t sing high notes.  5. a key on a piano  She played a tune, using only the black notes on the piano.  6. further explanations about a text  The notes are at the back of the book.

• verb 1. to write down something in a few words  The policeman noted in his notebook all the details of the accident.  2. to take notice of  Please note that our prices were raised on January 1st.

noticeable /ˈnəʊtɪsəbl/ adj 1. to move down steeply and quickly  
• noticeably /ˈnəʊtɪsəblɪ/ adv 1. especially  Some Western countries, notably Canada and the United States, have a very high standard of living.  2. in a way that is easily noticed  The food was notably better than the last time we ate there.

notation /nəʊˈteɪʃən/ noun a system of symbols used to show notes in music, or to show signs used in mathematics

notch /nɒtʃ/ noun a small V-shaped cut  He cut two notches in the stick with his penknife.  (NOTE: The plural is notches.)  
• verb 1. to mark with a notch  The stick was notched in several places.  2. to notch up to score, to make a number  She’s notched up 25 years with the company.  He notched up twenty runs in twenty minutes.

• note /nəʊt/ noun 1. a few words in writing to remind yourself of something  She made a few notes before she gave her speech.  She made a note of what she needed to buy before she went to the supermarket.  
• to take note of to pay attention to  We have to take note of public opinion.  2. a short message  She left a note for the managing director with his secretary.  He wrote me a note to say he couldn’t come.  3. a piece of paper money  I tried to pay with a ten-pound note.  (NOTE: The US term is bill.)

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noticeable 572  novice

tice. O If you want to resign, you have to give a month’s notice. O The train times were changed without notice. O until further notice until different instructions are given O You must pay £200 on the 30th of each month until further notice. O at short notice with very little warning O It had to be done at short notice. O The bank manager will not see anyone at such short notice. O, attention O It has been brought to my notice that students have been going into town at lunchtime. O take no notice of what the policeman says pay no attention to what he says, don’t worry about what he says O verb to see, to take note of O I wore one blue and one white sock all day and nobody noticed. O I didn’t notice you had come in. O Did you notice if John was sitting next to Sarah? O notice if John was sitting next to Sarah?

noticeably /'nəʊtɪsəbli/ adv obviously, clearly

noticeboard /'nəʊtɪsbɔːd/ noun a board which is fixed to a wall, on which notices can be attached (NOTE: The US term is bulletin board.)

notifiable /'nəʊtɪfərəbl/ adj which should be reported officially

notification /'nəʊtɪfɪkʃən/ noun the act of informing someone. Synonym announcement

notify /'nəʊtfai/ verb O to notify someone of something to tell someone something formally O They were notified of the arrival of the shipment. O The local doctor notified the Health Service of the case of cholera.

notice /'nəʊtɪs/ noun an idea O She has this strange notion that she ought to be a TV star.

notional /'nəʊʃənl/ adj assumed to be correct for the purposes of making a calculation

notoriety /'nəʊtə'reti/ noun a bad reputation. Synonym disgrace

notorious /'nəʊtərɪəs/ adj well known for something bad (archaic)

notoriously /'nəʊtrərazil/ adv in a notorious way. Synonym particularly

notwithstanding /'nɔtwɪð'stændɪŋ/ adv, prep although a particular situation exists O The case proceeded notwithstanding the objections of the defendant or the defendant’s objections notwithstanding. (NOTE: It can be used before or after a noun.)

nougat /'nʊɡət/ noun a type of white sweet made with nuts, honey and the white parts of eggs

nought /'nɔt/ noun a zero O One million can be written as ‘1m’ or as one and six noughts. (NOTE: nought is more common in British English; in US English, zero is more usual.)

noughts and crosses /nauts an 'krosiz/ noun a game where each player puts either a zero or a cross on a grid, the first to get three in a row is the winner. (NOTE: The US term is tic-tac-toe.)

noun /'nəʊn/ noun (in grammar) a word which can be the subject or object of a verb and is used to refer to a person, thing or animal O Nouns such as ‘brick’ and ‘elephant’. O In ‘the cat caught a mouse’, ‘cat’ and ‘mouse’ are both nouns.

noun phrase /'nəʊn friəz/ noun a word or group of which is used in the same way as a noun, e.g. as the subject, object, or topic, in a sentence

nourish /'nɔrɪʃ/ verb 1. to give food to someone O All the children look very well nourished. 2. to keep things such as ideas or hopes alive O The news nourished their hopes that their son might still be alive.

nourishing /'nɔrɪʃɪŋ/ adj which provides people, animals, or plants with the substances they need to live, grow and remain fit and healthy

nourishment /'nɔrɪʃmənt/ noun 1. food which nourishes, such as proteins, fats or vitamins O As a result of poor nourishment they were all weak and underweight. O Is there enough nourishment in a diet that consists solely of salads? 2. food in general O She just lies in bed and refuses to take any nourishment. (NOTE: no plural)

novel /'nɒv(ə)l/ noun a long story with imaginary characters and events O ‘Pickwick Papers’ was Dickens’ first major novel. O adj new O Being in New York is a novel experience for me.

novelist /'nɒvəlist/ noun a person who writes novels. Synonym writer

novelty /'nɒvəlti/ noun 1. a new thing you have not experienced before O ‘Flying in a plane is still a novelty for them. (NOTE: no plural) 2. the fact of being new O The novelty of the new job soon wore off. (NOTE: no plural) 3. an unusual little object, usually with no practical use O Small shops selling novelties and souvenirs. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is novelties.)

November /'nɒvəmbr/ noun the eleventh month of the year, the month after October and before December O November 5 O Today is November 5th. O She was born in November. O We never go on holiday in November. (NOTE: November 5th or November 5) say ‘November the fifth’ or ‘the fifth of November’ or in US English; ‘November fifth.’

novice /'nɔvɪs/ noun 1. a person who is not experienced or skilful, e.g. in a job or sport. O He’s still a novice at rowing. O We send
novice sales staff out with an experienced rep to learn the ropes. 2. a person who is preparing to become a monk or nun 3. Sister Agnes is in charge of the novices.

now /nɔʊ/ adv at this point in time 1. I can hear a train coming now. 2. Please can we go home now? 3. The flight is only two hours – he ought to be in Berlin by now. 4. Now’s the best time for going skiing. A week from now we’ll be sitting on the beach. 5. now and then from time to time, not continuously 1. until now, up to now until this point in time 2. Until now, I’ve never had to see a doctor. ■ conj □ now that since, because 1. Now that I’ve got my driving licence, I can buy a car. 2. Now that you mention it, I do remember having a phone call from him last week. □ interj 1. showing a warning 2. Now then, don’t be rude to the teacher! 3. Come on now, work hard! 4. Now! now! Nobody wants to hear you crying. 2. attracting someone’s attention 1. Now, everyone, let’s begin the meeting.

nowadays /nəʊˈdeɪz/ adv at the present time 1. Nowadays lots of people go to Spain on holiday. 2. The traffic is so bad nowadays that it takes an hour to drive to Piccadilly Circus. Antonym formerly

nowhere /ˈnɔʊwɛə/ adv 1. not in or to any place 2. My wallet was nowhere to be found. 3. Where are you going? – Nowhere. 4. There is nowhere else for them to live. 5. to get nowhere to be unsuccessful 1. I rang six shops to try and find a spare part, but got nowhere. 2. to be getting nowhere not to have any success 1. I’m getting nowhere with my research. 2. nowhere near not at all 3. The work is nowhere near finished. 4. He has nowhere near done all his homework.

no-win situation /ˈnəʊ ˈwɪn/ noun a situation in which you are likely to fail or suffer, whatever you do

oxious /ˈnɒksɪəs/ adj harmful or poisonous

nozzle /ˈnɔzl/ noun a fitting at the end of a pipe which controls the flow of liquid

nuisance /ˈnjuːsəns/ noun a thing which annoys. Synonym irritation

nullify /ˈnʌlfaɪ/ verb 1. to make something no longer legal or official 2. This new amendment to the contract will nullify the conditions we have just agreed. 3. It nullified all our attempts at negotiation. 2. to make useless 1. His speech has nullified all our attempts at negotiation.

nude /njuːd/ noun 1. a person who is not wearing any clothes 2. a portrait of a nude 3. a painting of a nude, often a woman 4. an exhibition of Manet’s nudes 5. in the nude wearing no clothes 6. They went swimming in the nude. ■ adj wearing no clothes 7. Nude sunbathing is allowed on some beaches. 8. Would you be willing to appear nude on stage? Antonym clothed

dudge /nʌdʒ/ noun a little push, usually with the elbow 1. She gave me a nudge to wake me up. Synonym prod 2. to give someone a nudge to try to get someone to do something 3. He’s late with his work – better give him a nudge.

nullification /ˈnʌlɪfɪkeɪʃn/ noun a belief in the physical and mental advantages of not wearing any clothes

nuke /njuːk/ verb to attack with nuclear weapons 1. ■ noun a nuclear weapon 2. ■ verb to give a little push, usually with the elbow 3. He nudged me when it was my turn to speak.

nuke /njuːk/ noun a nuclear weapon 1. ■ noun radioactive waste from a nuclear reactor 2. the central part of an atom, formed of neutrons and protons 3. Electrons orbit the nucleus of the atom. 2. the central body in a cell, containing DNA and RNA, and controlling the way that the cell works 4. First the nucleus divides, then the whole cell splits in two. 5. a centre around which something gathers 6. The six experienced players form the nucleus of the new team. (NOTE: The plural is nuclei /njuːklaɪ/)

nuke /njuːk/ verb to remove feeling 1. The doctor gave him an injection to numb the pain. Synonym deaden

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nuke /njuːk/ noun a nuclear weapon 1. ■ noun electricity produced by a nuclear power station 2.■ noun a machine which creates heat and energy by starting and controlling atomic fission
number

noun /ˈnʌmbə/ 1. a figure ○ 13 is not a lucky number. ○ They live on the opposite side of road at number 49. ○ Can you give me your telephone number? ○ A number 6 bus goes to Oxford Street. ○ Please quote your account number. 2. a quantity of people or things ○ The number of tickets sold was disappointing. ○ A large number of children or large numbers of children will be sitting the exam. ○ There were only a small number of people at the meeting. □ a number of times often ○ I’ve seen that film a number of times. □ any number of times very often ○ I’ve been to France any number of times. ○ She could take her driving test any number of times but she still wouldn’t pass it. 3. an issue of a magazine or newspaper ○ We keep back numbers of magazines for six months and then throw them away. 4. a piece of music or a song ○ She played a selection of numbers by Noel Coward. □ verb 1. to give something a number ○ The raffle tickets are numbered 1 to 1000. ○ I refer to our invoices numbered 234 and 235. □ All the seats are clearly numbered. □ his days are numbered he has not much time left to live 2. to count ○ Visitors to the exhibition numbered several thousand. ○ He numbers among the most important writers of the 20th century.

number one /ˈnʌmbə wʌn/ adj most important ○ He numbers among the most important writers of the 20th century. ○ Pollution is the number one issue at the election. □ noun 1. yourself, your own interests ○ He always remembers to look after number one he always thinks of his own interests first 2. the most important thing or person ○ His latest single is number one in the charts. ○ She’s number one in the organisation.

number plate /ˈnʌmbə plɛt/ noun one of two signs fixed on the front and back of a vehicle which shows the official number of the vehicle (NOTE: The US term is license plate.)

numbing /ˈnʌmɪŋ/ adj 1. causing a lack of feeling in a part of the body 2. temporarily taking away somebody’s ability to feel or think, e.g. as a result of shock

numbness /ˈnʌmnəs/ noun having no feeling

numercacy /ˈnjuːmərəsɪ/ noun the ability to work with numbers

numeral /ˈnjuːmərəl/ noun a written sign representing a number

numerate /ˈnjuːmərət/ adj able to work with numbers numerically /ˌnjuːməˈrɪklɪ/ adv by numbers

numerical superiority /ˌnjuːməˈrɪklə sɔ,ˌpərtərɪˈtrɪtɪ/ noun the fact of existing in greater amounts or numbers than others

numerous /ˈnjuːmərəs/ adj very many ○ He has been fined for speeding on numerous occasions. Antonym few

nun /nʌn/ noun a woman member of a religious order (NOTE: Do not confuse with none. Note: the equivalent men are monks.)

nurse /nɜːs/ noun a person who looks after sick people (woman or man) ○ She has a job as a nurse in the local hospital. □ verb 1. to look after people who are ill ○ When she fell ill her daughter nursed her until she was better. 2. to be ill with something ○ He’s sitting in bed nursing his cold. ○ She came back from her holiday nursing a broken arm. 3. to nurse a grudge to have a secret feeling of not liking someone, especially because of something which they did in the past ○ He has been nursing a grudge against his boss for the last six years.

nursery /ˈnɜːsəri/ noun 1. a school for very young children ○ My sister went to a nursery every day from the age of 18 months. 2. a place where young plants are grown and sold ○ Buy some plants from the nursery. (NOTE: The plural is nurseries.)

nursery rhyme /ˈnɜːsəri ˈraɪm/ noun a little piece of poetry for children

nursery school /ˈnɜːsəri ˈskɔːl/ noun a school for very small children, for children under five years old

nursery slopes /ˈnɜːsəri ˈsləʊps/ plural noun a gentle slope on a mountain where you learn to ski

nursing /ˈnɜːsɪŋ/ noun the profession of being a nurse ○ She decided to go in for nursing. ○ Have you considered nursing as a career? □ adj referring to the job of looking after sick people

nursing home /ˈnɜːsɪŋ ˈhoʊm/ noun a small private hospital

nurture /ˈnɜːtər/ verb to care for children, plants or ideas and encourage them to develop

nut /nʌt/ noun 1. the fruit of a tree, with a hard shell ○ to crack nuts to break the shells of nuts to get at the fruit inside ○ He cracked the nuts with his teeth. 2. a metal ring which screws on a bolt to hold it tight ○ Screw the nut on tightly. □ the nuts and bolts of something the main details of something (informal) ○ You’ll need to master the nuts and bolts of the stock market before going to work in the city. □ nuts nutcracker /ˈnʌt, nʌkˈrækə/ noun a bird that eats pine nuts

nutmeg /ˈnʌtmɛɡ/ noun a hard round seed of a tropical tree, grated and used as a flavouring in food
nutrient /ˈnjuːtrənt/ noun a substance in food which encourages the growth of living things

nutrition /ˈnjuːtrɪʃən/ noun 1. the way in which food affects health ◇ A scheme to improve nutrition in the poorer areas. 2. the study of food ◇ We are studying nutrition as part of the food science course.

nutritional /ˈnjuːtrɪʃənl/ adj referring to nutrition. Synonym nutritious

nutritionist /ˈnjuːtrɪʃənist/ noun a person who is an expert in the study of nutrition and who advises people about what to eat in order to be healthy

nutritious /ˈnjuːtrɪʃəs/ adj valuable as food

nutty /ˈnʌtɪ/ adj crazy (informal) ◇ nuts about someone or something very keen on someone or something ◇ He’s nuts about old cars. ◇ to drive someone nuts to make someone crazy ◇ I wish they’d turn the music down – it’s driving me nuts.

nutshell /ˈnʌtʃɛl/ noun the hard outside part of a nut. Synonym husk ◇ in a nutshell as concisely as possible ◇ It’s a long and complicated story, but, in a nutshell, he left his wife and set fire to the house.

nymphomaniac /ˈnɪmfaˌmeɪniək/ noun an offensive word for a woman who is always thinking about sex or wanting to have sex

nutter /ˈnʌtər/ noun a person who other people think is extremely strange or crazy (offensive informal)

nylon /ˈnʌln/ noun a type of strong artificial material used to make things such as clothing or sheets

nymph /ˈnɪmf/ noun 1. a young insect at the stage in its development between the larva and the adult ◇ Dragonfly nymphs were skimming across the surface of the lake. 2. a goddess of woods and streams ◇ In ancient time, nymphs were thought to live in lakes, rivers and woods.
obedient /ə'bɪdɪənt/ adj doing what you are told to do. Synonym compliant. Antonym disobedient

obediently /ə'bɪdɪəntli/ adv in an obedient way

obese /əu'biz/ adj much too fat or too heavy. Synonym fat. Antonym underweight.

obesity /əu'biziti/ noun the medical condition of being extremely fat.

obey /ə'bɪ/ verb to do what someone tells you to do. Synonym comply. Antonym disobey

obligation /ə'bɪlɪ'geɪʃən/ noun the fact that someone tells you to do. Synonym compliance. Antonym obligation

oblivious /ə'bɪlvɪəs/ adj not aware or not noticing something.

oblivion /ə'bɪlvjən/ noun the state of being oblivious or unaware.

obliviously /ə'bɪlvɪəsli/ adv without being aware or noticing something.

object /'ɒbkɪt/ noun 1. a thing. They thought they saw a strange object in the sky. 2. (in grammar) an aim. Their object is to take control of the radio station. 3. a noun, pronoun or phrase which follows directly from a verb or preposition. In the phrase 'the cat caught the mouse', the word 'mouse' is the object of the verb 'caught'. 4. money is no object. Money is no object to them – they’re very wealthy. ■ verb (ə'bɪdʒkt) to say why you refuse to agree. He objected that the pay was too low.

objection /'ɒbjekʃn/ noun 1. a reason for refusing to agree to. Do you have any objection to me smoking? 2. any objections to the plan? 3. to raise an objection to something. She raised several objections to the proposal.

objective /'æbədʒektɪv/ adj 1. a thing that you are aiming at. Our long-term objective is to make the company financially sound. 2. (especially of person) very unpleasant.

obstruct /əb'stɒkt/ verb to block or hinder something.

obstruction /əb'stɒkʃən/ noun the act of obstructing or blocking something.

obstructive /əb'stɒktɪv/ adj considering things from a general point of view and not from your own. You must be objective when planning the future of your business.

obtain /ə'bteɪn/ verb to get or get hold of something.

obtaining /ə'bteɪniŋ/ noun the act of obtaining or getting something.

obtuse /ə'bjuːs/ adj not open to argument. Synonym unyielding.

oar /ɔ/ noun a long wooden pole with a flat part at the end, used for moving a boat along.

obstinate /ə'bɪstɪnət/ adj determined not to change your mind or to listen to other people’s views.

obstination /ə'bɪstɪneɪʃən/ noun the state of being obstinate.

obstinate /ə'bɪstɪnɛt/ adj determined not to change your mind or to listen to other people’s views.

obstipation /ə'bɪstɪpeɪʃən/ noun the condition of being obstinate.

oath /əθ/ noun 1. a serious legal promise that someone will say or write only what is true. All the members of the jury have to swear an oath of allegiance to the king. 2. a swear word. As the police grabbed him, he let out a long string of oaths. 3. a type of large tree which loses its leaves in winter. 4. (in grammar) an aim. Their object is to take control of the radio station.

obtain /ə'teɪn/ verb to get or get hold of something.

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obstipation /ə'bɪstɪpeɪʃən/ noun the condition of being obstinate.
oblivious /ə'blivius/ adj not noticing. Antonym conscious
oblivion /ə'blivIan/ noun 1. the fact of being completely forgotten. 2. After being famous during the war the town fell into complete oblivion. 2. the fact of not noticing what is going on around you. He sat there in a state of complete oblivion.

oblolong /ə'bləʊŋ/ adj having four sides, with two pairs of equal sides, one pair being longer than the other. He pulled out an oblong folder full of papers.

obnoxious /ə'bɒksəs/ adj very unpleasant or very offensive. Antonym loathsome.

observation /əb'servəʃən/ noun 1. the action of obeying a law or rule. Professionals should set a good example by strict observance of the rules of the game. 2. following a custom or tradition. The observance of Christmas is very widespread.

observant /ə'bɜːvənt/ adj who notices many details.

observation /əb'sərveIʃən/ noun 1. the action of observing. By careful observation the police found out where the thieves had hidden the money.

oblige /ə'bliɡ/ verb 1. to force someone to do something. He was obliged to study medicine at university because his father was a doctor.

obligation /ə'bliɡəʃən/ noun 1. legal debt. 2. the duty to do something. You have an obligation to attend the meeting.

obliged /ə'bliɡd/ adj under an obligation to someone for a favour.

obliterate /ə'bliɡreɪt/ verb to destroy completely.

obliteration /ə'bliɡreɪʃən/ noun the act of obliterating or of being obliterated.

obstruction /ə'bstrəukʃən/ noun the act of obstructing.

obturant /ə'bɪturənt/ adj who notices many details.

obiectively /əb'dʒektɪvli/ adv in an objective way, without being influenced by your own feelings

objectivity /əb'dʒektɪvətɪ/ noun the fact of being objective. Synonym impartiality.

objector /əb'dʒektər noun a person who objects.

obligatory /ə'bliɡətɔrɪ/ adj which has to be done according to rules or laws.

oblige /ə'bliɡ/ verb 1. to force someone to do something. He was obliged to hand the money back.

oblige /ə'bliɡ/ verb 2. to feel obliged to do something to feel it is your duty to do something. He felt obliged to study medicine at university because his father was a doctor.

obliges /ə'bliɡz/ verb to make someone obliged to do something.

obligation /ə'bliɡəʃən/ noun 1. legal debt. 2. the duty to do something. You have an obligation to attend the meeting.

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obliged /ə'bliɡd/ adj under an obligation to somebody for a favour.
obey something such as a law, rule or custom
change your opinion or be persuaded by any-
planned obsolescence
out of use or out of fashion
ing out of date because of developments in
technology or changes in fashion
watch or to look at
in an obsession
showing an ob-
no longer used
a side of a coin
an angle of between 90° and 180°

He made several observations about the phenomenon.

A large black car was obstructing the entrance. Synonym obstruc
tion (abˈstrʌkʃən) noun 1. the act of obstructing  The failback was penalised for obstruction, 2. a thing which gets in the way  His car broke down and caused an ob-
struction on the motorway.

She was accused of obstructing the police in	
cases involving the Inland Revenue. Synonym obstruct. Synonym disruptive. Antonym help	

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It was obvious to everyone that
occasional 579 OD

occurs in several parts of the country. (NOTE: occurring – occurred)

occurrence /ˈɔ:kərs/ noun a happening ☐ if it is a daily occurrence it happens every day

ocean /ˈoʊʃən/ noun a very large area of sea surrounding the large areas of land on the Earth ☐ Ocean currents can be very treacherous. ☐ Ocean liners used to dock here.

ocean-going /ˈoʊʃən-ɡoʊɪŋ/ adj which can sail on the open sea

occidental /əˈsɛnʃəl/ noun, adj referring to an ocean. Synonym sea

ochre /ˈɒktər/ noun 1. a yellowish-red natural material used for colouring ☐ The cloth is dyed with yellow ochre. 2. a dull yellowish-red colour ☐ The ochre of the wall of the houses in the village. 3. adj dull yellowish-red ☐ The houses in the village have ochre walls. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is ochre.)

o’clock / ˈɔ:klok/ adv used with numbers to show the time ☐ Get up – it’s 7 o’clock. ☐ We never open the shop before 10 o’clock. ☐ By 2 o’clock in the morning everyone was asleep. (NOTE: O’clock is only used for the exact hour, not for times which include minutes. It can also be omitted: We got home before eight. Or We got home before eight o’clock.)

octagon /ˈɒktaɡən/ noun a geometrical figure with eight sides

octagonal /ˈɒktaɡənl/ adj eight-sided

octave /ˈɒkvə/ noun (in music) the eight notes between the first and last notes of a scale

October /ˈɒktəbər/ noun the tenth month of the year, between September and November ☐ October 18 ☐ Do you ever go on holiday in October? ☐ Today is October 18th. ☐ Last October we moved to London. (NOTE: October 18th or October 18: say ‘October the eighteenth’ or the eighteenth of October; in US English: ‘October eighteenth’.)

octogenarian /ˌɒktəˌdʒəriən/ noun, adj (of a person) who is between 80 and 89 years old

octopus /ˈɔktəpəs/ noun a sea animal with eight long arms or tentacles. • squid (NOTE: The plural is octopuses.)

ocular /ˈɒkjʊlər/ adj 1. referring to the eyes or to sight ☐ Opticians are trained to detect ocular imbalance. 2. which can be seen by the eyes ☐ He refused to believe it without ocular proof.

OD /ˈau ˈdi/ (informal) verb to take too much of a drug at one time, so that you become ill or die ☐ noun a large amount of a
odd 580

drug taken at one time and causing illness or death.

odd /əd/ adj 1. unusual and not normal ○ It’s odd that she can never remember how to get to their house. ○ He doesn’t like chocolate – Really, how odd? 2. odd numbers numbers such as 17 or 33 which cannot be divided by two ○ The odd-numbered buildings or the buildings with odd numbers are on the opposite side of the street. 3. [of an amount] almost, not exact or accurate ○ She had twenty odd pairs of shoes in cardboard boxes. 4. one forming part of a group ○ an odd shoe one shoe of a pair ○ we have a few odd boxes left we have a few boxes left out of all the boxes we had.

oddball /ˈoddbəl/ noun a person who behaves in an odd way (informal insult)

oddity /ˈoddi/ti/ noun 1. the state of being odd ○ I was struck by the oddity of the situation, sitting at the same table as my two former wives. 2. an unusual person or thing ○ This symphony is a bit of an oddity, it only has two movements.

odd job man /ˈod dʒə man/ noun a person who does small repairs or other simple jobs.

odd jobs /ˈod dʒəz/ plural noun small pieces of work, especially repairs, done in the house ○ He does odd jobs for us around the house.

oddly /ˈoddl/ adv in an odd way; for odd reasons ○ oddly enough strangely, surprisingly ○ Oddly enough, we were just talking about him when he came in.

oddments /ˈoddmənts/ plural noun bits and pieces left over

odds /ədz/ plural noun 1. the difference between the amount which can be won and the amount which has been bet ○ Odds of 10 to 1. 2. the fact of being likely to happen ○ The odds are against it. ○ The odds are that she’ll get the job. ○ against all the odds even though it seemed unlikely ○ Against all the odds, she passed her test easily. ○ Compare evens — noun ○ it makes no odds it makes no difference ○ to be at odds with someone to disagree with someone all the time

odds and ends /ˈoddz an ′endz/ plural noun a group of various things that have no connection with each other

odds-on /ˈoddz ′on/ adj likely to happen (informal)

ode /ˈoʊd/ noun a long poem often addressed to a person or thing

odious /ˈɔdiəs/ adj very unpleasant. Synonym hateful. Antonym delightful

odour /ˈɔdər/ noun 1. a smell, scent ○ I think I can detect a faint odour of cheese. 2. ○ to be in good or bad odour with someone to be in favour or out of favour with someone

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○ She’s not in very good odour with my parents. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is odor.)

odourless /ˌɔdərəls/ adj which you cannot smell (NOTE: The US spelling is odorless.)

odyssey /ˈɔdəsi/ noun a long journey with many exciting or unusual events

oesophagus /ˌesəfəgəs/ noun the tube in your throat down which food and drink goes from the mouth to the stomach (NOTE: The US spelling is esophagus.)

oestrogen /ˌoɪstrədʒən/ noun a hormone produced in the ovaries which controls sexual development and the reproductive system (NOTE: The US spelling is estrogen.)

of /ov, ov/ prep 1. showing a connection ○ She’s the sister of the girl who you met at the party. ○ Where’s the top of the jam jar? ○ What are the names of Henry VIII’s wives? 2. showing a part or a quantity ○ a litre of orange juice ○ How much of the cloth do you need? ○ Today is the sixth of March. ○ There are four boys and two girls – six of them altogether. ○ Half of the staff are on holiday. 3. making a description ○ The school takes children of ten and over. ○ The town of Edinburgh is important for its festival. 4. showing position, material, cause ○ He lives in the north of the town. ○ The jumper is made of cotton. ○ She died of cancer. (NOTE: Of is often used after verbs or adjectives: to think of, to be fond of, to be tired of, to smell of, to be afraid of, etc.)

of course /əv ′kɔrs/ adv 1. used to say ‘yes’ or ‘no’ more strongly ○ Are you coming with us? – Of course I am! ○ Do you want to lose all your money? – Of course not! 2. naturally ○ He is rich, so of course he lives in a big house.

off /əf/ adv, prep 1. showing movement or position away from a place ○ We’re off to the shops. ○ The office is just off the main road. ○ They spent their holiday on an island off the coast of Wales. ○ The children got off the bus. ○ Take your boots off before you come into the house. 2. away from work ○ She took the week off. ○ It’s my day off today.

offal /ˈɔf(ə)l/ noun organs such as the heart or liver of an animal used as food
off and on /of and ‘on/ adv not continuously, with breaks in between. Antonym regularly

off-balance /of ‘balans/ adv not standing steadily ○ The sudden movement of the bus threw her off-balance. ○ to catch someone off-balance to say or do something to somebody which takes them by surprise ○ Her question caught him off-balance and he didn’t know how to answer.

offbeat /of ‘bæt/ adj unusual

off-centre /of ‘sɛntə/ adj not at the centre of something (NOTE: The US spelling is off-center.)

off-chance /of tʃəns/ noun a slight possibility ○ on the off-chance in case something happens ○ off-colour /of ‘kʌlər/ adj not well (NOTE: The US spelling is off-color.)

off-duty /of ‘djuːti/ adv who is not on duty

offence /əfˈens/ noun 1. the state of being offended ○ to take offence at to be offended by ○ He took offence at being called a coward. ○ Don’t take offence – I didn’t really mean it. 2. a crime, an act which is against the law ○ He was charged with committing an offence. ○ Since it was his first offence, he was let off with a fine. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is offense.)

offend /əfˈend/ verb 1. to be or to go against public opinion or someone’s feelings ○ He offended the whole village by the article he wrote in the paper. ○ That wallpaper offends my sense of taste. 2. to commit a crime ○ He was released from prison and immediately offended again.

offender /əfˈendər/ noun a person who commits an offence against the law. Synonym criminal

offending /əfˈendɪŋ/ adj which causes trouble or makes somebody angry (humorous)

offensive /əfˈensɪv/ adj unpleasant, which offends ○ What an offensive smell! ○ The waiter was quite offensive. ■ noun 1. a military attack ○ The offensive was successful, and the enemy retreated. 2. to take the offensive, to go on the offensive to start to do something against someone ○ He took the offensive and demanded an explanation.

offensive weapon /əfˈensɪv ‘wepən/ noun a weapon which can be used to attack someone ○ to offer ○ to offer some one a job to tell someone that he can have a job in your company ○ If they offer you the job, take it. ○ He was offered a job, but he turned it down.

offering /ˈɔfɪrɪŋ/ noun a thing which is offered; a present

off-guard /əf ‘ɡɑːrd/ adj not prepared and therefore surprised when something such as an attack happens

offhand /əf ‘hænd/ adv immediately, without thinking carefully ○ I can’t say offhand whether I’ll be able to go. ○ an ad in an unfriendly way, not being really polite ○ She gave a very offhand reply. ○ He was very offhand about it. (NOTE: also offhanded in this meaning)

office /ˈɒfɪs/ noun 1. a room or building where you carry on a business or where you organise something ○ I’ll be working late at the office this evening. ○ Why is Miss Jones’s office bigger than mine? ○ We bought some new office furniture. 2. a doctor’s office ○ a room where a doctor sees his or her patients 3. a government department office block /ˈɒfɪs bλɒk/ noun a large building containing many offices

office hours /ˈɒfɪs hɔːz/ plural noun the time when an office is open ○ Staff are not allowed to make private calls during office hours.

official /ˈɔfɪʃl/ noun 1. a person who holds an official position ○ The customs official asked me to open my suitcase. 2. a person who is in charge of a group of other people in the armed forces ○ Ordinary soldiers must always salute officers.

officialdom /ˈɔfɪʃ(ə)ldəm/ noun government officials as a group, and their work (informal) (NOTE: no plural)

officialese /ˈɔfɪʃəliːs/ noun official language, which is difficult to understand

officially /ˈɔfɪʃlɪ/ adv 1. in an official way ○ He has been officially named as a member of the British team. ○ She has been officially named as our representative at the meeting. 2. according to what is said in public ○ Officially, you are not supposed to go in
officious /ˈɒfɪʃəs/ adj very ready to give advice or tell people what to do, especially when the advice is not wanted

officiousness /ˈɒfɪʃəsnəs/ noun being officious

offing /ˈɒfin/ noun 1 in the offing coming soon, available soon 2 there's a storm in the offing 3 he has a new book in the offing

off-key /ˈɒfki/ adv above or below the correct musical pitch

off-licence /ˈɒflɛnsɪ/ noun a shop which has a licence to sell alcoholic drinks to be taken away (NOTE: the US term is liquor store.)

off-limits /ˈɔflɪmɪts/ adj (of a place) where you are not allowed to go offline /ˈɒflain/ adj not connected to a computer

off-peak /ˈɒfpik/ adj not at the most busy time 1 off-peak fares are considerably less expensive 2 off-putting /ˈɒfput/ adj rather unpleasant or annoying

off season /ˈɒfˌsɛzn/ noun a time of year when there are fewer travellers, and when air fares and hotel prices are cheaper 1 in february, british airways was offering special off-season round-the-world fares. 2 tour operators try to get more people to travel during the off season. also called low season. antonym high season

offset /ˈɒfsɛt/ verb 1 to balance one thing against another 2 losses in france more than offset our profits in the domestic market. (note: offsetting – has offset)

offshoot /ˈɒfʃʊt/ noun something which branches from something else

offshore /ˈɒfsʃɔr/ adj 1 on the sea at a distance from the land 2 on an island which is a tax haven 3 offshore investments have produced a good rate of return.

offshore wind /ˈɒfʃɔər wʊnd/ noun a wind which blows from the coast towards the sea

off side /ˈɒfˈsaɪd/, offside /ˈɒfˌsaɪd/ noun the side of a car or other vehicle which is nearest the middle of the road

offside /ˈɒfˌsaɪd/ adv (in football) between the ball and the opposing team’s goal 1 the goal was disallowed because he was offside.

offspring /ˈɒfˈsprɪŋ/ noun 1. the young of an animal 2 the mother deer produces her offspring in early spring. 3. a child or children 4. her offspring are all very musical. (note: no plural)

offstage /ˈɒfstɛdʒ/ adv 1 outside the area of a stage used for acting 2 not seen by the public

off-the-cuff /ˌɒf ðə /ˈkʌf/ adj, adv made without notes 1 he was only asked to speak at the last minute, and for an off-the-cuff speech, it was excellent.

off-the-peg /ˌɒf ðə /ˈpeɡ/ adj, adv (of clothes) which are mass-produced, ready to fit any person of a certain size. also called ready-to-wear.

off-the-record /ˈɒf ðə /ˈrɛdər/ adj (of a statement) said privately and not to be repeated as an official statement or to have the speaker’s name published.

off-the-wall /ˌɒf ðə /ˈwaʊl/ adj very unusual and strange (informal). synonym bizarre

off-white /ˈɒfˌwaɪt/ adj yellowish white, like the colour of cream

often /ˈɔfθən/ adv many times, frequently 1 i often have to go to town on business. 2 do you eat beef often? 3 how often is there a bus to richmond? synonym seldom

very often from time to time 1 we go to the cinema every so often.

ogre /ˈɒɡr/ verb to look at someone in a way that shows a sexual interest in them

ogre /ˈɒɡr/ noun 1. an imaginary person in children’s stories, who is very large and cruel and eats people 2. pass in boots knocked at the door of the ogre’s castle. 2. a cruel, frightening person 3. the staff say he is an ogre and don’t like working for him.

oh /ɔ/ showing surprise, interest or excitement 1 noun (especially in a telephone number or a date) zero 0800 number /ˈɔʊ hʌndrəd /ˈnʌmbər/ noun a telephone number that can be rung free of charge

oil /ɔɪl/ noun 1. a liquid produced from plants which flows smoothly and is used in cooking 2. a thick mineral liquid found mainly underground and used as a fuel or to make something move smoothly 3. the door squeaks – it needs some oil. 4. some of the beaches are covered with oil. 5. the company is drilling for oil in the desert. 6. verb to put oil on or in something, especially in a machine or moving part to make it run more smoothly 7. you should oil your bicycle chain.

oiled /ˈɔɪld/ adj covered in or treated with oil
painted in oil paints

at a certain age

50263

home.

can’t stand her oily manner.

50263

o’clock – OK, let’s get going.

50263

used an old oily rag to clean his motorbike.

Antonym bought a new one.

makes me feel sick.

50263

nə

vertstrokesuperiorpenʃ

for oil

from which oil is pumped

old age pension /'old ədʒi ˈpɛnsən/ noun a government pension given to a person who is past retirement age

old age pensioner /ˈold ədʒi ˈpɛnsənər/ noun a person who has retired and lives on a pension. Abbr OAP

old boy network /ˈold ədʒi ˈnetwərk/ noun an informal system where men who were at school together help each other get ahead in later life

olden /ˈoldən/ adj referring to something in the distant past (archaic or literary). Antonym modern □ in olden days in the past (formal)

old-fashioned /ˈold ˈfeʃənd/ adj not in fashion ◆ She wore old-fashioned clothes.

□ Call me old-fashioned, but I don’t approve of the way young people behave. ◆ I prefer an old-fashioned cork-screw to this new-fangled contraption. Synonym out of date

old flame /ˈold ˈfləm/ noun a former boyfriend or girlfriend

old hand /ˈold ˈhænd/ noun a person who is very skilled and experienced at doing something

old hat /ˈold ˈhæt/ adj old-fashioned or out of date (informal). Synonym outmoded

oldie /ˈoldi/ noun an old-fashioned or out-of-date person or thing (informal)

old master /ˈold mɑstər/ noun 1. a very famous old painter ◆ They think the portrait may be by an Italian old master. 2. a painting by a very famous old painter ◆ There are several old masters in the collection

old school /ˈold skɔl/ adj referring to a traditional way of doing things based on old-fashioned values

old school tie /ˈold skɔl ˈtai/ noun a tie with a special design which shows which school you went to

old-style /ˈold stəl/ adj of a kind that was common or typical in the past. Synonym traditional. Antonym modern

olive /ˈɔlv/ noun 1. a small black or green fruit from which oil is made for use in cooking ◆ Olives are grown in Mediterranean countries like Spain, Greece and Italy. ◆ Which do you prefer – green or black olives? 2. a tree which produces this fruit

olive branch /ˈɔlv brəntʃ/ noun a sign of peace

olive oil /ˈɔlv/ noun an oil made from olives

Olympic /ˈɒlɪmpɪk/ adj referring to the Olympic Games

ombudsman /ˈəmbədzmən/ noun an official who investigates complaints by the public against government departments or
omelette /ˌɔməlɛt/ noun a dish made of beaten eggs, cooked in a frying pan and folded over before serving, with various fillings inside (NOTE: The US spelling is omlette.)

omen /ˈɔmɪn/ noun a thing that indicates what will happen in the future


 omission /əˈmɪʃən/ noun 1. the act of omitting 2. We were surprised at the omission of his name from the list of candidates.

omit /əˈmɪt/ verb 1. to leave something out 2. She omitted the date when typing the contract. 3. to omit to do something not to do something 4. He omitted to tell the police that he had lost the documents.

omnibus /ˌɒməˈnʌbəs/ noun 1. a book which includes several books all together 2. An omnibus edition of Sherlock Holmes stories. 2. a radio or TV programme bringing several programmes together which were previously broadcast separately 3. Don’t forget to listen to the omnibus edition on Saturday morning!

omnipotent /ˌɒməpəˈtənt/ adj all-powerful. Synonym almighty. Antonym powerless

omniscient /ɒmˈnɪskɪnt/ adj referring to someone who knows everything

omnivorous /ˌɒməvrəvər/ adj referring to an animal which eats both plants and other animals

on /ɒn/ prep 1. on the top or surface of something 2. Put the box down on the floor. 3. Flies can walk on the ceiling. 2. hanging from 3. Hang your coat on the hook. 3. showing movement or place 4. A crowd of children got on the train. 5. The picture’s on page three. 6. The post office is on the left-hand side of the street. 7. part of 8. She’s on the stuff of the bank. 9. He’s been on the committee for six years. 10. doing something 11. I have to go to Germany on business. 12. We’re off on holiday tomorrow. 13. referring to a time, date or day 14. The shop is open on Sundays. 15. We went to see my mother on my birthday. 16. on his or her arrival when he or she arrived 17. a means of travel 18. You can go there on foot – it only takes five minutes. 19. She came on her motorcycle. 20. about 21. The committee produced a report on German industry. 22. She wrote a book on wild flowers. 23. using an instrument or machine 24. He played some music on the piano. 25. The song is available on CD. 26. He was on the telephone for most of the morning. 27. The film was on TV last night. 28. paid by someone 29. The drinks are on me. 30. being worn 31. Have you all got your Wellingtons on? 32. The central heating was off, so he kept his coat on in the house. 33. working 34. Have you put the kettle on? 35. The heating is on. 36. She left all the lights on. 37. She turned the engine on. 38. He switched the TV on. 39. being shown or played 40. What’s on at the theatre this week? 41. continuing or not stopping 42. He didn’t stop to say hello, but just walked on. 43. He went on playing the trumpet even though we asked him to stop. 44. Go on – I like to hear you play the piano. 45. showing time has passed 46. from that time on 47. after that moment 48. from then on 49. He almost drowned, and from that time on refused to go near water.

on-air /ˈɒn ˈɛə/ adj needed, used for or occurring during broadcasting on radio or television

on and off /ɒn ənd / 1. on 2. and of 3. adv not continuously but with breaks in between. Synonym occasionally. Antonym continuously

once /wʌns/ adv 1. one time 2. Take the tablets once a day. 3. The magazine comes out once a month. 4. How many times did you go to the cinema last year? – only once. 5. once in a while 6. from time to time 7. It’s nice to go to have an Indian meal once in a while. 8. The government wants to eradicate poverty once and for all. 9. formerly, at a certain time in the past 10. Once, when it was snowing, the car skidded into a ditch. 11. He’s someone I knew once when I worked in London. 12. once upon a time 13. at a certain time in the past 14. Once upon a time, there was a wicked witch. 15. All at once 16. suddenly 17. All at once 18. the phone rang. 19. from that time on 20. after that moment 21. He almost drowned, and from that time on refused to go near water.

oncoming /ˈɒnməkɪn/ adj coming towards you. Synonym approaching

one /wʌn/ noun 1. number 2. One plus one makes two. 3. Our grandson is one year old today. 4. His grandmother is a hundred and one. 5. a single item 6. Have a toffee – oh dear, there’s only one left! 7. last but one the

other large organisations (NOTE: The plural is ombudsmen.)

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after another  

They came in one by one and sat in a row at the back of the hall.

to have a quick one to have a quick drink (informal)  

Let’s have a quick one before the meeting starts.

to have one for the road to have a last drink before leaving the bar (informal)  

Let’s have one for the road.

one another  

They ate all the chocolates one by one.

one way  

They came in one by one and sat in a row at the back of the hall.

one-on-one  

Two presidents had a one-to-one conversation.

one person  

The two presidents had a one-to-one conversation.

one piece  

They ate all the chocolates one by one.

on-the-spot  

The two presidents had a one-to-one conversation.

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onto
onto /ˈɔntə/ prep 1. on or to something • The speaker went up onto the platform. • The door opens directly onto the garden. • Turn the box onto its side. 2. to be onto something to have discovered something
on top of /ˈɔn ˈtɒp əv/ prep 1. on • He put the book down on top of the others he had bought. 2. in addition to • On top of all my office work, I have to clean the house and look after the baby. 3. to feel on top of the world to feel marvellous and excited
Onus /ˈɒnəs/ noun 1. responsibility for doing something difficult
onward /ˈɔnwaːd/ adj further forward • Nothing can stop the onward march of computer technology. • adv further forward • He urged his men onward towards the enemy positions
onward connection /ˈɔnwaːd kəˈnektʃən/ noun a train or plane which takes you on the next stage of your journey
onwards /ˈɔnwaːdz/ adv further forwards
oooh! /əʊ/ interj showing surprise or shock (informal)
Oops! /ʌpɔs/ interj showing surprise or that you are sorry (informal)
Ooze /ˈoz/ noun soft mud, especially at the bottom of a lake or the sea • The wreck lay buried in the ooze at the bottom of the lake.
verb (of liquid) to flow slowly • A black sticky liquid oozed from under the door. • A delicious cake oozing with cream.
Op /ˈɒp/ noun a surgical operation (informal)
Opacity /ˈɒpəsɪtɪ/ noun the state of being opaque
Opaque /ˈɔpək/ adj 1. which you cannot see through, but which does allow light through • The surface of the glass is treated to make it opaque. • Opaque black tights are the fashion this winter. 2. difficult to understand • The meaning of the document is completely opaque to me. • Her writings are notorious for being opaque to non-specialists.
OPEC /ˈɔpɪk/ noun a group of countries who produce and export oil • The OPEC meeting will be held in Geneva.
Open /ˈɔpən/ adj 1. not shut • The safe door is open. • Leave the window open – it’s very hot in here. 2. functioning or happening and which you can go into • Is the supermarket open on Sundays? • The show is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. • The competition is open to anyone over the age of fifteen. 3. without anything to protect you or without barriers • We like walking in the open air. • The garden is open on three sides. 4. receptive to new ideas or future possibilities • I’d like to keep an open mind until the investigation is completed. • She is keeping her options open. 5. frank and honest • I will be open with you. • With open arms in a friendly way • She was welcomed with open arms.
Open armed /ˈɔpən erˌmɪnd/ noun 1. a place outside which is not covered or hidden • Keep the plants in the greenhouse during the winter, but bring them out into the open in the summer. • The police investigation brought all sorts of offences out into the open. 2. a competition which anyone can enter provided he or she is good enough • He has qualified for the British Open.
Opening /ˈɒpənɪŋ/ noun 1. the action of becoming open • The opening of the exhibition has been postponed. • The office opening times are 9.30 to 5.30. 2. a hole or space • The cows got out through an opening in the wall. 3. an opportunity, such as a job vacancy • We have openings for telephone sales staff.
Opening hours /ˈɒpənɪŋ ˈɔrə/ plural noun the times that a business such as a shop or bank is working and open to the public.
Opening night /ˈɒpənɪŋ ˈnɔt/ noun the first evening performance when a new film or play is shown (NOTE: for a play also first night)
open invitation /ˌəʊpən ɪnˈvɪtəʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. an invitation to visit someone or somewhere at any time 2. something which encourages someone to do something wrong or to commit a crime ○ Leaving the garage door open was an open invitation to car thieves.

open letter /ˌəʊpən ˈleɪtər/ noun a letter to someone, published as an article in a newspaper and not actually sent to the person it is addressed to

openly /ˌəʊpənli/ adv in a frank and open way. Synonym candidly. Antonym secretly

open market /ˌəʊpən ˈmɑːrket/ noun a market where anyone can buy or sell

open-minded /ˌəʊpən ˈmɛnɪdɪd/ adj not having prejudices or fixed opinions and willing to listen to other people’s ideas. Synonym unbiased. Antonym narrow-minded

open-mouthed /ˌəʊpən ˈmaʊðəd/ adj with the mouth open in surprise or shock

openness /ˌəʊpənəs/ noun the state of being open

open on to /ˌəʊpən ˈɒn tu/ verb to lead out on to or to look out on to something

open-plan /ˌəʊpən ˈplæn/ adj describing a building or an area of a building with no internal walls to divide it up ○ an open-plan school ○ open-plan offices

open prison /ˌəʊpən ˈprɪzn(ə)ni/ noun a prison with few restrictions

open space /ˌəʊpən ˈspeɪs/ noun an area of land which has no buildings or trees on it

open up /ˌəʊpən ʌp/ verb 1. to start working ○ A new bookshop has opened up next door. 2. to make available for use ○ We are opening up the park to visitors.

open verdict /ˌəʊpən ˈvɜːdɪkt/ noun a verdict by a coroner’s jury, which does not decide how a person died

openwork /ˌəʊpən ˈwɜːrk/ noun decoration on an object formed by patterns made from holes, e.g. like those on some types of shoe

opera /ˈopə/ noun a performance on the stage with music, in which the words are sung and not spoken

operable /ˈopərəbl/ adj which can be made to work

opera house /ˈopərə ˈhɔʊs/ noun a theatre in which operas are performed

operate /ˈɔpərɪt/ verb 1. to make something work ○ He knows how to operate the machine. ○ She is learning how to operate the new telephone switchboard. 2. to do business ○ They operate in a different way from us. 3. to treat a patient by cutting open the body ○ She was operated on by Mr. Jones. ○ The surgeon decided she would have to operate on the patient.

operatic /ˌɔpərətɪk/ adj referring to opera

operating system /ˈɔpəreɪtɪŋ ˈsɪstərnm/ noun basic software that controls the running of the hardware on a computer, and the management of data files, without the user having to operate it

operating theatre /ˈɔpəreɪtɪŋ ˈθɛətər/ noun a special room in a hospital where surgeons carry out operations

opinion /ˈɒpiʃn/ noun 1. an organised action to achieve a specific goal ○ The rescue operation was successful. ○ to come into operation to begin to be applied ○ The new schedules came into operation on June 1st. 2. a treatment when a surgeon cuts open the body ○ She’s had three operations on her leg. ○ The operation lasted almost two hours.

operational /ˌɒpərəˈteɪʃ(ə)nəl/ adj 1. referring to the working of something ○ The operational procedure is described in the manual. 2. ready for use ○ The new set-up will be fully operational by next year.

operative /ˈɒpərətɪv/ adj working or in operation ○ a worker, especially one who operates a machine, etc. ○ The factory used to employ two hundred operatives.

operator /ˈɔpəreɪtə/ noun 1. a person who works instruments, etc. ○ He’s a computer operator. ○ She’s a machine operator. 2. a person who works a telephone switchboard ○ Dial 0 for the operator. ○ You can place a call through or via the operator.

opera /ˈopərə/ noun a performance on the stage with music, in which the words are sung and not spoken

ophtalmic /ˌɔptəlˈmɪk/ adj referring to the medical treatment of the eye

ophthalmologist /ˌɒfθəˈlɒmələdʒɪst/ noun a doctor who treats diseases of the eye ○ opinion /əˈpɪnʃn/ noun what someone thinks about something ○ Ask the lawyer for his opinion about the letter. ○ In my opinion, we should wait until the weather gets warmer before we go on holiday. ○ Tell me what in your opinion we should do.

opinionated /əˈpɪnʃnətɪd/ adj with strong fixed opinions. Antonym open-minded

opponent /ˈɒpənənt/ noun 1. a person or group which is against something ○ Oppo-
nents of the planned motorway have occupied the site. 2. (in boxing, an election, etc.) a person who fights someone else. 3. His opponent in the election is a local councillor. 4. He knocked out his last three opponents.

opportunity /ˈɒptrəni/ noun happening by chance at the right time. Antonym

inopportune

opportunism /ˌɒptrəˈnɪzəm/ noun being an opportunist

opponent /ˈɒpətən/ noun a person who takes advantage of opportunities, especially at the expense of others. Synonym

unscrupulous

opportunistic /ˌɒpəˈtrjuːnɪstɪk/ adj trying to take advantage from an opportunity which is offered. Synonym

unsupervised

opportunity /ˈɒpətrɪəti/ noun a chance or circumstances which allow you to do something. 1. When you were in London, did you have an opportunity to visit St Paul’s Cathedral? 2. I’d like to take this opportunity to thank all members of staff for the work they have done over the past year.

oppose /əˈpouz/ verb 1. to put yourself against someone in an election. 2. She is opposing him in the election. 3. to try to prevent something happening. 4. Several groups oppose the new law.

opposing /əˈpouznɪŋ/ adj 1. playing, fighting or arguing against you. 2. The players on the opposing team. 3. The players on the opposing side refused to shake hands with us. 4. He fouled a member of the opposing team.

opposite /ˈɑptəzɪt/ prep on the other side of, facing. 1. I work in the offices opposite the railway station. 2. She sat down opposite me.

opponent /ˈɑpətən/ noun the party or group which opposes the government. 1. The leader of the opposition rose to speak. 2. The party lost the election and is now in opposition.

oppress /əˈpres/ verb 1. to make people suffer, especially by harsh government. 2. barons oppressed the peasants. 3. to make someone feel shut in and depressed. 4. The atmosphere in this office really oppresses me.

oppressed /əˈprest/ adj treated in a cruel and unfair way

oppression /əˈpreʃən/ noun a cruel and unfair rule and control

oppressive /əˈpresɪv/ adj 1. cruel, using oppression. 2. Under the general’s oppressive regime, ordinary citizens were afraid to speak out against the government. 3. That makes people feel shut in and depressed. 4. There’s a very oppressive atmosphere in the office. 5. I find the hot, humid July weather very oppressive.

oppressor /əˈpreshər/ noun a person who oppresses others

opt /əpt/ verb to decide in favour of something

optical /ˈɑptɪkl/ adj referring to the eye or to sight

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oppressive /əˈpresɪv/ adj 1. cruel, using oppression. 2. Under the general’s oppressive regime, ordinary citizens were afraid to speak out against the government. 3. That makes people feel shut in and depressed. 4. There’s a very oppressive atmosphere in the office. 5. I find the hot, humid July weather very oppressive.

oppressor /əˈpreshər/ noun a person who oppresses others

opt /əpt/ verb to decide in favour of something

optical /ˈɑptɪkl/ adj referring to the eye or to sight

opponent /ˈɑpətən/ noun a person who takes advantage of opportunities, especially at the expense of others. Synonym

unsupervised

opportunistic /ˌɑptəˈtrjuːnɪstɪk/ adj trying to take advantage from an opportunity which is offered. Synonym

unsupervised

opportunity /ˈɑptətrɪəti/ noun a chance or circumstances which allow you to do something. 1. When you were in London, did you have an opportunity to visit St Paul’s Cathedral? 2. I’d like to take this opportunity to thank all members of staff for the work they have done over the past year.

oppose /əˈpouz/ verb 1. to put yourself against someone in an election. 2. She is opposing him in the election. 3. to try to prevent something happening. 4. Several groups oppose the new law.

opposing /əˈpouznɪŋ/ adj 1. playing, fighting or arguing against you. 2. The players on the opposing team. 3. The players on the opposing side refused to shake hands with us. 4. He fouled a member of the opposing team.

opposite /ˈɑptəzɪt/ prep on the other side of, facing. 1. I work in the offices opposite the railway station. 2. She sat down opposite me.

opponent /ˈɑpətən/ noun the party or group which opposes the government. 1. The leader of the opposition rose to speak. 2. The party lost the election and is now in opposition.
optional /ˈɒpjələnt/ adj rich, luxurious or splendid. Antonym sparse

opus /ˈɔpəs/ noun 1. an important piece of music which is given a number 2. a large work of art. The gallery isn’t big enough to house his latest opus. 3. or /ɔr/ conj 1. linking alternatives or showing other things that can be done ○ You can come with us in the car or just take the bus. ○ Do you prefer tea or coffee? ○ Was he killed in an accident or was he murdered? ○ The film starts at 6.30 or 6.45, I can’t remember which. 2. approximately ○ Five or six people came into the shop. ○ It costs three or four dollars. ○ or else 1. or if not ○ Don’t miss the bus, or else you’ll have a long wait for the next one. ○ Put a coat on to go out, or else you’ll catch cold. ○ We’d better get up early or else we’ll miss the train. ○ You must have a ticket, or else you will be thrown off the train by the inspector. 2. otherwise ○ You’d better pay, or else.

oracle /ˈɔrəkəl/ noun (in Ancient Greece) a person who answered questions about the future.

oral /ˈɔrəl/ adj spoken, by speaking ○ There is an oral test as well as a written one. noun an examination where you answer questions by speaking and not writing ○ He passed the written examination but failed the oral.

orally /ˈɔrəli/ adv 1. by speaking ○ He replied orally to the written questions. 2. by the mouth ○ The medicine should be taken orally.

orange /ˈɔrɪndʒ/ noun 1. a sweet, brightly coloured Mediterranean fruit ○ roast duck and orange sauce ○ She had a glass of orange juice and a cup of coffee for breakfast. 2. the colour of an orange ○ She painted the bathroom a very bright orange. ■ adj of the colour of an orange ○ That orange tie is awful. ○ She wore a dark orange dress.

optional /ˈɒpjələnt/ adj which may or may not be chosen. Antonym compulsory

optional extra /ˈɔpʃənl ˈɛkstrə/ noun an extra fitting which can be added to a car, but are not provided in the basic model.

optometrist /ˈɒptəˌmətrəst/ noun a person who tests your eyesight, prescribes and sells glasses or contact lenses, etc. Also called optician

opt-out /ˈɒpt ˌaut/ verb to decide not to take part in something ○ She decided to opt out of the pension scheme. ○ I think I’ll opt out if you don’t mind. ○ He opted out of the trip because he couldn’t afford the price of a ticket.

opulence /ˈɒpjuːləns/ noun the action of opting out of something.

order /ˈɔrədər/ noun 1. a person who speaks well in public ○ One of best orators in Parliament. 2. a person making a speech.

oracle /ˈɔrəkəl/ noun a speech orator /ˈɔrətər/ noun 1. a person who speaks well in public ○ One of best orators in Parliament. 2. a person making a speech.

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organism 591 orthodoxy

ary or looseleaf book, in which you enter your appointments, addresses, etc.

organism /ɔrˈɡənim/ noun a living thing

organist /ɔˈɡənist/ noun a person who plays the organ

orgasm /ˈɔrgæzəm/ noun the climax of a sexual act, when a person experiences a moment of great excitement

orgy /ˈɔrgi/ noun 1. an uncontrolled party with drinking, dancing and sexual activity. 2. The celebrations rapidly became a drunken orgy. 3. Jenny’s birthday party turned into an all-night orgy. 2. an uncontrolled activity 3. an orgy of spending (NOTE: The plural is orgies.)

orient /ɔˈrɪənt/ verb same as orientate

oriental /ɔˈrinətl/ adj referring to the countries of East Asia (dated and literary)

orientate /ɔˈrinəteɪt/ verb 1. to get yourself accustomed to a new place or ready for a new situation or job 2. She’ll need time to orientate herself after her long trip abroad. 2. to put something in a certain direction 3. The house is orientated towards the west. (NOTE: [all senses] The preferred US term is orient.)

orientation /ɔˈrɪəntəʃən/ noun 1. the attitudes, views or aims of a person or organisation 2. the process of helping people to get to know a place, job or subject. 3. All new students take an orientation course in their first week at college. 4. being placed along a particular line or facing in a particular direction 5. The church’s orientation is north-south, instead of the more usual east–west

orifice /ɔˈrɪfs/ noun a hole or opening (formal)

origami /ɔˈrɪɡəmɪ/ noun the Japanese art of folding paper to make interesting shapes

original /ˈɔrɪdʒənl/ adj 1. from the beginning 2. The original idea for his paintings came from his own garden. 3. new and different 4. They solved the problem by using a very original method. 5. The planners have produced some very original ideas for the town centre. 6. not a copy 7. They sent a copy of the original invoice. 8. He kept the original receipt for reference. 9. a thing from which other things are copied 10. Send a copy of the will but keep the original. 11. The original was lost in the post but luckily I kept a copy. 12. She found that the old painting she had bought in a jumble sale was an original and not a copy.

originality /ˌɔrɪdʒəˈnalɪti/ noun the fact of being original, new or different. Synonym innovation

originally /ˌɔrɪdʒəˈnəli/ adv in the beginning 2. Originally it was mine, but I gave it to my brother.

organization /ˌɔrɪnɪˈzeɪʃən/ noun an uncontrolled party 2. There’s a row of china ornaments on the mantelpiece. 3. verb /ˌɔrɪnɪˈment/ to add a decoration to something 4. The cake was ornamented with flowers in pink and green icing. Synonym adorn ornament

ornamental /ˌɔrɪnəˈmentəl/ adj with too much ornamentation. Synonym elaborate

ornithologist /ˌɔrɪnθəˈlɒdʒɪst/ noun a person who studies birds

ornithology /ˌɔrɪnθəˈlɒdʒi/ noun the study of birds

orphan /ˈɔrfn/ noun a child whose parents are dead. 1. She’s an orphan – her parents were killed in a car crash. 2. verb to make someone an orphan. 3. Hundreds of children were orphaned during the war.

orphanage /ˌɔrfnədʒi/ noun a home where orphans are looked after. Synonym home

orphanned /ˌɔrfənd/ adj (of a child) whose parents have died

orthodox /ɔrθəˈdɒks/ adj 1. holding the generally accepted beliefs of a religion or a philosophy 2. The Chancellor of the Exchequer is following orthodox financial principles. 2. observing traditional religious practices very strictly

orthodoxy /ɔrθəˈdɒksi/ noun 1. the generally accepted beliefs of a religion, a philosophy, etc. 2. The orthodoxy of some of the bishop’s beliefs was questioned in the article. 2. an opinion that is generally accepted at a
which is not clear for some medical conditions that involve bones and joints.

orthopaedic /ɔ:θə'pɪdɪk/ adj referring to the treatment of bones and joints
orthopaedics /ɔ:θə'pɪdɪks/ noun a branch of medicine dealing with bones, etc.

OS abbr: outside

Oscar /ˈɔːskər/ trademark an Academy Award

oscillate /ˈɒsɪleɪt/ verb to swing from one side to the other

oxmosis /ɒksˈməʊsɪs/ noun the movement of a solution from one part through a semi-permeable membrane to another part

ostensible /ˈɒstɛnsbəli/ adj which seems on the surface to be real, when in fact it is not

ostensibly /ˈɒstɛnsbli/ adv seeming to be real, when in fact it is not

ostentation /ˌɒstenˈteɪʃən/ noun showing off in a luxurious way, so as to impress

ostentatious /ˌɒstenˈteɪʃəs/ adj looking showy and expensive, so as to impress. Synonym: flashy

osteopathy /ˌɒstəˈpɑːθi/ noun a treatment for some medical conditions that involves massaging and bending parts of the body

osteoporosis /ˌɒsˈtɛpərəsɪs/ noun a condition where the bones become thin, porous and brittle, because of lack of calcium and lack of physical exercise

ostracise /ˌɒstrəsɪz/ ostracize verb to refuse to talk to somebody or allow them to be part of a group

ostracism /ˌɒstrəˈsɪzəm/ noun being rejected by a group or by society. Antonym: inclusion

ostrich /ˈɒstrɪtʃ/ noun a very large bird which cannot fly but which can run fast, and is found in Africa (NOTE: The plural is ostriches)

Our /əʊər/ adj 1. a different person or thing. 2. We were enjoying ourselves when the police came. 2. all by ourselves with no one else; with no help from anyone else. 3. We don’t like being all by ourselves in the dark house. 4. Ours /əʊəz/ pron a thing or person that belongs to us. 5. That house over there is ours. 6. Friends of ours told us that the restaurant was good. 7. Can we borrow your car, because ours is being serviced? (NOTE: Do not confuse with hours.)

out /aʊt/ adj 1. away from inside 2. How did the tiger get out of its cage? 3. She pulled out a box of matches. 4. Take the computer out of its packing case. 2. not at home 3. No one answered the phone – they must all be
out. 3. away from here. The tide is out. The fishing boats left the harbour and are now out at sea. (NOTE: Out is often used with verbs: to jump out, to come out, to get out. out is often followed by of.) 4. wrong in calculating. The cash in the till was £10 out.

5. not in fashion. Long hair is out this year.

6. just appeared. (of fire or light) no longer burning. All the lights are out in the building, so I assume it’s empty.

outback /’autbaek/ noun (in Australia) the areas away from centres of population. Synonym wilderness

outbid /’aut’bcd/ verb to bid higher than someone else

outbox /’aut’boks/ noun US an out tray

outbreak /’autbrek/ noun a sudden series of cases of an illness or unrest. Synonym eruption

outbuildings /’autbildʒnz/ plural noun buildings near to a main building

outcast /’aut’klaʃt/ noun a person who has been rejected by society, or driven away from a group. Synonym untouchable

outclass /’aut’klæs/ verb to be significantly better than other people at doing something

outcome /’autkɔʊm/ noun a result. The outcome of the match was in doubt until the final few minutes.

outcry /’autkraɪ/ noun a loud protest from a number of people

outdated /’aut’deʊtd/ adj old-fashioned. Synonym antiquated

outdo /’aut’dəʊ/ verb to do better than someone. Synonym exceed (NOTE: outdid /’aut’dɪd/ – outdone /’aut’dʌn/) or outperformed /’aut’pɜːrform/.

outdoors /’autdrəʊz/ adv in the open air. Synonym outside. Antonym indoor

outdoors /’autdrəʊz/ adv in the open air, not inside a building. The ceremony is usually held outdoors. Why don’t we take our coffee outdoors and sit in the sun?

outfitter /’aut’fɪtə/ noun often for a particular purpose. She bought a new outfit for the wedding.

outfit /’autfɪt/ noun a set of clothes, often for a particular purpose. She bought a new outfit for the wedding. For the fancy dress party she wore a nurse’s outfit.

outflank /’autflæŋk/ verb to go round the side of an enemy

outflow /’autflɔʊ/ noun a quantity which flows out

outgoing /’aut’gɔʊn/ adj 1. referring to a phone call or post which is going out of a building. He hurried to catch the outgoing post. 2. lively, who likes to be with others. He has a very outgoing personality. 3. referring to someone who is leaving a job. She proposed a vote of thanks to the outgoing chairman.

outgoings /’autgəʊnz/ plural noun regular expenditure

outgrow /’aut’grɔʊ/ verb 1. to grow too big for clothes. She’s already outgrown the dress I bought her for Christmas. 2. to change your behaviour as you grow up. We hoped they’d soon outgrow that sort of behaviour. (NOTE: outgrew – outran. You can also say to grow out of.)

outing /’autɪŋ/ noun a short trip. Synonym visit

outlandish /’aut’lændiʃ/ adj strange or different from the usual. Synonym unusual. Antonym usual

outlast /’aut’lɑːst/ verb to exist longer than another person or thing or to be successful for longer than another thing

outlaw /’autlɔʊ/ verb 1. to say that something is unlawful. The government has proposed a bill to outlaw drinking in public. 2. to declare someone to be beyond the protection of the law. They read about Robin Hood, the famous English outlaw.

outlay /’autleɪ/ noun money spent. Synonym expenditure

outlet /’autlət/ noun 1. a place where something can be sold or distributed. He owns a small number of clothing outlets in south-east London. 2. the means by which an idea or feeling can get out. He did...
out of the way /əut ʌv 'ðeɪ/ adj 1. not near any main town  o They live in an out of the way village in the West Country. Synonym remote 2. ◆ nothing out of the way not unusual, not extraordinary ◆ out of touch /əut ʌv 'tʌtʃ/ adj 1. not having the most recent information about something  o He seems out of touch with what’s been happening in his department. 2. not communicating with somebody by letter or telephone  o We’ve been out of touch with our relations in Canada for several years.

out of work /əut ʌv 'wɜːk/ adv with no job  o The recession has put millions out of work. ■ adj with no job  o The company was set up by three out-of-work engineers. Synonym unemployed

out of your depth /əut ʌv 'jɔː dɛp/ adv 1. in deep water and not able to touch the bottom  o She got out of her depth and had to be rescued by the lifeguards. 2. unable to understand  o He’s quite out of his depth in discussions about monetary theory.

out of mind /əut ʌv 'maɪnd/ adv mad or irrational

outpace /əut'pɛs/ verb to go faster than someone

outpatient /əut′pɛtʃənt/ noun a person who goes to a hospital for treatment, without staying there overnight

outplay /əutˈpleɪ/ verb to play better than someone else

outpour /əut′pɔːr/ noun the sudden expression of a strong emotion or production of something in large amounts

outrage /ˈaʊtrɪdʒ/ noun an offence or vigorous attack against moral standards  o The terrorist attack on the market is an outrage.

out of date /ˌɑt ʌv 'deɪt/ adj 1. without recent information 2. no longer in fashion  o Flared trousers are rather out of date.

out of pocket /ˌɑt ʌv 'pɒkt/ adj having lost money which you paid personally

out of print /ˌɑt ʌv 'prɪnt/ adj with no printed copies left

outnumber /ˌɑt′nʌmbər/ verb to be greater in number than something

out of /əut ʌv/ prep 1. outside of  o Get out of my way!  o They went out of the room.

out of print /əut′pɔrt/ noun a small town or small fort in a distant part of an occupied territory

out of work /əut′wɜːk/ noun an amount which a firm, machine or person produces  o The factory has doubled its output in the last six months.

out of town /əut ʌv 'tɔn/ adv not near a town centre

out of touch /əut ʌv 'tʌtʃ/ verb to shock, to be a cause of great indignation  o His behaviour outraged his parents. Synonym infuriate. Antonym placate

out of print /əut′rɪdʒ/ adj causing indignation and shock. Synonym disgraceful. Antonym commendable

out of date /əut′rɪdʒ/ adv in an outrageous way
outreach /'autrɪtʃ/ adj referring to services provided outside an organisation’s buildings.

outright /'autrɪrˠt/ adj complete ○ The play was an outright success. ○ She’s the outright winner of the competition. adv 1. openly ○ He told me outright that he didn’t like me. 2. immediately ○ The van hit him and he was killed outright.

outside /'autsaɪd/ noun the outer surface or the part which is not inside ○ He polished the outside of his car. ○ The apple was red and shiny on the outside, but rotten inside. Synonym exterior. Antonym inside adj which is on the outer surface of a building. ○ adv not inside a building ○ It’s beautiful and warm outside in the garden. ○ The dog’s all wet — it must be raining outside. prep in a position not inside ○ I left my umbrella outside the front door. ○ This is outside my field of research.

outside broadcast /'autˌbɑːskərɛst/ noun a programme not done in the studio.

outside lane /'autˌsɛld lɛn/ noun a track nearest the centre of a road, used by the faster-moving vehicles.

outsider /'autˌsaɪdər/ noun 1. a person who does not belong to a group ○ She has always been a bit of an outsider. 2. a horse which is not expected to win a race ○ The outsider won the race by a neck.

outskirts /'autskərts/ plural noun the outer edges of a town or similar place. Synonym border.

outspeak /'autˌspʊk/ verb to speak very frankly. Synonym frank. Antonym tactful.

outstanding /'autˌstændɪŋ/ adj 1. excellent or of a very high standard or quality ○ Her performance was outstanding. ○ an antique Chinese vase of outstanding quality. 2. not yet paid ○ The invoice from the solicitor is still outstanding. ○ I have some outstanding bills to settle.

outstay /'autˌsteɪ/ verb to outstay your welcome to stay longer than your hosts thought you were going to stay.

outstretched /'autˌstrɛtʃt/ adj which is stretched out.

outstrip /'autˌstrɪp/ verb 1. to go faster than someone ○ They outstripped everybody else in their new boat. ○ She outstripped all the other competitors to win the race. 2. to do better than someone ○ Japanese firms have been outstripping their American rivals. (NOTE: outstripping – outstripped)

outward /'autˌwɔrڈ/ adj 1. towards the outside or away from the centre or starting point ○ The outward journey takes about six hours. 2. on the outside ○ His outward appearance belies his true character.

outward bound /'autˌwɔrd bɔːnd/ adj referring to an aeroplane or boat that is making a journey away from a place.

outwardly /'autˌwɔrdli/ adv as it seems on the outside.

outwardly /'autˌwɔrdli/ adv towards the outside or away from the centre or starting point (NOTE: The US term is outward.)

outweigh /'autˌwɛt/ verb to be more important than something. Synonym over-shadow.

outwit /'autˌwɪt/ verb to trick someone by being cleverer than they are. Synonym out-smart. (NOTE: outwitting – outwitted) outworn /'autˌwɔrn/ adj no longer useful. Synonym obsolete.

ovary /'ɔvərɪ/ plural of ovum.

oval /'əʊvəl/ noun a long rounded shape like an egg ○ He drew an oval on the paper. adj with a long rounded shape like an egg ○ The pie was cooked in an oval bowl. ○ A rugby ball isn’t round but oval.

ovarian /'ɔvərɪəriən/ adj referring to the ovaries.

oval /'əʊvəl/ noun one of two organs in a woman or female animal which produce ova or egg cells and secrete the female hormone oestrogen. (NOTE: The plural is ovaries.)

ovation /'ɔvərəʃən/ noun great applause. Synonym standing ovation.

oven /'ɔvən/ noun a metal box with a door, which is heated for cooking ○ Don’t put that plate in the oven — it’s made of plastic. ○ Supper is cooking in the oven. ○ Can you look in the oven and see if the meat is cooked?

ovenproof /'ɔvənprəfluː/ adj which can be put into a hot oven without any danger of being cracked by the heat.

over /'əʊvər/ prep 1. above ○ He put a blanket over the bed. ○ Planes fly over our house every minute. ○ The river rose over its banks. 2. on the other side or to the other side ○ Our office is just over the road from the bank. ○ He threw the ball over the wall. ○ The children run over the road. 3.
from the top of © He fell over the cliff © She looked over the edge of the balcony. 4. during © Over the last few weeks the weather has been cold and wet. © Let’s discuss the problem over lunch. 5. more than © Children over 16 years old have to pay full price. © The car costs over £40,000. © We had to wait for over two hours. 6. by means of © I heard the news over the radio this morning. © adv 1. several times © He plays the same CD over and over again. 2. down from being up © The bottle fell over and all the contents poured out. © She knocked over the plant pot. © He leaned over and picked up a pin from the floor. 3. more than © Children of 16 and over pay full price. © There are special prices for groups of 10 and over. 4. not used, left behind © Any food left over after the meal can be given to the poor. 5. thoroughly © Think it over and let me know what you decide. 6. across something like a road or a field © She’s gone over to her friend’s house. (NOTE: over is used after many verbs: to run over, to fall over, to come over, to look over.) © adj finished © Is the match over yet? © When the civil war was over everyone had more food to eat. © noun one of the sections of a cricket match, during which one bowler bowls six times.

over- (suvaʊ) pref. 1. extremely © overanxious 2. more than © the over-60s 3. too much © overworked © overdone

© overall adj © over(ær)©/ lengthmarkl© covering or taking in everything © The overall outlook for the country is good. © The overall impression was favourable. Synonym general © adv over/ (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl© taking in everything © Overall, her work has improved considerably. © noun over(ær)©/ lengthmarkl© a light coat worn at work © He was wearing a white overall as he had just come out of the laboratory. © Put an overall over your clothes before you start painting. © overall majority © over(ær)©/ lengthmarkl© a majority over all other parties in Parliament taken together

overalls © over(ær)© plural noun a one-piece suit of trousers and top worn over normal clothes to keep them clean when you are working

overbalance © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ verb to lose your balance. Synonym meek

overbearing © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ adj trying to dominate others. Synonym arrogant. Antonym meek

overboard © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ adv 1. into the water from the edge of a ship, etc. © man overboard! someone has fallen into the water! 2. to go overboard for something to be enthusiastic about something (informal) © I don’t go overboard for his paintings.

overcast © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ adj (of the sky) dull and cloudy. Synonym gloomy

overcharge © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ verb to charge someone too much for something

overcoat © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl© noun a thick outdoor coat which you wear over other clothes

overcome © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl© verb 1. to gain victory over an enemy or problem © The army quickly overcame the invaders. © Do you think the drugs problem can ever be overcome? 2. to make someone helpless © She was overcome by fear. © Two people were overcome by smoke. (NOTE: overcame © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ has overcome)

overcompensate © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ verb to try to do more than you should to make up for something

overcrowded © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl© adj with too many people inside. Antonym deserted

overcrowding © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl© noun having too many people or things in a small area. Synonym congestion

overdo © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ verb to do too much, work too hard or to use too much of something © They overdid the red velvet and made the sitting room look like a bar. © Don’t overdo the exercises in the first few weeks. © The doctor says I’ve been overdoing it recently and need a rest. © He overdid it and strained his back.

overdone © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl© adj 1. exaggerated © All right, it’s a tragedy, but all that weeping and wailing was terribly overdone. 2. cooked too much © I complained because my steak was overdone. Antonym underdone

overdose © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl© noun a dose of a drug which is more than normal © She went into a coma after an overdose of heroin.

overdraft © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ noun an amount of money which you can withdraw from your bank account with the bank’s permission, which is more than there is in the account

overdraw © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ verb to take out more money from a bank account than there is in it (NOTE: overdrew © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ overdrawn © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©)

overdrawn © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl© adj (of a bank account) from which more money has been taken than there is in it

overdue © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ adj 1. which has not been paid at the correct time © This invoice is overdue – please pay immediately. 2. which is late © Her library books were overdue so she had to pay a fine. © This visit to my mother is long overdue.

overeat © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ verb to eat too much (NOTE: overate © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ overeaten)

overeating © (suvaʊ)©/ lengthmarkl©/ noun eating too much food
overestimate
verb /ˌəʊvərˈestɪmət/ to think something is larger or worse than it really is

overexert
verb /ˌəʊvərɪˈɛkstrə/ to overwork oneself

overhang
noun /ˈəʊvərheŋ/ a part which sticks out from something over a space

overhang verb /ˈəʊvərheŋ/ to stick out above something else

overflow
noun /ˈəʊvərfləʊ/ a liquid which has overflowed

overlook
verb /ˈəʊvərlʊk/ to cover part of something else (NOTE: overlapping – overlapped)

overgrown
adjective /ˈəʊvərɡraʊn/ covered with plants and weeds because of not being looked after

overhang noun /ˈəʊvərheŋ/ a part which sticks out from something over a space

overhang verb /ˈəʊvərheŋ/ to stick out above something else

overhaul verb /ˈəʊvərˈhəʊl/ to examine something carefully and make changes so that it works better

overhang noun /ˈəʊvərheŋ/ the upper storey of the house overhangs the street.

overhead
noun /ˈəʊvərheɪd/ the cost of something else (NOTE: overhead expenses same as overhead costs)

overdue
noun /ˈəʊvərdjuː/ the act of examining and improving or repairing something

overhead verb /ˈəʊvərˈhɛd/ to control someone by force

overhead expenses
noun /ˌəʊvərheɪd ˈɛkspənзз/ general expenses incurred by a business as a whole, such as salaries, heating and rent.
to do because it is beyond your capabilities. Better than you really is being more brilliant yourself than you are supposed to be. 

NOTE: oversimplification

NOTE: something overspill noun A population which moves from the centre of a town to an area outside

The city centre is overrun with tourists every summer. The former régime was overrun by foreign tourists every summer.

The meeting overran by thirty minutes. The orchestra played the overture.

The revolution led to the overthrow of the dictator. The former régime was overthrown and the dictator fled. Synonym conquer. Antonym uphold (NOTE: overthrow /ˈəʊvrəθaʊ/ - overthrown)

How much extra do I get for working overtime? Synonym energetically

overly /ˈəʊvərli/ adv openly

overtones /ˈəʊvərtəʊnz/ plural noun The suggestion of something which is not directly stated.

oversleep /ˈəʊvərsliːp/ verb to sleep longer than you meant to. Synonym sleep in (NOTE: overslept – has overslept)

overspend /ˈəʊvərˈspend/ verb to spend more than you should (NOTE: overspending – overspent).

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overt to 'The Magic Flute'. 2. □ to make overtures to someone to try to begin negotiations with someone □ The socialists made overtures to the communists with the aim of forming a left-wing alliance.

overturn /əʊvər'tɜːrn/ verb 1. to make something fall over or to turn upside down □ The baby accidentally overturned the goldfish bowl. □ The fishing boat overturned in the storm. 2. to vote against a previous decision □ The decision to raise subscriptions was overturned by the council.

overview /əʊvər'sviːv/ verb to give something a higher value than is right. Antonym undervalue

Ox /ɔks/ noun, plural oxen a type of shellfish with two shells, highly valued as food.

Oz /ɔz/ abbr ounce(s) (NOTE: say 'twelve ounces of flour', 'five ounces of butter')

owe /əʊ/ verb 1. to be due to pay someone money □ He still owes me the £50 he borrowed last month. 2. □ to owe something to someone to have something because of something else □ He owes his good health to taking a lot of exercise. 3. to feel that something should be done □ He owes her an apology. □ I owe my sister a letter.

owing to /əʊnɪŋ tuː/ prep because of

owl /əʊl/ noun a bird of prey which is mainly active at night

own /əʊn/ adjective or belonging to me or to him alone

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own up /əʊn ʌp/ verb, own up to /əʊn ʌp tuː/ verb to say that you have done something wrong

over-zealous /əʊvərˈzeləs/ adjective or eager in doing something

ovulate /əʊvjuˈleɪt/ verb (of a woman or female animal) to produce an egg inside the body

ovulation /əʊvjuˈleɪʃən/ noun the release of an ovum into one of the Fallopian tubes

ovum /əʊvəm/ noun a female egg cell which can develop into an embryo inside the mother's body when fertilised (NOTE: The plural is ova /əʊvəs/)

overweight /əʊvəˈweitə/ adjective having too much weight, e.g. because of eating too much. Antonym underweight

overwhelm /əʊvərˈwɛlm/ verb 1. to conquer someone or something completely □ His enthusiasm overwhelms me. □ There's no sense in owning two cars, since my wife doesn't drive. □ Who owns this shop? 2. □ to have more of something than you can do or cope with □ The new receptionist was overwhelmed by her job.

overwhelming /əʊvərˈwɛləmɪŋ/ adjective enormous □ There was an overwhelming response to their appeal for money. □ They got an overwhelming 'yes' vote.

overwork /əʊvərˈwɜːk/ noun too much work □ He is suffering from stress caused by overwork. □ to work too hard □ You've been overworking, you should take a day off. 2. to make someone work too hard □ He overworks the kitchen staff dreadfully. □ He is suffering from stress caused by overwork in the shop?

overwrite /əʊvərˈrɛt/ verb 1. to delete computer data or a computer file and replace with other data or a file with the same name 2. to write in a style that is too elaborate

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ownership /əʊnəʃɪp/ noun a situation where someone owns something. Synonym possession

overstrokesuperiorəυvə/vertstrokesuperiorǝυn/vertstrokesuperiorv/ashlju/lengthmark

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ox /ɔks/ noun male or female domestic cattle or a castrated bull used as a draught animal (NOTE: The plural is oxen /ˈɒksən/)

oxide /əʊkˈsaɪd/ noun a chemical compound formed of oxygen and another element

oxtail /ˈɒkstɪl/ noun the meat from the tail of a cow or bull used as food

oxygen /ˈɒksədʒən/ noun a common gas which is present in the air and is essential for plant and animal life

oyster /ˈʌɪstər/ noun a type of shellfish with two shells, highly valued as food

oz /əʊz/ abbr ounce(s) (NOTE: say 'twelve ounces of flour', 'five ounces of butter')
ozone /ˈozən/ noun a harmful form of oxygen, which is found in the atmosphere and which is poisonous to humans when concentrated

ozone layer /ˈozən ˈleɪər/ noun a layer of ozone in the upper atmosphere, formed by the action of sunlight on oxygen, which acts as protection against harmful rays from the Sun
p1 /pi:/, P noun the sixteenth letter of the alphabet, between O and Q
p2 abbr penny ○ This book costs 99p. ○ You should get a 60p ticket from the machine. ○ I bought the children 50p ice creams each.
penny pa /pa/ noun a child’s name for father (informal)
PA abbr personal assistant
p.a. abbr per annum
pace /peɪs/ noun 1. the distance covered by one step ○ Step three pace back. ○ Walk thirty paces to the north of the stone. 2. speed ○ to keep pace with to keep up with ○ She kept pace with the leaders for the first three laps. ○ Wages haven’t kept pace with inflation. ○ to set the pace (of a runner, driver, horse, etc.) to go fast, showing how fast a race should be run ○ The German driver set the pace in his Ferrari. ■ verb 1. to walk ○ He paced backwards and forwards in front of the house. 3. to set the pace for a runner ○ To help him train for the marathon she paced him on his bicycle.
pacemaker /ˌpæsmiːkər/ noun an electronic device which is implanted in a patient’s chest and which stimulates and regulates the heartbeat
pacific /ˈpaːsɪfɪk/ adj preferring peace and calm
-Pacific /-ˈpaːsɪfɪk/ noun same as Pacific Ocean
pacification /ˌpaːsɪˈfɪkəʃ(ə)n/ noun the calming of people who are angry or in revolt
-Pacific /-ˈpaːsɪfɪk/ noun the huge ocean between North America, South America, Asia and New Zealand
Pacific Rim /ˈpaːsɪfrɪm/ noun the countries round the edge of the Pacific Ocean, including South-East Asia, Japan, the Western States of the USA, South America, Australia and New Zealand
pacificism /ˌpaːsɪˈfɪsɪzəm/ noun opposition to war
pacifist /ˈpaːsɪfɪst/ adj supporting pacifism ○ The pacifist movement had many new members.

The pacifist movement had many new members.

pacifism ○ My father was a pacifist and refused to do military service.
pacify /ˈpaːsɪfai/ verb to make someone calm. Synonym calm. Antonym antagonise
-pack /pak/ noun 1. a set of things put together in a box ○ He bought a pack of chewing gum. 2. a set of playing cards ○ a pack of cards ○ Shuffle the pack. (NOTE: The US term is deck of cards.) 3. a group of wild animals together ○ a pack of wild dogs 4. a group of people or things ○ They’re a pack of fools. ○ He told us a pack of lies. 5. a bag which you can carry on your back ○ He carried his pack over his shoulder. 6. (in rugby) the group of forward players who form the scrum. ■ verb 1. to put things into a suitcase ready for travelling ○ The taxi’s arrived and she hasn’t packed her suitcase yet. ○ I’ve finished packing, so we can start. ○ He packed his toothbrush at the bottom of the bag. 2. to tell someone to pack his or her bags to tell someone to leave, or to sack someone (informal) ○ When he got home, she told him to pack his bags. 3. to send someone packing to send someone away ○ When the boys started to throw stones at her cat she soon sent them packing. 2. to put things in containers ready for sending ○ The books are packed in boxes of twenty. ○ Fish are packed in ice. 3. to put a lot of people or things into something ○ How can you pack ten adults into one tent? ○ The streets are packed with Christmas shoppers. ○ The supermarket shelves are packed with fruit and vegetables.

package /ˈpæk(ə)dʒ/ noun 1. a parcel which has been wrapped up for sending ○ There was a package for you in the post. ○ We mailed the package to you yesterday. 2. a box or bag in which goods are sold ○ Instructions for use are printed on the package. 3. a combination of salary and other benefits offered with a job ○ offered me a good salary package ○ to put something into packages ○ The chocolates are packaged in silver paper.
package deal /ˈpækɪdʒ dɪl/ noun an agreement where several different items are offered and must be decided on at the same time.
package holiday  /ˈpækɪdʒ/ noun a holiday where everything including a hotel, food and travel is arranged and paid for before you leave

package tour  /ˈpækɪtʊr/ noun a tour where everything including a hotel, food and travel is arranged and paid for before you leave

± packaging  /ˈpækɪŋ/ noun 1. the wrapping of goods  ○ The packaging is all done by machines. 2. paper, cardboard or plastic used to wrap goods  ○ The boxes are sent in dust-proof packaging.

± packed  /ˈpækd/ adj 1. full of people  ○ The restaurant was packed and there were no free tables. 2. put in a container

packed lunch  /ˈpækkt lʌntʃ/ noun sandwiches or other easily transportable food packed in a bag or box, and which you can eat for lunch.

packer  /ˈpækər/ noun a person who packs goods

± packet  /ˈpækkt/ noun 1. a small bag, parcel or box  ○ a packet of cigarettes  ○ a packet of soup 2. a large amount of money  ○ He made a packet on the deal.

pack ice  /ˈpæk ɪs/ noun a mass of ice covering the sea.

± pack in  /ˈpæk ɪn/ verb □ to pack it in to stop whatever you are doing (informal)  ○ It’s getting dark, let’s pack it in for the day.  ○ He packed in his job and bought a farm.

± packing  /ˈpækɪŋ/ noun 1. putting things into suitcases or bags  ○ My wife’s in the hotel room doing our packing. 2. material used to protect goods which are being packed  ○ The goods are sealed in airtight packing.

± packing case  /ˈpakɪŋ keɪs/ noun a large wooden box for carrying items which can be easily broken.

± pack off  /ˈpæk əf/ verb to send someone away (informal)

± pack up  /ˈpæk ʌp/ verb 1. to put things into a box before going away  ○ They packed up all their equipment and left. 2. to stop working  ○ I’ll pack up now and finish the job tomorrow morning. 3. to break down  ○ One of the plane’s engines packed up when we were taking off.

pact  /ˈpækt/ noun an agreement or treaty

± pad  /ˈpæd/ noun 1. a soft cushion which protects  ○ Put a pad of cotton on your knee. 2. a set of sheets of paper attached together 3. a soft part of the sole of an animal’s foot  ○ The tigers have pads on the sole of their foot. 4. (in cricket) one of two protective guards for the batsman’s or wicket-keeper’s leg 5. a room or flat (informal)  ○ I’ve got a little pad in the middle of Soho.  ○ verb 1. to walk heavily and softly  ○ The tiger was padding up and down in its cage. 2. to soften something hard by using soft material  ○ The chairs should be padded to make them more comfortable. 3. pad out (NOTE: padding – padded) padded  /ˈpædɪd/ adj with soft material in it

± padding  /ˈpædɪŋ/ noun 1. a soft material which protects, used in dressmaking, or to make things like cushions or chairs  ○ The tailor put some more padding in the shoulders of the jacket.  ○ We put cotton wool under the bandage as padding. 2. words added to a speech or article to make it longer  ○ The speech was over an hour long, but most of it was just padding.  ○ Your essay has got too much padding in it. (NOTE: no plural)

± paddle  /ˈpædəl/ noun 1. a small oar used to make a boat move through the water  ○ Help, I’ve dropped my paddle in the river! 2. a walk in shallow water  ○ The little children went for a paddle in the sea.  ○ verb 1. to make a boat move forwards using a paddle  ○ We stopped padding and let the canoe drift with the current. 2. to walk about in very shallow water  ○ They all took off their shoes and socks and paddled in the lake.

± paddle steamer  /ˈpædəl ˈsteɪmər/ noun a boat driven by large wheels on each side

± paddling pool  /ˈpædɪŋ pʊl/ noun a small shallow pool for little children

± paddock  /ˈpædɒk/ noun 1. a small enclosed field, where horses can run 2. an area at a racetrack where racehorses parade before a race

± paddie field  /ˈpædɪfiːld/ noun 1. a field filled with water, in which rice is grown  ○ Rice paddies are breeding grounds for mosquitoes. (NOTE: plural is paddies) 2. a fit of bad temper (dated)  ○ He got into a paddly and threw his toys out of the pram.

± padlock  /ˈpædlɒk/ noun a small portable lock, with a hook for locking things together  ○ The gate is fastened with a padlock.

± pad out  /ˈpæd əut/ verb to add text to a speech or article, just to make it longer

± paediatrician  /ˈpædɪtrɪʃən/ noun a doctor who specialises in treating children.

± paediatrics  /ˌpædɪˈtriːks/ noun the study of children, their development and diseases

± pagan  /ˈpeɪdʒən/ adj believing in a form of religion which is not one of the main formal religions  ○ The missionaries tried to ban pagan religious practices.  ○ The explorers visited a pagan temple.

± pagans  /ˈpeɪdʒənz/ noun a person who believes in a pagan religion.

± the Kings of Britain were pagans until they were converted by Christian missionaries.
not hurt. Synonym effortless
painless /'peɪnləs/ adj which does not hurt. Synonym effortless
painlessly /'peɪnləslɪ/ adv in a painless way
painstaking /'peɪntstəkiŋ/ adj 1. (of a person) working very carefully and thoroughly ○ She’s a very painstaking worker.
Antonym careless 2. (of work) careful and delicate ○ Cleaning a painting by Rembrandt is slow and painstaking work.

paint /peɪnt/ noun a coloured liquid which you use to give something a colour or to make a picture ○ We gave the ceiling two coats of paint. ○ I need a two-litre tin of green pain ○ The paint’s coming off the front door. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) verb 1. to cover something with paint ○ We got a firm in to paint the house. ○ They painted their front door blue. ○ She painted her toenails bright red. 2. □ to paint yourself into a corner get yourself into a situation that you cannot get out of (informal) □ to paint the town red to have a wild party in the town ○ After the exam results come out we are all going up to London to paint the town red. 3. to cover something with a liquid ○ The nurse painted his knee with antiseptic. 4. to make a picture of something using paint ○ She painted a picture of the village. ○ He’s painting his mother. ○ The sky is not easy to paint.
paintbrush /'peɪntbrʌʃ/ noun a brush used to put paint on something (NOTE: The plural is paintbrushes.)
painter /'peɪntə/ noun 1. a person who paints something such as a house ○ The painter is coming next week to paint the kitchen. 2. a person who paints pictures ○ He collects pictures by 19th-century French painters.

painting /'peɪntɪŋ/ noun 1. the action of putting on paint ○ Painting and decorating is my trade. 2. a picture done with paints ○ Do you like this painting of the old church? 3. a picture done with paints ○ She’s bought a new pair of boots.

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paintbrush /'peɪntbrʌʃ/ noun a brush used to put paint on something (NOTE: The plural is paintbrushes.)
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palais /pəlɛs/ noun a pattern, especially on fabric, scarves and cushions, made of curved shapes like drops of water

Pakistan /ˈpærkən/ adj referring to Pakistan o a Pakistani cricketer  ♦ noun a person from Pakistan  ♦ Our next door neighbour is Pakistani.

palm /pælm/ noun a friend (informal)

palace /ˈpæləs/ noun a large building where a king, queen, president, etc., lives.

doe /pælə/ adj nice to eat, tasting good

palette /ˈpælɛt/ noun 1. the top part of the inside of the mouth  ♦ I burnt my palate with the hot soup. 2. being able to judge the quality of food or drink  ♦ A trained palate easily distinguishes different types of wine. (NOTE: Do not confuse with palette, pallet.)

palatial /ˈpælɪəf(ə)l/ adj magnificent, like a palace. Synonym luxurious.

pale /pæl/ adj 1. light-coloured  ♦ What colour is your hat? – It’s a pale blue colour.

2. not looking healthy, with a white face  ♦ She’s always pale and that worries me.  ♦ When she read the letter she went pale. (NOTE: Do not confuse with pale, pallet.)

pall /pæl/ verb 1. to become pale  ♦ The sky paled as dawn broke. 2. to become less important  ♦ My problems paled into insignificance compared to his.

palette /ˈpælɛt/ noun 1. a flat board on which an artist mixes his or her colours  ♦ She squeezed a blob of paint onto her palette. 2. a range of colours available, especially on a computer graphics program  ♦ You can create your own colours and add them to the palette. (NOTE: Do not confuse with palette, pallet.)

pall /pæl/ noun 1. a pall of smoke

2. a cloth put over a coffin to cast a pall over something to make something seem gloomy  ♦ The illness of the bride’s father cast a pall over the wedding.

verb to become less interesting  ♦ Her bright chatter began to pall after a while.

pallet /ˈpælɛt/ noun a flat wooden frame on which goods can be stacked to be moved by a fork-lift truck. (NOTE: The US term is skid. Do not confuse with palette or pallette.)

palliative /ˌpælɪətɪv/ adj sickness pale

pallor /ˈpælə/ noun paleness of the face

palm /pælm/ noun 1. the soft inside surface of your hand  ♦ She held out some crumbs in the palm of her hand and the birds came and ate them. 2. a tall tropical tree with long leaves  ♦ an oasis surrounded by date palms

palm off /ˈpæm əf/ verb 1. to palm something off on someone to give something worthless to someone hoping that he or she won’t notice (informal)  ♦ We tried to palm off our old sofa onto my brother.

palm tree /ˈpæm tri/ noun a tall tropical tree with long leaves. Synonym palm.

palepable /ˈpæləpəb(ə)l/ adj which an artist mixes his or her colours

palepably /ˈpæləpəbl/ adv in a palepable way

palepitate /ˈpælipəteɪt/ verb to beat very quickly. Synonym flutter.

palmations /ˈpælɪməʃ(ə)n/ plural noun a rapid beating of the heart

pallty /ˈpɔltri/ adj very small (NOTE: paltrier – paltriest)

pampas /ˈpæmpəs/ noun grass-covered plains in South America

pampas grass /ˈpæmpəs ɡrɑːs/ noun a type of tall ornamental grass.

pamper /ˈpæmpər/ verb to treat someone too well, by giving him or her too much food or making his or her life too comfortable.

pamphlet /ˈpæmflelt/ noun a small booklet giving information about something. Synonym leaflet.

pamplie /ˈpæmpli/ noun 1. a metal cooking container with a handle  ♦ Boil the potatoes in a pan of water. 2. The bowl of a lavatory

verb 1. to criticise something  ♦ His latest film has been panned by the critics. 2. to pan for gold to sift mud in a stream hoping to find gold in it.

3. to move a camera sideways to take in a wider view. (NOTE: panning – panned)

panacea /ˌpænəˈsɪsə/ noun 1. a (universal) panacea something which cures everything or which solves every problem  ♦ A tight monetary policy is not the universal panacea everyone thought it was.

panache /ˈpænəʃ/ noun a confident and showy way of doing things

pancake /ˈpænkerk/ noun 1. a thin soft flat cake made of flour, milk and eggs, cooked in a frying pan  ♦ We ate pancakes and maple syrup for breakfast. 2. ♦ as flat as a pancake very flat  ♦ The country round Cambridge is as flat as a pancake.
who give advice on a problem

something

frightened

opinions on subjects

ing – paneled

panel-

. The US spelling is

book panders to the low taste of the reading

pandemonium /ˌpændəˈmɔːniəm/ noun great uproar and confusion. Synonym chaos

pander /ˈpændər/ verb ☞ to pander to something to try to satisfy something ☞ The book panders to the low taste of the reading public.

p & p abbr postage and packing

pane/pɛn/ noun a sheet of glass, e.g. in a window or door (NOTE: Do not confuse with pain.)

panel /ˈpen(ə)l/ noun 1. a flat rectangular piece which forms part of something ☞ Unscrew the panel at the back of the washing machine. 2. a section of different coloured material ☞ A pink skirt with white panels. 3. a group of people who answer questions or who judge a competition ☞ She’s on the panel that will interview candidates for the post. 4. a panel of experts a group of people who give advice on a problem ☞ verb to cover something with sheets of wood ☞ He decided to panel the study in oak. 5. The room is panelled in walnut. (NOTE: paneling – paneled.)

panel game /ˈpen(ə)l ɡeɪm/ noun a game on radio or TV where a group of people guess the answers to questions or give their opinions on subjects

panelled /ˈpen(ə)ld/ adj covered with panels

panelling /ˈpæn(ə)lɪŋ/ noun sheets of wood, used especially to cover walls (NOTE: The US spelling is paneling.)

pang /pæŋ/ noun a sudden strong feeling.

panicked ☞ verb to become frightened. (NOTE: panicking – panicked)

panic button /ˈpænɪk ˈbʌtn(ə)n/ noun a hidden button which can be pressed by someone who feels threatened

panic buying /ˈpænɪk ˈbaɪɪŋ/ noun a rush to buy something at any price because stocks may run out or because the price may rise

panic-stricken /ˈpænɪk ˈstrɪkn/ adj mad with fright. Synonym terrified. Antonym calm

panorama /ˈpænərəˈmɑːrə/ noun a view over a wide expanse of landscape

panoramic /ˌpænəˈræmɪk/ adj looking out over a wide area

pan out /ˈpæn ˈaʊt/ verb to turn out, to succeed (informal)

pants /pænts/ plural noun 1. GB briefs, shorts worn on the lower part of the body under other clothes ☞ She was standing by the window in her bra and pants. 2. US trousers ☞ The waiter was wearing a black jacket and a pair of striped pants. 3. I need a belt to keep my pants up.

panty hose /ˈpænti ˈhouz/ noun US a thin piece of clothing made of thin material, covering your hips, and your legs and feet separately, worn especially by girls, women and dancers (NOTE: The British term is tights.)

papal /ˈpep(ə)l/ adj referring to the pope

paparazzi /ˌpepaˈraːtsi/ plural noun photographers who follow famous people to take pictures of them for newspapers ☞ The paparazzi were lying in wait for the couple as they left the hotel. (NOTE: plural; the singular is paparazzo)

papaya /ˌpaˈpaɪə/ noun a green tropical fruit with yellow flesh. Also called pawpaw

paper /ˈpeɪpər/ noun 1. a thin piece of material which you write on, and which is used for wrapping or to make books, newspapers and magazines ☞ He got a letter written on pink paper. ☞ I need another piece of paper or sheet of paper to finish my letter. ☞ There was a box of paper handkerchiefs by the bed. (NOTE: no plural for this meaning: some paper, a piece of paper, a sheet of paper) 2. a newspaper ☞ I buy the paper to read on the train every morning. ☞ My photo was on the front page of today’s paper. ☞ Our local paper comes out on Fridays. ☞ The Sunday papers are so big that it takes me all day to read them. (NOTE: The plural is papers.)

on paper in theory ☞ On paper the system is ideal, but no one has ever seen it working.
paperback /ˈpɑːrəbæk/ noun a cheap book with a paper cover (NOTE: Another US term is pocketbook.)

paper boy /ˈpərpə bɔː/ noun a boy whose job is to deliver newspapers to houses

paperclip /ˈpərpəklɪp/ noun a piece of bent wire for holding pieces of paper together

paper girl /ˈpərpə ɡɔːl/ noun a girl whose job is to deliver newspapers to houses

paper round /ˈpərpə rɔʊnd/ noun a group of streets or houses where one paper boy or girl delivers newspapers

paperweight /ˈpərpəwɛt/ noun a heavy block put on papers to prevent them from being blown away.

paperwork /ˈpərpəwɜːk/ noun office work (NOTE: no plural)

paper mâché /ˈpærə məʃeɪ/ noun a mixture of wet paper, used especially to make models

paprika /ˈpɑːprɪkə/ noun a red spice made from powdered sweet peppers

par /ˈpær/ noun 1. the fact of being equal or similar 2. a number of strokes usually needed by a good golfer to hit the ball into the hole 3. the shares are below par the shares are less than their face value 4. (in golf) the number of strokes usually needed by a good golfer to hit the ball into the hole 5. He went round in five under par 6. par for the course what usually happens (informal) 7. Jack forgot my birthday again, but that’s par for the course.

para /ˈpærə/ noun same as paratrooper (informal)

parable /ˈpærəbəl/ noun a short story with a religious or moral point. Synonym allegory

paracetamol /ˈpærəsɪtəməl/ noun a common drug, used to stop symptoms, e.g. of flu, colds and headaches (NOTE: plural: paracetamols) Take two paracetamol before breakfast.

parachute /ˈpærəʃuːt/ noun a large piece of thin material shaped like an umbrella, with cords attached, which allows you to float down slowly and safely from an aircraft 1. His parachute did not open and he was killed. 2. to jump from an aircraft with a parachute 3. The pilot parachuted safely from the burning plane. 2. to drop something attached to a parachute 4. They parachuted supplies to the villages.

parachutist /ˈpærəʃuːtɪst/ noun a person who jumps from an aircraft with a parachute

parade /ˈpərədeɪd/ noun 1. a display of soldiers 2. a series of bands, decorated cars, etc., passing in a street 3. The parade was led by a brass band.

Independence Day is always celebrated with a military parade through the centre of the capital.

The 49th parallel marks most of the border between Canada and the United States.

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parallelogram /ˌpærəˈleləɡræm/ noun a shape with four sides in which each side is parallel to the one opposite

paralyse /ˌpærəˈlaɪz/ verb 1. to cause paralysis in someone 2. to make someone or something unable to move or function normally for a short time • The strike paralysed the country. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is paralyze.)

paralysis /ˌpærəˈlɛlɪsɪs/ noun 1. a condition where the muscles of part of the body cannot move because of damage to the nerves 2. an inability to move or function normally • paralytic /ˌpærəˈlɪtɪk/ adj 1. paralysed in all or part of the body • a paralytic patient 2. so drunk you cannot stand up or move (informal) • This is the second time this week he’s gone out and got absolutely paralytic.

paramedic /ˌpærəˈmedɪk/ noun a person who works in a medical profession linked to that of nurse or doctor, such as an ambulance driver or therapist

parameter /ˈpærəmətər/ noun a value which shows the limits of something

paramilitary /ˌpærəˈmɪlətri/ adj organised in the same way as the army, but not a part of it • Members of paramilitary organisations were asked to surrender their arms. • noun a member of a paramilitary organisation • Paramilitaries supporting the President were blamed for the attack. • Paramilitaries set up roadblocks on all the roads leading into the area. Synonym rebel (NOTE: The plural is paramilitaries.)

paramount /ˌpærəˈməʊnt/ adj most important. Antonym minimal

paranoia /ˌpærəˈnɔɪəl/ noun a mental disorder in which the patient imagines things, usually that he or she is being persecuted or attacked. Synonym fear

paranoid /ˌpærəˈnoʊid/ adj suffering from a fixed delusion. Synonym suspicious

parapet /ˌpærəˈpɛt/ noun a small wall at the edge of a bridge or balcony

paraphernalia /ˌpærəˈfɛrnlə/ noun a mass of bits and pieces of equipment. Synonym things (NOTE: no plural)

paraphrase /ˌpærəˈfrɛs/ verb to repeat what someone has said or written, using different words. Synonym rephrase

paraplegic /ˌpærəˈplɛdʒɪk/ adj paralysed in the part of the body below the waist

parasite /ˌpærəˈsaɪt/ noun 1. an animal or plant which lives on or inside another organism and draws nourishment from it • Many diseases are carried by parasites. 2. a person who does no useful work and gets money from others • He is a parasite on society.

parasitic /ˌpærəˈsaɪtɪk/ adj referring to parasites

parasol /ˌpærəˈsɔl/ noun a light umbrella to protect you from the rays of the sun. Synonym sunshade

paratrooper /ˌpærətrəˈpʊər/ noun a soldier who is a parachutist (NOTE: often shortened to para)

paratroops /ˌpærətrəˈpropz/ plural noun A small group of paratroopers • The US spelling is paratroopers • plural noun paratroopers • A small group of paratroopers led the attack.

parcel /ˈpærəs(ə)l/ noun a package, e.g. one which is to be sent by post • The postman has brought a parcel for you. • The parcel was wrapped up in brown paper. • If you’re going to the post office, can you post this parcel for me? • verb to wrap and tie something up to send by post • I parcelled the books up yesterday but I haven’t posted them yet. Antonym unwrap (NOTE: parceling – parceled. The US spelling is parceling – parcelled.)

parcel out /ˈpærəs(ə)lˈaut/ verb to divide something up among several people. Synonym distribute

pared /ˈpærəd/ adj very dry due to lack of water

parchment /ˈpɑrʃmənt/ noun 1. skins of animals which were treated and used for writing on • Monks wrote books by hand on parchment. 2. a high-quality thick cream-coloured writing paper

pardon /ˈpɑrd(ə)n/ noun 1. the act of forgiving someone • I beg your pardon! excuse me! forgive me! • I beg your pardon, I didn’t hear what you said. • I do beg your pardon – I didn’t know you were busy. 2. the act of legally forgiving an offence which someone has committed • The prisoners received a free pardon from the president. • verb 1. to forgive someone for having done something wrong • Pardon me for interrupting, but you’re wanted on the phone. • Please pardon my rudeness in not answering your call earlier. 2. to forgive an offence which someone has committed and allow him or her to leave prison • Some political prisoners were pardoned and set free.

pare /pɛər/ verb 1. to take the skin or peel off something, e.g. a fruit or vegetable, with a knife • She took a sharp knife to pare the apple. • He pared a thin slice off the block of cheese. 2. to make something smaller by cutting off a small amount • He managed to pare three seconds off his previous best time. • To pare something to the bone to reduce something as much as possible • Margins have been pared to the bone to keep our prices low.

parent /ˈpærənt/ noun 1. a father or mother • 2. an organisation which owns or rules another • Our parent company is based in Switzerland.
parentage /ˈpærəntɪdʒ/ noun someone’s origin. Synonym ancestry

park /pɑːk/ noun 1. an open space with grass and trees 2. car park an area where you can leave a car when you are not using it 3. office car park full 4. a warm waterproof jacket with a hood 5. parked (of a vehicle) left somewhere, e.g. in a car park or standing at the side of the road 6. parking the action of leaving a car somewhere when you are not using it 7. no parking a sign showing that you must not park your car 8. parking bay a place for one car in a car park

parking lot /pɑːkɪŋ lot/ noun US an area where you can leave a car when you are not using it (NOTE: The British term is car park.)

parking meter /pɑːkɪŋ mɪtər/ noun a device into which you put money to pay for parking for a certain time

parking ticket /pɑːkɪŋ tɪkɪt/ noun a paper which you get when you leave a car parked wrongly, telling you that you will have to pay a fine

Parkinson’s disease /ˈpɑːrnɪznz di-ˌziːs/ noun a disease which affects the parts of the brain which control movement, making the hands and legs shake

parentage 608 parrot

parkland /pɑːkˈlænd/ noun open land with grass and trees

parish /ˈpærɪʃ/ noun 1. an area served by a church 2. an administrative district in a county with a church as its centre 3. He’s the vicar of a country parish 4. Father Thomas is our parish priest 5. Asian village 6. med. a place, especially where you are not wanted (NOTE: The plural is parishes.) 7. a member of one of the Houses of Parliament

parliament /ˈpærəlemt/ noun a group of elected representatives who vote the laws of a country 1. Parliament has passed a law forbidding the sale of dangerous drugs 2. parliamentarian /ˈpærəlemtəriən/ noun a member of one of the Houses of Parliament

parochial /ˈpɑːrəksiəl/ adj 1. referring to a parish 2. to parochial church council 3. The vicar takes his parochial duties very seriously 4. restricted and narrow-minded 5. Her outlook is too parochial

parody /ˈpærədɪ/ noun poetry, a play or a song which imitates someone to make fun 1. He wrote a parody of Wodehouse (NOTE: The plural is parodies.) 2. verb to imitate someone in order to make fun 3. His writing style is very easy to parody

parole /ˈpærəl/ noun 1. the act of allowing a prisoner to leave prison for a short time, on condition that he or she behaves well 2. He was given a week’s parole to visit his mother in hospital 3. the act of allowing a prisoner who has behaved well to be released from prison early on condition that he or she continues to behave well outside prison 4. She will be eligible for parole in three weeks’ time 5. He was let out on parole and immediately offended again 6. verb to let a prisoner out of prison on condition that he or she behaves well after six months he was paroled

paroxysm /ˌpærəksɪzəm/ noun a wild fit, e.g. of anger (informal)

parrot /ˈpærət/ noun 1. a brightly coloured tropical bird with a large curved beak 2. He keeps a green parrot in a cage in his sitting room 3. sick as a parrot very annoyed and upset (informal) 4. I put all my money on...
parry 609  partisan

the favourite and he came in last – I was sick as a parrot. Synonym mimic
parry /ˈpærə/ verb 1. to try to prevent a blow from hitting you. He tried to parry the blows which ruined down on his head. 2. to try to avoid giving an answer to a question. She skilfully parried the questions from the journalists.

parsimonious /ˈpaːsɪmənəs/ adj not liking to spend money
parsimony /ˈpaːsɪməni/ noun the fact of being a miser. Antonym extravagance
parsley /ˈpaːslɪ/ noun a green herb with flat or curly leaves, used in cooking
parsnip /ˈpaːsnɪp/ noun a plant with a thick white root which is eaten boiled or roasted as a vegetable and has a sweet taste
parson /ˈpaːsən/ noun a member of the clergy who is in charge of a parish in the Church of England (dated) cleric, minister, priest, vicar

parsonage /ˈpaːsənædʒ/ noun the house where a parson lives.

part /pɑːt/ noun 1. a piece. Parts of the film were very good. 2. a part of a large house. They spend part of the year in France. 3. a part of the country or house where a parson lives. 4. a character, e.g. in a play or film. He played the part of Hamlet. 5. to take part. a) to play a part. He played the part of Hamlet. b) to take part in something. They all took part in the game. Did he take part in the concert? 6. to separate, to split up. They parted at the church before leaving Italy. a) with parttake /pɑːrˈtɛk/ verb to take part of to eat (formal)

part exchange /pɑːrt ɪkˈʃɛnmənd/ noun giving an old product as part of the payment for a new one.

partial /ˈpɑːrʃəl/ adj 1. not complete. He got partial compensation for the damage to his house. The treatment was only a partial success. 2. partial to something. He's very particular about his food. He isn't particularly worried about the lawn. It's a particularly difficult problem. He isn't particularly worried about the result.

particular /pɑːˈtɪkjʊlər/ adj 1. special, referring to one thing or person and to no other. The photocopier only works with one particular type of paper. He's a particular type of person. 2. to take part. a) to participate /pɑːrˈtɪspərt/ verb to take part in something. b) participation /pɑːrˈtɪspərʃən/ noun the act of taking part in something. c) participle /pɑːrˈtɪspəl/ noun a word formed from a verb, used either to form compound tenses or as an adjective or noun. The present participle of ‘to go’ is ‘going’ and the past participle is ‘gone’.

particulate /pɑːrˈtɪkjʊlət/ adj a very small piece

Partisan /ˈpɑːrˌtɪzhən/ noun 1. strongly supporting a certain point of view. His partisan views are obvious in the article. 2. referring to local armed resistance against an occupying army. The invaders found themselves up against a partisan army.

partly /ˈpɑːrtli/ adv not completely. Synonym partly. Antonym completely

parsley /ˈpaːslɪ/ noun a green herb with flat or curly leaves, used in cooking
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particular /pɑːˈtɪkjʊlər/ adj 1. special, referring to one thing or person and to no other. The photocopier only works with one particular type of paper. 2. to take part. a) to participate /pɑːrˈtɪspərt/ verb to take part in something. b) participation /pɑːrˈtɪspərʃən/ noun the act of taking part in something. c) participle /pɑːrˈtɪspəl/ noun a word formed from a verb, used either to form compound tenses or as an adjective or noun. The present participle of ‘to go’ is ‘going’ and the past participle is ‘gone’.

particulate /pɑːrˈtɪkjʊlət/ adj a very small piece

Partisan /ˈpɑːrˌtɪzhən/ noun 1. strongly supporting a certain point of view. His partisan views are obvious in the article. 2. referring to local armed resistance against an occupying army. The invaders found themselves up against a partisan army.

partly /ˈpɑːrtli/ adv not completely. Synonym partly. Antonym completely

parsley /ˈpaːslɪ/ noun a green herb with flat or curly leaves, used in cooking
parsnip /ˈpaːsnɪp/ noun a plant with a thick white root which is eaten boiled or roasted as a vegetable and has a sweet taste
parson /ˈpaːsən/ noun a member of the clergy who is in charge of a parish in the Church of England (dated) cleric, minister, priest, vicar

parsonage /ˈpaːsənædʒ/ noun the house where a parson lives.

part /pɑːt/ noun 1. a piece. Parts of the film were very good. 2. a part of a large house. They spend part of the year in France. 3. a part of the country or house where a parson lives. 4. a character, e.g. in a play or film. He played the part of Hamlet. 5. to take part. a) to play a part. He played the part of Hamlet. b) to take part in something. They all took part in the game. Did he take part in the concert? 6. to separate, to split up. They parted at the church before leaving Italy. a) with parttake /pɑːrˈtɛk/ verb to take part of to eat (formal)

part exchange /pɑːrt ɪkˈʃɛnmənd/ noun giving an old product as part of the payment for a new one.

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and his partner for drinks.

3. nearer to the sea.

money, but also because we want to move

house in London, partly because we need the

has been partitioned off into smaller areas.

onym

2. illicitors.

in the local supermarket.

partners
cording to a letter of agreement between the

ness association between two or more people

usual tennis partner.

his brother to market his new invention.

1. a group of words which are classified accord-
ing to part of speech

e.g. nouns and verbs

partridge

a small brown and grey wild bird, shot for sport and food

part-time

not for

the working day or week

He is try-
ing to find part-time work when the children

are in school.

We are looking for part-time

to keyboard data.

She works part-time

in the local supermarket.

part-timer

a person who works for part of a day or week

part with

verb to give or sell

something to someone
passageway  /ˈpæsɪdʒweɪ/ noun a corridor

- pass away /ˌpɑːs ˈeɪ wi/ verb to die (NOTE: also pass on)
- passenger /ˈpæsɪndʒər/ noun a person who is travelling, e.g. in a car, bus, train or plane, but who is not the driver or one of the crew. 

- The plane was carrying 104 passengers and a crew of ten.
- there was a dent on the passenger side.

- passer-by /ˈpɑːsər ˈbaɪ/ noun a person who is walking past. Synonym onlooker (NOTE: The plural is passers-by.)
- passing /ˈpɑːsɪŋ/ adj 1. not permanent • He’s just a passing fashion. 2. which is going past • The driver of a passing car saw the accident and called the police on his mobile phone.

- passion /ˈpæʃən/ noun a very strong emotion or enthusiasm • Her great passion is motor racing. • She has a passion for chocolate. • He didn’t put enough passion into the love scene.

- passionate /ˈpæʃənt/ adj strongly emotional

- passionately /ˈpæʃəntli/ adv strongly

- passion fruit /ˈpæʃən fruːt/ noun a climbing plant with purple juicy fruit

- passive /ˈpæsv/ adj allowing things to happen to you and not taking any action yourself. • He wasn’t one of the ringleaders, he only played a passive role in the coup. Synonym inert • noun the form of a verb which shows that the subject is being acted upon. Also called passive voice (NOTE: If you say ‘the car hit him’ the verb is active, but ‘he was hit by the car’ is passive.)

- passively /ˈpæsvli/ adv not offering any resistance, not doing anything positive

- passive resistance /ˈpæsvəs ˈrɪzɪstəns/ noun the policy of protesting against something by refusing to do it, but not by using violence

- passive smoking /ˈpæsvəs ˈsməʊkɪŋ/ noun the act of breathing in smoke from other people’s cigarettes, when you do not smoke yourself

- pass key /ˈpɑːs ˈkiː/ noun a main key, e.g. in a hotel, which opens several doors

past

- pass off /ˈpɑːs ˈɒf/ verb 1. to take place • The meeting passed off without any problems. 2. to pass something off as something else to pretend that something is another thing in order to cheat • He passed the wine off as French. to pass yourself off as something to pretend to be something • He passed himself off as a rich banker from South America.

- pass on /ˈpɑːs ˈɒn/ verb 1. to move something on to someone else • She passed the information to her boss. 2. to die • My father passed on two years ago. (NOTE: also pass away in the same meaning)

- pass out /ˌpɑːs ˈaut/ verb to faint, to become unconscious for a short time

- passport /ˈpɑːspɔːt/ noun an official document allowing you to pass from one country to another • If you are going abroad you need to have a valid passport. • We had to show our passports at customs. • His passport is out of date.

- pass round /ˈpɑːs ˈrəʊnd/ verb 1. to hand something to various people • She passed the box of chocolates round the table. • The steward passed round immigration forms. 2. to pass the hat round to ask for money (informal) • We don’t have the funds to put on the school play this year, so we’ll have to pass the hat round.

- pass through /ˌpɑːs ˈθruː/ verb to go through something. Synonym cross • We’re just passing through we are on our way to somewhere else • to pass through customs to go through a customs checkpoint

- pass up /ˌpɑːs ˈʌp/ verb not to make use of a chance or opportunity which is offered

- password /ˈpɑːswɑːd/ noun a secret word which you need to know to be allowed to go into a military camp or to use a computer system

- past /ˈpɑːst/ prep 1. later than, after • It’s past the children’s bedtime. • It’s ten past nine (9.10) – we’ve missed the TV news. 2. from one side to the other in from of something • If you go past the bank, you’ll see the shop on your left. • She walked past me without saying anything. • The car went past at at least 60 miles an hour. (NOTE: Past is used for times between o’clock and the half-hour: 3:05 = five past three; 3.15 = a quarter past three; 3:25 = twenty-five past three; 3:30 = half past three. For times after half past see to. Past is also used with many verbs: to go past, to drive past, to fly past, etc.) • adj which has passed • He has spent the past year working in France. • The time for talking is past – what we need is action. • noun 1. the time before now
pasta 612 patella

the past we always had an office party just before Christmas. 2. the past (tense) the form of a verb which shows that something happened before the present time. "Sang" is the past (tense) of the verb "to sing".
pasta /ˈpeɪstə/ noun an Italian food made of flour and water, cooked by boiling and eaten with oil or sauce (NOTE: no plural: some pasta, a bowl of pasta; note that pasta takes a singular verb. The pasta is very good here.)
paste /ˈpeɪst/ noun 1. a thin liquid glue ○ Spread the paste evenly over the back of the wallpaper. 2. soft food ○ The cake is covered with almond paste. ○ Mix the flour, eggs and milk to a smooth paste. ○ Add tomato paste to the soup. 3. a hard shining glass, used to make imitation jewellery ○ Those aren’t real diamonds, they’re just paste. 4. verb to glue something such as paper ○ She pasted a sheet of coloured paper over the front of the box. ○ He pasted the newspaper cuttings into his scrapbook. a cut
pastel /ˈpaːstəl/ noun 1. a coloured crayon like chalk ○ a portrait done in pastels. 2. pastel colours soft, light shades ○ The whole house was decorated in light pastel colours. 3. a picture done with coloured crayons like chalk ○ This pastel was used as a sketch for the finished painting. pasteurisation /ˈpeɪstərɪzaʃən/ noun the action of pasteurising milk. Synonym sterilisation
pasteurise /ˈpeɪstəraɪz/, pasteurize verb to kill the germs in milk by heating it. Synonym sterilise
pastiche /ˈpaːstʃi/ noun something, e.g. a poem or a piece of music, which is deliberately done in the style of another artist. pastille /ˈpaːstɪl/ noun a small sweet made of fruit-flavoured jelly
pastime /ˈpaːstɪm/ noun a hobby, something you do to pass your spare time. Synonym hobby
pastor /ˈpaːstər/ noun a member of the Protestant clergy.
pastoral /ˈpaːstərəl/ adj 1. referring to country life ○ Virgil was famous for his pastoral poetry. 2. referring to guidance in connection with someone's personal problems ○ There's an important pastoral side to a teacher's job.
past participle /ˈpaːst pɑːtɪsɪp/ noun the tense of a verb which is formed with 'had' plus the past participle, and which shows something that happened before something else. In the sentence 'I had made breakfast before I had a shower', 'had made' is in the past perfect.

pastry /ˈpeɪstri/ noun a mixture of flour, fat and water, used to make pies ○ She was in the kitchen making pastry.
pasture /ˈpaːstər/ noun a grassy area where animals such as horses, cows and sheep can graze. Synonym meadow
pasty noun /ˈpeɪstɪ/ a pastry folded round a filling of meat and vegetables. Synonym pie

pat /pæt/ noun 1. a little tap with the hand ○ I didn't hit her – I just gave her a little pat. 2. pat on the back praise ○ The committee gave him a pat on the back for having organised the show so well. 3. a pat of butter a small round piece of butter ○ verb to give someone something or give someone a pat ○ He patted his pocket to make sure that his wallet was still there. 4. to pat someone on the back to praise someone. a patch /ˈpaːtʃ/ noun 1. a small piece of material used for covering up a hole ○ His mother sewed a patch over the hole in his trousers. ○ not a patch on someone or something not nearly as good as someone or something (informal) ○ This year's model just isn't a patch on the old one. 2. a small area of something ○ They built a shed on a patch of ground by the railway line. ○ There's a patch of rust on the car door. 3. verb to repair something by attaching a piece of material over a hole ○ Her jeans are all mended and patched. ○ We patched the curtains with some material we had left over. 4. patch up /ˈpaːtʃ/ verb 1. to mend something with difficulty ○ The mechanics managed to patch up the engine. ○ The surgeon patched him up but warned him not to fight with knives again. 2. to patch up a quarrel to become more friendly again after quarrelling ○ They had a bitter argument, but patched up their quarrel in time for the party. patchwork /ˈpaːtʃwɜːk/ noun 1. a piece of needlework made by sewing small pieces of material together in patterns ○ All the women in the family came together to sew a patchwork quilt. 2. an area which looks like a patchwork quilt ○ a typical English landscape with a patchwork of small fields
patchy /ˈpaːtʃɪ/ adj 1. not the same everywhere ○ If you don’t prepare the surface properly, the paint will look patchy. 2. sometimes good and sometimes not good ○ This year's exam results have been patchy. 3. occurring in some places but not in others ○ There may be some patchy rain in the south-west. (NOTE: patchier – patchiest)
pâté /ˈpaːtɛ/ noun a paste made of cooked meat or fish finely minced
patella /ˈpætələ/ noun the kneecap, the small bone at the front of the knee joint (technical)
patent /ˈpæt(ə)nt/ noun an official confirmation that you have the sole right to make or sell a new invention. Synonym copyright  ■ verb to patent an invention to register an invention with the patent office to prevent other people from copying it.

patent leather /ˈpæt(ə)nt ˈleɪθər/ noun leather with an extremely shiny surface.

patently /ˈpæt(ə)ntli/ adv obviously or clearly.

paternal /ˈpæt(ə)rənl/ adj 1. referring to a father or my paternal grandfather my father’s father 2. like a father 3. referring to a father 4. paternal wealth (NOTE: The equivalent adjective referring to a mother is maternal.)

paternity /ˈpæt(ə)rəni/ noun 1. the fact of being a father 2. the identity of a father 3. a father 4. becoming a father 5. the period of pregnancy before the birth of a child

paternity leave /ˈpæt(ə)rənə ti ˌliːv/ noun permission for a man to be away from work when his wife has a baby.

path /pæθ/ noun 1. a narrow track for walking 2. a path across the field 3. a path along which you walk 4. the path of the new motorway.

pathetic /ˈpæθətɪk/ adj 1. making you feel pity or contempt 2. She looked so pathetic 3. the pathetic sound of a bird 4. her performance was absolutely pathetic.

pathetically /ˈpæθətɪklı/ adv in a pathetic way.

pathological /ˌpæθəˈlɒdʒɪkl/ adj 1. referring to a disease or which is caused by a disease 2. pathological condition 3. pathological hatred of German men. 4. to be pathological to tell lies all the time

pathologist /ˌpæθəˈlɒdʒɪst/ noun 1. a person who is a doctor who specializes in the study of diseases and the changes in the body caused by disease 2. a pathologist who examined dead bodies to find out the cause of death 3. The pathologist found traces of poison in the corpse.

pathology /ˌpæθəˈlɒdʒi/ noun the study of diseases and the changes in structure and function which diseases cause in the body.

pathos /ˈpæθəʊs/ noun a quality in something which makes you feel pity.

sadness (NOTE: The adjective is pathetic.)

pathway /ˈpæθweɪ/ noun a track for walking along.

patience /ˈpætʃɪns/ noun 1. the quality of being patient 2. With a little patience, you’ll soon learn how to ride a bike. 3. I don’t have the patience to wait that long.

patience to try someone’s patience to make someone impatient 4. Looking after a class of thirty little children would try anyone’s patience.

patient /ˈpæt(ə)nt/ noun 1. being able to wait a long time without getting annoyed 2. You must be patient – you will get served in time. 3. careful and thorough 4. Weeks of patient investigation by the police resulted in his arrest.

patiently /ˈpæt(ə)ntlɪ/ adv without getting annoyed.

patina /ˈpætɪnə/ noun a green sheen on old bronze objects or a shine on old wooden furniture.

patio /ˈpætɪoʊ/ noun a paved area outside a house or other building for sitting or eating.

patriarch /ˈpætrɪkɑr/ noun 1. the bishop of an Eastern church 2. the Patriarch of Constantinople 3. a respected old man who is considered the head of a village or community 4. We were taken to see an old man who was obviously the village patriarch.

patriarchal /ˈpætrɪkɑrəl/ adj referring to a patriarchy.

patriarchy /ˈpætrɪkɑrəki/ noun a system of government by the eldest male of the ruling group.

patriotic /pəˈtrɪətɪk/ adj referring to aristocrats 1. The old East Coast patrician families lost influence when Texas and California became economically powerful. Synonym aristocratic 2. a member of an old aristocratic family 3. The patricians lost influence when the Roman Republic was replaced by the Empire.

patriot /ˈpærɪtɪst/ noun a person who is proud of his or her country and is willing to defend it.

patriotic /ˌpærɪˈtrɪstɪk/ adj proud of your country and willing to defend it.

patrician /ˈpærɪtʃɪən/ adj.

patriarchy /ˈpærɪtrɪkri/ noun a system of government by the eldest male of the ruling group.
of town when he saw some youths running
place by walking or driving up and down.

He was on patrol in the centre of town when he saw some youths running away from a bank. 2. a group of people keeping guard. 3. Each time a patrol went past we hid behind a wall. 4. verb to keep guard on a place by walking or driving up and down. 5. Armed security guards are patrolling the warehouse. Synonym guard (NOTE: patrolling – patrolled)

patrol /'pɔ:trəul/ noun 1. the act of keeping guard by walking or driving up and down. 2. They make regular patrols round the walls of the prison. 3. He was on patrol in the centre of town when he saw some youths running away from a bank. 4. Each time a patrol went past we hid behind a wall. 5. verb to keep guard on a place by walking or driving up and down.

pacify /'pæsɪfaɪ/ noun a lack of something. Synonym deadh (NOTE: no plural)

pause /'pɔ:z/ noun a man’s fat stomach. (NOTE: The plural is pauses.)

paw /pɔ:/ noun a poor person. Antonym millionaire

pause /'pɔ:z/ noun a short stop during a period of activity such as work. The exercise consists of running on the spot for ten minutes, with a short pause after each 100 steps. 2. He read his speech slowly, with plenty of pauses. 3. verb to rest for a short time

pave /pæv/ verb 1. to cover a road or path, etc., with a hard surface. 2. In the old town, the streets are paved with cobblestones.

patron /'pərtrən/ noun 1. a person who protects or supports someone or something. 2. She’s a great patron of the arts. 3. a person who goes regularly to a place, e.g. a shop, hotel, restaurant or theatre. 4. The car park is for the use of hotel patrons only.

patronise /'pətrənaiz/, patronize verb 1. to act in a way which shows you think you are superior to someone. 2. He thinks he can patronise us because we’re younger than he is. 3. to go regularly to a place, e.g. a shop, public house or theatre. 4. We believe it’s important to patronise small local shops. 5. The restaurant is mainly patronised by local businesses. 6. to support or encourage someone such as an artist. 7. King Charles I patronised several Flemish painters, especially Van Dyck.

patron saint /'pətrən 'seint/ noun a saint who is believed to protect a particular group of people

patter /'pætə/ noun 1. a light tapping noise. 2. the patter of raindrops on the roof. 3. I heard a patter of feet in the corridor. 4. rapid talk by someone, e.g. a conjuror, salesman or trickster, to keep your attention. 5. He kept up a continuous patter as he shuffled the cards. 6. verb to make a light tapping noise. 7. The rain patter ed on the windows.

pattern /'pæt(ə)n/ noun 1. instructions which you follow to make something. 2. She copied a pattern from a magazine to knit her son a pullover. 3. a design of something, e.g. lines or flowers, repeated again and again on cloth, wallpaper, etc. 4. She was wearing a coat with a pattern of black and white spots. 5. Do you like the pattern on our new carpet? 6. the general way in which something usually happens. 7. a change in the usual weather pattern.
pawnpawner /peɪnpɒnzkə/ noun a person who lends money in exchange for valuables left with him or her
pawnshop /peɪnpɒʃ/ noun a shop where goods can be pawned
pawpaw /pəˈpɒpɔ/ same as papaya

pay /peɪ/ noun wages or salary ○ They’re on strike for more pay. ○ I can’t afford luxuries on my miserable pay. ○ holiday with pay holiday which an employee can take by contract and for which he or she is paid ○ in the pay of a person or an organisation paid by a person or an organisation ○ He was accused of being in the pay of the enemy secret service. ■ verb 1. to give someone money for something ○ How much did you pay for your car? ○ We pay £100 a week in rent. ○ Please pay the waiter for your drinks. ○ She paid him £10 for his old bike. 2. to give money to someone for doing something ○ We pay secretaries £10 an hour. ○ I paid them one pound each for washing the car. ○ I’ll pay you a pound to wash my car. (NOTE: You can tell someone to pay you to wash the car after he or she has washed it, but you pay someone for washing the car after he or she has washed it.) 3. to pay attention to someone or something carefully ○ Pay attention to the following instructions. ○ to pay a visit to visit ○ We’ll pay my mother a visit when we’re in town. 4. to be worth while to someone ○ It would probably pay you to have the flat repainted. (NOTE: paying paid) payable /ˈpeɪəb(ə)l/ adj which must be paid ○ to make a cheque payable to someone to write someone’s name on a cheque, so that the money is put into his or her account ○ pay back /ˈpeɪ ˈbæk/ verb 1. to give someone money which you owe ○ He borrowed £10 last week and hasn’t paid me back. 2. to pay someone back for something to take revenge on someone for having done something ○ That will pay them back for ruining our party’, he said as he smashed their car window.

paycheck /ˈpeɪtʃek/ noun a regular salary cheque given to an employee (NOTE: The US spelling is paycheck.)
payday /ˈpeɪdeɪ/ noun a day when employees get paid
pay desk /ˈpeɪ desk/ noun same as cash desk

payee /ˈpeɪi/ noun a person who is paid money. Synonym recipient. Antonym payer
payer /ˈpeɪər/ noun a person who pays money to someone. Synonym spender. Antonym: payee
pay in /ˈpeɪ ˈɪn/ verb to put money into an account. Synonym deposit
paying-in slip /ˈpeɪiŋ ˈɪn slɪp/ noun a form which is filled in when money is deposited in a bank account or building society account ○ payment /ˈpeɪmənt/ noun 1. the fact of giving money for something ○ I make regular monthly payments into her account. ○ She made a payment of £10,000 to the solicitor. 2. money paid ○ Did you receive any payment for the work? ○ If you fall behind with your payments, they will take the car back. ○ pay off /ˈpeɪ ˈɒf/ verb 1. to finish paying money which is owed ○ He’s aiming to pay off his mortgage in ten years. ○ She said she couldn’t pay off the loan. 2. to pay all the money owed to someone and end his or her employment ○ When the company was taken over the factory was closed and all the workers were paid off. 3. to be successful ○ Their more cautious approach eventually paid off. ○ All that hard work paid off when she came top of her class.

pay-off /ˈpeɪ ˈɒf/ noun 1. money paid to finish paying something which is owed, such as money paid to a employee when his or her employment is ended ○ Each of the directors received a pay-off of twenty thousand pounds. 2. a benefit which is deserved ○ One of the pay-offs of a university degree is increased earning power. ○ pay out /ˈpeɪ ˈaut/ verb 1. to give money to someone ○ The insurance company paid out thousands of pounds to claimants after the storm. ○ We have paid out half our profits in dividends. 2. to unroll a rope ○ They paid out the rope gradually as I climbed down the cliff.

payphone /ˈpeɪpəʊn/ noun a public phone in which you insert money to make a call

pay rise /ˈpeɪ rɛz/ noun an increase in salary (NOTE: The US term is raise.)
payroll /ˈpeɪrəul/ noun 1. the people employed by a company and paid by it ○ The company has 350 people on the payroll. 2. the total wages paid by a company

pay slip /ˈpeɪ slɪp/ noun a piece of paper showing the full amount of an employee’s pay, and the money deducted as tax, pension and insurance contributions ○ pay up /ˈpeɪ ˈʌp/ verb to pay all the money which you owe ○ PC abbr personal computer, police constable, politically correct
peace /ˈpiːs/ noun 1. the state of not being at war. The UN troops are trying to keep the peace in the area. 2. Both sides are hoping to reach a peace settlement. 2. a calm quiet state. Noisy motorcycles ruin the peace and quiet of the village.

peaceable /ˈpiːsəb(ə)l/ adj liking peace, not wanting to quarrel.

peace dividend /ˈpiːs ,diˈvɪnd(ə)nd/ noun money which becomes available for general government spending as defence spending is reduced following the ending of a war.

peaceful /ˈpiːsf(ə)l/ adj 1. calming. We spent a peaceful afternoon by the river. 2. liking peace. The Swiss seem to be a very peaceful nation. 2. to have a peaceful existence to live side by side without making war.

peacefully /ˈpiːsf(ə)li/ adv 1. calmly. The baby is sleeping peacefully in its cot. 2. without fighting, without making war. We hope the dispute can be settled peacefully.

peacekeeper /ˈpiːskɪpər/ noun a person who tries to maintain peace. Synonym intermediary.

peacekeeping /ˈpiːskɪpɪŋ/ noun the act of trying to keep peace in a region where there is a war.

peace process /ˈpiːs ,prəses/ noun negotiations, concessions and discussions which take place over a long time, with the aim of ending a state of war.

peacetime /ˈpiːstɛm/ noun a period when a country is not fighting in a war.

peach /piːtʃ/ noun 1. a sweet fruit with a large stone and velvety skin. We had peaches and cream for dessert. 2. a pink-yellow colour. They painted the bathroom a light peach.

peacock /ˈpiːkɔk/ noun 1. a large bird, of which the cock has an enormous tail with brilliant blue and green feathers. Peacocks were wandering about the palace garden. 2. They keep peacocks in their garden and they make a lot of noise. 2. a type of common brown butterfly with round purple spots on its wings.

peahen /ˈpiːhɛn/ noun a female peacock.

peak /piːk/ noun 1. the top of a mountain. 2. Can you see that snow-covered peak in the distance? – It’s Mont Blanc. 2. the highest point. 3. The team has to reach a peak of fitness before the match. 2. The graph shows the peaks and troughs of pollution over the last month. 3. the front part of a cap, which juts out. 2. He wore a white cap with a dark blue peak. 2. verb to reach the highest point.

Sales peaked in January. Synonym climax.

Antonym dip (NOTE: Do not confuse with peak.)

peal /piːl/ noun 1. a sudden loud noise. She could hear peals of laughter from the next room. 2. A peal of thunder woke me up.

peal /piːl/ verb 1. to ring loudly. The church bells pealed out as the couple came out into the sunlight. 2. to make a loud noise like bells. The audience pealed with laughter. (NOTE: Do not confuse with peel.)

peanut /ˈpiːnət/ noun a nut which grows in the ground in pods like a pea.

peanut butter /ˈpiːnət ,ˈbʌtər/ noun a paste made from crushed peanuts.

peanuts /ˈpiːnəts/ plural noun a small amount of money. Why does he stay in that job, when he only earns peanuts? 2. She worked for peanuts in the family shop.

pear /piːr/ noun a fruit like a long apple, with one end fatter than the other. 2. When are pears in season?

pearl /piːrl/ noun a precious round white gem formed inside an oyster. She wore a string of pearls which her grandmother had given her.

pear-shaped /ˈpeərʃeɪpt/ adj 1. shaped like a pear.

go pear-shaped to go wrong, not to work properly (informal). Since the shop opened, everything seems to be going pear-shaped.

peasant /ˈpiːzənt/ noun a farm labourer or farmer living in a backward region.

peasantry /ˈpeəstri/ noun peasants seen as a group (NOTE: no plural).

pease /ˈpiːz/ noun wet soil in a bog, made from partly decayed mosses and other plants.

peck /piːk/ noun a small round stone.

peck /piːk/ verb 1. (of a bird) to bite with a beak. 2. Hens were pecking around in the yard. 2. to peck at food to eat a little food, taking little bites. She’s not feeling very well – she’s pecking at her food.
pecking order /pekiŋ/ noun an unwritten order of importance of people in a firm or office, or animals in a farm. Synonym hierarchy

peckish /pekʃ/ adj slightly hungry (informal) Synonym hungry

pedal /ˈpedəl/ /ˈpedəl/ noun 1. a lever worked by a foot ○ If you want to stop the car put your foot down on the brake pedal. 2. a flat rest which you press down on with your foot to make a bicycle go forwards ○ He stood up on the pedals to make the bike go up the hill.

pedalling – pedalled verb to make a bicycle go by pushing on the pedals ○ He had to pedal hard to get up the hill. (NOTE: The US spelling is pedaling – pedaled.)

pedal bin /ˈpedəl bɪn/ noun a container for rubbish which opens with a pedal

pedant /ˈpedənt/ noun a person who insists on having every small detail correct. Synonym doctrinaire

pedantically /ˈpedənti kəli/ adv in a pedantic way

peddle /ˈpedəl/ verb 1. to sell goods from door to door or in the street ○ He makes a living peddling cleaning products door to door. ○ She tried to peddle the information to various newspapers. 2. to sell illegal drugs ○ He was accused of peddling drugs. (NOTE: Do not confuse with pedal.)

peddler /ˈpedələr/ noun 1. a person who sells harmful goods ○ a peddler of pornography. 2. US same as pedlar

pedestal /ˈpedɪstəl/ noun a base for a statue ○ to put someone on a pedestal to treat someone as if he or she were very special or important, even if they have faults ○ He had always put his wife on a pedestal and was horrified to hear the stories about her which came out in court.

pedestrian /ˈpedɪstriən/ noun a person who walks in a street ○ Two pedestrians were also injured in the accident. Synonym walker ○ adj 1. referring to pedestrians ○ The street is open to pedestrian traffic only. 2. heavy, done without any imagination ○ She gave a terribly pedestrian performance as Juliet.

pedestrian crossing /ˈpedɪstrɪən kruːsɪŋ/ noun a place where pedestrians can cross a road (NOTE: Another US term is crosswalk.)

pedestrian precinct /ˈpedɪstrɪən ˈprɪsɪŋkt/ shopping precinct ○ /ˈprɪsɪŋkt/ noun a part of a town which is closed to traffic so that people can walk about and shop

pedicure /ˈpedɪkjʊr/ noun the act of looking after the feet ○ to have a pedicure to have beauty treatment for your feet, including massage and cutting toenails ○ She went for a manicure and pedicure.

pedigree /ˈpedɪgrɪ/ noun a table showing the ancestors of an animal bred by a breeder. Synonym lineage

pedlar /ˈpedələr/ noun a person who goes from door to door, or stands in a street, trying to sell small articles

pedometer /ˈpedəmətər/ noun an instrument which measures how far you have walked

pee /pi/ noun 1. waste water from the body (informal) ○ This drink’s horrible, it tastes like pee! 2. the act of passing waste water from the body ○ I need to go for a pee. ○ He had a quick pee and then went back to the meeting. ■ verb to pass waste water from the body ○ The cat’s peed all over my flowerbed.

peek /piːk/ noun a quick look ○ He opened the fridge door and had a peek at the dessert. Synonym gaze (NOTE: Do not confuse with peak.) ■ verb to look at something quickly ○ She peeked through the window and saw there was no one in the kitchen.

pee /piː/ noun the outer skin of a fruit or a vegetable ○ Throw the banana peel into the rubbish bin. ○ This orange has got very thick peel. (NOTE: Do not confuse with peel.) ■ verb 1. to take the outer skin off a fruit or a vegetable ○ He was peeling a banana. ○ If the potatoes are very small you can boil them without peeling them. 2. to come off in layers ○ I sat in the sun yesterday and now my back is peeling.

peeler /ˈpiːlər/ noun a special tool for peeling potatoes and other vegetables

peelings /ˈpiːlɪŋz/ plural noun pieces of skin from vegetables or fruit that have been peeled

pee /piː/ noun a quick look ○ He opened the fridge door and had a peek inside. ■ verb to look quickly and secretly at something ○
peephole noun a small hole in a door which you can look through to see who is outside
deer /dɛər/ noun 1. a member of the nobility: Peers sit in the House of Lords. 2. a person of the same rank or class as another: He’s always trying to compete with his peers. verb to look hard at something when you cannot see very well: She peered at the screen to see if she could read the figures.

Antonym: glance

Synonym: incomparable

peeved /pi/vd/ adj annoyed and bothered.

Antonym: pleased

peevish /pi/vʃ/ adj bad-tempered, always complaining.

Synonym: irritable

peg /pɛg/ noun a small wooden or metal stake or pin: The children hang their coats on pegs in the cloakroom. verb 1. to attach something with a peg: She pegged the washing out on the line. 2. to hold something such as prices stable: Prices will be pegged at the current rate for another year. (NOTE: pegging – pegged)

pejorative /pɛdʒərətɪv/ adj showing that you feel something is bad.

pelican /pɛlɨkən/ noun a large water bird, which catches fish and keeps the fish in a bag of skin under its beak: The zoo keeper brought a bucket of fish to feed the pelicans.

pellet /pɛlɪt/ noun 1. a small ball of lead, used in shotguns: There may still be pellets left in the pheasant so be careful when you eat it. 2. a small ball of something: The boys made bread pellets and threw them across the room. The cattle feed comes in the form of pellets.

pelmet /pɛlmət/ noun a decorative strip of something, e.g. wood or cloth, above a window, which hides the curtain fittings

pelt /pɛlt/ noun 1. a skin of an animal with fur on it: The trappers sold the pelts at the trading post. 2. at full pelt going as fast as possible: He was running at full pelt down the street. verb 1. to pelt someone with something to throw things at someone: The crowd pelted the speaker with rotten tomatoes. 2. to run very fast: I pelted after her to try to catch her up.

pelvis /pɛlvɪs/ noun the group of bones and cartilage which forms a ring and connects the thigh bones to the spine. (NOTE: The plural is pelvises.)

pen /pɛn/ noun 1. an object for writing with, using ink: I’ve lost my red pen – can I borrow yours? 2. If you haven’t got a pen you can always write in pencil.

ballpoint pen 2. a fenced enclosure for animals such as sheep: They put the sheep in a pen overnight. 3. Someone who got a free shot at the goal from a short distance away.

punishment in sport, especially a kick at the area in front of the goal where if you score from a penalty.

verb 1. to put animals such as sheep in a pen: The sheep were penned while waiting to be taken to the market. 2. to be penned in to be in a small space, closely surrounded by other things or people: She felt penned in, living in the same house as her husband’s parents. 3. to write something with a pen: He penned a short letter to the local paper. (NOTE: penning – penned)

penal /pɛn(ə)l/ adj referring to punishment.

Synonym: punitive

penal code /pɛn(ə)l kəʊd/ noun a set of laws governing crime and its punishment

penalise /pɛnəlaɪz/ verb to punish someone

penalty /pɛn(ə)lti/ noun 1. a punishment: The maximum penalty for this offence is two years’ imprisonment. 2. a punishment in sport, especially a kick at the area in front of the goal where if a player breaks the rules the other team is given a free shot at the goal from a short distance away.

penance /pɛnəns/ noun punishment which someone accepts as a way of acknowledging a bad action

pence /pɛns/ plural of penny

penchant /pɛnʃənt/ noun a special liking for something.

Synonym: predilection

Antonym: antipathy

caricature /kərɪkjuər/ noun (in football) the area in front of the goal where a player who breaks the rules is given a free shot at the goal from a short distance away.

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Antonym: antipathy
ten in another country, whom you write to

pencil sharpener /ˈpensəl ˈʃɑrpnər/ noun an instrument for sharpening pencils
pendant /ˈpendənt/ noun a piece of jewel-lery which hangs from a chain round your neck

pendent /ˈpendənt/ adj hanging down or hanging over something (formal)

pending /ˈpendɪŋ/ adj 1. which has not happened or been dealt with ○ A judgment is still pending in the fraud case. 2. which will happen or be dealt with soon ○ An official announcement is pending, a prep while waiting for something to happen (formal) ○ pending advice from our lawyers ○ He has been suspended on full pay, pending an inquiry.

pendulum /ˈpendjuːləm/ noun 1. a weight on the end of a chain which swings from side to side, making a clock work ○ If you look in the clock case, you can see the pendulum swinging back and forth. 2. a trend from one extreme to another ○ A few years ago every household had two cars, now the pendulum has swung in the opposite direction and more people are using public transport.

penetrable /ˈpentrəbəl/ adj which can be penetrated

penetrate /ˈpentrɪt/ verb to go into or through something
penetrating /ˈpentrɪtɪŋ/ adj deep and searching

penetration /ˈpentrətʃən/ noun 1. the action of penetrating something ○ The tank’s armour-plating resists penetration by machine-gun fire. ○ The leg is bruised but there is no penetration of the skin. ○ Our aim is complete penetration of the enemy’s air-defences. 2. the fact of being able to think deeply ○ It is a work of extraordinary penetration for such a young scholar.

penfriend /ˈpenfrend/ noun someone, often in another country, whom you write to regularly without meeting him or her

penguin /ˈpɛŋɡwɪn/ noun a black and white bird found in the Antarctic, which swims well but cannot fly

penicillin /ˈpɛnɪsɪlɪn/ noun a common anti-biotic, made from a mould

peninsula /ˈpɛnɪnsələ/ noun a large piece of land which goes out into the sea

peninsular /ˈpɛnɪnsələr/ adj referring to a peninsula

penis /ˈpɛnɪs/ noun the male organ used for passing urine and for sexual intercourse (NOTE: The plural is penises.)

penitence /ˈpentɪtəns/ noun the fact of regretting something you have done. Synonym shame

penitent /ˈpentənt/ adj being sorry for having done something wrong ○ If you are penitent, God will forgive you. Synonym repentant. Antonym unrepentant a noun a person who is sorry for having done something wrong ○ Penitents in white robes walked in procession to the cathedral.

penitentiary /ˌpenɪˈtɛntɪri/ noun US a prison (NOTE: The plural is penitentiaries.)

penknife /ˈpɛnknɪf/ noun a small pocket knife which folds up (NOTE: The plural is penknives /ˈpɛnknɪvz/.)

pen name /ˈpɛn nɛm/ noun a name used by a writer which is not his or her own. Synonym pseudonym

pennant /ˈpɛnənt/ noun a long thin triangular flag

penniless /ˈpɛnəlɪs/ adj with no money ○ penny /ˈpɛnɪ/ noun 1. the smallest British coin, one hundredth of a pound ○ It cost £4.99, so I paid with a five-pound note and got a penny change ○ I came out without my purse and I haven’t got a penny on me. (NOTE: The plural is pennies or pence. Pennies is used to refer to several coins, but pence refers to the price, in prices, pence is always written p and often said as /ˈpiː/; This book only costs 60p: say ‘sixty p’ or ‘sixty pence’.) 2. ○ the penny’s dropped he’s understood at last (informal) ○ It took ages for the penny to drop. □ to spend a penny to go to the toilet ○ Wait a moment, I want to spend a penny.

pen pal /ˈpɛn pæl/ noun US same as pen-friend (informal)

pension /ˈpɛnʃən/ noun money paid regularly, e.g. to someone who has retired from work, or to a widow ○ He has a good pension from his firm. ○ She finds a teacher’s pension quite enough to live on. □ verb ○ to pension someone off to make someone stop working and live on a pension ○ They pensioned him off at the age of 55. pensionable /ˈpɛnʃənəb(ə)l/ adj referring to the right to have a pension □ pensionable age the age at which a pension begins to be paid for

pensioner /ˈpɛnʃənə/ noun a person who gets a pension

pensive /ˈpɛnsɪv/ adj thoughtful

pensively /ˈpɛnsɪvli/ adv thoughtfully

pentagon /ˈpɛntəɡən/ noun 1. a geometri-cal figure with five sides ○ He drew a pentagon on the blackboard. 2. ○ the Pentagon the US Ministry of Defence ○ The Pentagon is considering sending more troops to the area.

pentathlon /ˈpɛntəθlɔn/ noun an athletic competition in which competitors have to compete in five different sports

pentathlon
peppery old naval officer like my father.

least twenty people waiting to see the doctor.

peppermint /ˈpepmʌnt/ noun a sweet which is made from ground pepper seeds originally grown in Asia and also from the leaves of the peppermint plant.

hollow green, red or yellow fruit used as a food seasoning. (NOTE: no plural)

Flavoured with peppermint (NOTE: no plural)

people /ˈpiːpl/ noun 1. men, women or children taken as a group. 2. The inhabitants of a country. 3. The people of China are very hard-working.

penury /ˈpɛnəri/ noun 1. the fact of being extremely poor. 2. The government is suffering from a penury of new ideas.

penury /ˈpɛnəri/ noun 1. The changes are so slight that they’re almost impossible to perceive with the naked eye.

percussion /ˈpɜːkʃən/ noun 1. percussion section. The percussion section of an orchestra with instruments such as drums or cymbals that are played by hitting them with something such as a stick or hammer. 2. You have just heard a piece with rich percussion.
perm /pɜːm/ noun 1. curls or a wave put into your hair artificially © She has a perm and it’s changed her appearance. 2. a combination of football teams on a football pools coupon © Selecting these games gives you twenty-four perms.  ■ verb 1. to put a wave or curl into someone’s hair © She’s had her hair permed. 2. to choose several football teams in various combinations on a football pools coupon © He permed numbers 7, 10, 17, 23 and 28.

permanence /pɜːrmənəns/ noun the state of being permanent © permanent /pɜːrmanənt/ adjective lasting for ever; intended to last for ever © He has found a permanent job.  ■ They are living with their parents temporarily — it’s not a permanent arrangement.  ■ permanently /pɜːrmanəntli/ adverb for ever; always

permeable /pɜːrmiəb(ə)l/ adjective which lets liquid pass through. Synonym porous

permeate /pɜːrmikit/ verb to move right through something

permissible /pɜːrmasəb(ə)l/ adjective which can be allowed. Synonym allowable. Antonym unacceptable

permission /pɜːrmɪʃ(ə)n/ noun freedom which you are given to do something © You need permission from the boss to go into the storeroom.  ■ He asked the manager’s permission to take a day off. Synonym consent. Antonym embargo

permanent /pɜːrmanənt/ adjective allowing people a large amount of freedom in the way they behave, especially in sexual matters. Synonym tolerant

pernicious /pɜːrnɪʃəs/ adjective 1. morally harmful 2. which may result in serious illness or death © She was diagnosed as having pernicious anaemia.

pernickety /pɜːrniktɪ/ adjective tending to notice and criticise small details or faults which other people do not think are important (informal)

perpendicular /pɜːrpendɪkuːlər/ adjective 1. standing straight up, at right angles to a base © The y-axis is perpendicular to the x-axis. 2. a style of late medieval English church architecture, with tall pointed arches and large windows © There are many Perpendicular churches in East Anglia. © The nave is Norman and the chancel is Perpendicular.  ■ noun a vertical line which stands at right angles to a base line © The Leaning Tower of Pisa is several degrees out of the perpendicular.

perpetrate /pɜːprɪtræt/ verb to commit a crime

perpetrator /pɜːprɪtrotrə/ noun a person who does something harmful or immoral, especially a person who commits a crime. Synonym culprit

perpetual /pɜːpetjuːl/ adjective continuous, without any end. Antonym temporary

perpetuating /pɜːpetjuːtɪŋ/ adjective always perpetuate /pɜːpektjuːt/ verb to make something continue

perplex /pɜːpleks/ verb to make someone confused. Synonym puzzled

perplexing /pɜːpleksɪŋ/ adjective which perplexes. Synonym puzzling
persecution / ˈpɜːrsɪkʃən/ noun the act or practice of persecuting someone

persecutor / ˈpɜːrsɪkʃər/ noun a person who persecutes

perseverance / ˈpɜːrsəvərəns/ noun the act of persevering. Synonym persistence

persevere / ˈpɜːrsəvər/ verb to continue to exist or to persist in doing something to continue doing something, even if it is difficult. If you persevere with your exercises you should lose weight.

persist / ˈpɜːrsɪst/ verb to continue to exist or to persist in doing something to continue doing something, even if you should not. He will persist in singing while he works although we’ve told him many times to stop. She persists in refusing to see a doctor.

persistence / ˈpɜːrsɪstəns/ noun a refusal to stop doing something.

persistent / ˈpɜːrsɪstənt/ adj continuing to do something, even though people want you to stop

persistently / ˈpɜːrsɪstəntli/ adv in a persistent way.

person / ˈpɜːrson/ noun 1. a man or woman. The police say a person or persons entered the house by the window. His father’s a very interesting person. In person used to emphasise that someone is physically present. Several celebrities were at the first night in person. (In grammar) one of three forms of verb or pronoun: first person singular I, first person plural we, second person singular, second person plural you. Person a person’s character as seen by other people.

personal / ˈpɜːrsənl/ adj attractive, good-looking or having a pleasant character. Synonym amiable. Antonym disagreeable.

personage / ˈpɜːrsənɪdʒ/ noun an important person.

personally / ˈpɜːrsənlɪ/ adv 1. belonging or referring to a particular person or people. They lost all their personal property in the fire. referring to someone’s private life in an offensive way. The attacks on the minister became increasingly personal.

personal best / ˈpɜːrsənl bɛst/ noun the best that a person has achieved in a particular activity, e.g. the fastest they have run, though not necessarily a record for that activity.

personal computer / ˈpɜːrsənl kəmˈpjuːtər/ noun a small computer used by a person at home. Abbr PC.

personalise / ˈpɜːrsənləˌsai/ verb to treat someone badly on political or religious beliefs or because of their race.

personification / ˈpɜːrsənɪˌfɪkʃən/ noun a good example of a quality in a person. For many people she was the personification of youthful innocence. Little children looked on him as the personification of wickedness. In a work of art representing something such as an idea or belief in the form of a person or the poet’s personification of winter as an old man covered in snow and ice.
personify /pa'sɔnifai/ verb 1. to be a good example of something ○ He seemed to personify all that was best in American life. 2. to use a character in art to represent a quality ○ The artist personified the wind as a fat red-faced man, blowing hard.

perturbed /pa'təbd/ adj made to feel worried or frightened. Antonym composed

persuasion /pa'sərəʃən/ noun the act of trying to influence the result of a trial, e.g. by giving wrong evidence or threatening to try to influence the result of a trial, or to cause someone or something to do something even if it is wrong.

persuasive /pa'səsəvəs/ adj which persuades. Synonym convincing. Antonym unconvincing

persuasively (pa'səswər'əslv) adv in a persuasive way

pert (pa't/ adj 1. (of a young woman) too lively and confident 2. small with an attractive shape ○ a pert nose

pertain /pa'teɪn/ verb □ to pertain to to refer to, to be connected with (formal) ○ If you have any information pertaining to this case, you are duty bound to reveal it.

pertinent /pa'tɛntənt/ adj which is relevant. Synonym relevant. Antonym irrelevant

pertinently /pa'tɛntəntli/ adv in a pertinent way

peruse /pa'ruːz/ verb to read something carefully

perusals /pa'rəsəlz/ noun an act of reading something carefully. Synonym examination

pervert /pa'verət/ noun 1. to put things in a way of drawing objects or scenes, so that they appear to have depth or distance ○ A French politician's perspective on the problem will be completely different from mine. ○ She was looking at the situation from the perspective of a parent with two young children. ○ to put things in perspective to show things in a balanced way ○ You must put the sales figures in perspective – they look bad, but they're much better than last year.

perspiration /pa'sərəpʃən/ noun the drops of liquid which come to the surface of your skin when you are hot. Synonym sweat

perspire /pa'spəra/ verb to cause small drops of liquid to come to the surface of your skin because you are feeling hot. Synonym sweat

persuade /pa'sweəd/ verb to get someone to do what you want by explaining or arguing ○ She managed to persuade the bank manager to give her a loan. ○ After ten hours of discussion, they persuaded him to leave.

persuasion /pa'swərəʃən/ noun 1. the act of persuading ○ It took a lot of persuasion on his part to get her to change her mind. ○ With a bit of gentle persuasion, he agreed to be chairman. 2. a firm, usually religious, belief ○ People of that persuasion refuse to do military service. ○ People of varying political persuasions have signed the petition.

persuasive /pa'swərsəvəs/ adj which persuades. Synonym convincing. Antonym unconvincing

persuasively (pa'swəsərvəslv) adv in a persuasive way

negative. Antonym optimistic

pest /pest/ noun 1. a plant, animal or insect which causes problems ○ Many farmers look on rabbits as a pest. 2. a person who annoys ○ That little boy is an absolute pest – he won't stop whistling.

pesty /pesti/ adj believing that only bad things will happen. Synonym cynical. Antonym optimistic

pests /pest/ noun a person who thinks only bad things will happen. Synonym cynical.
pesticide (noun) a poison to kill pests
pestilence (noun) a very serious disease (archaic)
pestilential (adjective) very unpleasant
pestle (noun) a heavy tool with a smooth round head, which is used for crushing things in a special bowl called a mortar
pet (noun) an animal kept in the home to give pleasure ○ The family has several pets – two cats, a dog and a hamster. □ adj 1. favourite ○ The weather is his pet topic of conversation. 2. (of a wild animal) which is kept as a pet ○ You can’t keep a pet crocodile in the bath! □ verb to hold and kiss someone in a sexual way ○ Couples were petting in the back seats of the cinema.
petal (noun) the colourful part of a flower
pet out (verb) to come to an end, to gradually stop
petite (noun) small and delicate. Antonym big
petition (noun) 1. an official request, often signed by many people ○ She wanted me to sign a petition against the building of the new road. □ We went to the town hall to hand the petition to the mayor. 2. a legal request ○ a divorce petition □ verb to ask someone for something officially, to make an official request for something ○ They petitioned the town council for a new library. ○ He petitioned the government to provide a special pension. ○ She is petitioning for divorce. Synonym appeal
petitioner (noun) a person who presents a petition. Synonym lobbyist
pet name (noun) a special name given to someone you like or love
petrified (adjective) changed to stone ○ You can find petrified trees at the bottom of the gorge. 2. unable to move because you are afraid ○ I thought he was going to shoot me. I was absolutely petrified.
petrify (verb) to change something to stone ○ a petrifying spring 2. to make someone so afraid that he or she cannot move ○ The idea of appearing on stage absolutely petrifies me.
petrochemical (noun) a chemical which comes from petroleum or natural gas ○ Petrochemicals have many industrial uses. □ adj referring to production from petroleum or natural gas ○ a petrochemical plant
 petrol (noun) a liquid used as a fuel for engines ○ This car doesn’t use very much petrol. ○ The bus ran out of petrol on the motorway. ○ Petrol prices are lower at supermarkets. (NOTE: no plural: some petrol, a litre of petrol. The US term is gas or gasoline.)
petrol bomb (noun) a bomb made of a glass jar containing petrol, with a fuse which is lit just before the bomb is thrown □ verb to attack or destroy something with a petrol bomb ○ The police station was petrol bombed last night.
petroleum (noun) raw mineral oil which comes from under the earth or sea
petrol station (noun) a place where you can buy petrol for your car. Synonym filling station (NOTE: The US term is gas station.)
petticoat (noun) same as slips (dated)
pettiness (noun) the quality of treating unimportant things as if they are important 2. the fact of having a narrow point of view
petty (adjective) unimportant ○ I haven’t time to deal with petty points of detail. 2. with a narrow point of view ○ It was very petty of her to ask for her money back.
petty cash (noun) small amounts of money in the form of coins or notes, in an office
petulance (noun) behaviour which shows that you are annoyed. Antonym affability
petulant (adjective) feeling annoyed. Synonym sulky. Antonym affable
pew (noun) a long wooden seat in a church ○ take a pew please sit down (informal)
pH (noun) a measure of the concentration of hydrogen ions in a solution, which shows how acid or alkaline it is
phallic (adjective) shaped like a penis
phallic symbol (noun) an object which looks like a penis, and is intended to represent male sex
phallicus (noun) a penis (NOTE: The plural is phallici) (noun) an imaginary creature thought to be the spirit of a dead person ○ Phantoms were supposed to have been seen in the churchyard at dead of night. Synonym ghost □ adj 1. not real but imaginary, especially in a way which is frightening ○ She felt a phantom presence standing beside her. 2. who secretly does annoying or funny things (humorous) ○ The phantom eater of my biscuits has been at it again.
pharmaceutical (noun) referring to medicines
pharmacist (noun) a person who prepares and sells medicines. Also called chemist
pharmacological

pharmacological /ˌfərməˈkælədʒɪkəl/ adj referring to pharmacology

pharmacologist /ˌfərməˈkælədʒɪst/ noun a person who studies pharmacology

pharmacology /ˌfərməˈkælədʒi/ noun the study of drugs and medicines

pharmacy /ˈfɑːrməsi/ noun 1. a shop which makes and sells medicines ○ He runs the pharmacy in the High Street. Also called chemist's (NOTE: The plural is pharmacies). 2. the study of medicines ○ She's studying pharmacy. ○ He has a diploma in pharmacy. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning)

pharynx /ˈfɛriŋks/ noun a passage at the back of the nose leading to the oesophagus (NOTE: The plural is pharynges.)

phase /feɪzi/ noun a stage in the development of something ○ The project is now in its final phase. ○ It's a phase she's going through and hopefully she will grow out of it. ○ I'm sure dyeing his hair green is just a phase. ■ verb ○ to phase something in, to phase something out to introduce or to remove something gradually ○ The new telephone system will be phased in over the next two months.

PhD /piː ˌɛdʒ/ noun an advanced degree from a university in an arts subject. Full form Doctor of Philosophy (NOTE: written after the name: Alec Smart PhD)

cressent /ˈfɛriŋks/ noun a large brightly coloured bird with a long tail, shot for sport and food

phenomenal /fəˈnɒmn(ə)l/ adj surprising

phenomenally /fəˈnɒmn(ə)li/ adv surprisingly

phenomenon /fəˈnɒmnən/ noun something very surprising or unusual which happens and which people cannot explain ○ natural phenomenon, phenomenon of nature a strange or unusual thing which happens naturally ○ Eruptions of volcanoes are natural phenomena.

phrase /friˈʒuːr/ noun showing surprise or showing pleasure that you have avoided something unpleasant

philanthropic /ˌfɪlənθrəpɪk/ philanthropical /ˌfɪlənθrəpɪˈkɔl/ noun showing a caring attitude to human beings, especially by giving money to charity

philanthropist /ˌfɪlənθrəˈpɪst/ noun a person who does good things to help people

philanthropy /ˌfɪlənθrəˈpi/ noun a love of other people in general, shown especially by giving money to charity

philately /ˌfɪləˈleɪti/ noun the activity of stamp collecting

-phil /-fɪl/ suffix which likes

philharmonic /ˌfɪləhəˈmɒnɪk/ adj liking music (NOTE: used mainly in the names of things such as orchestras and concert halls)

philistine /ˌfɪlɪstɪn/ adj not sympathetic to the arts ○ The concert of medieval church music was wasted on a philistine audience. ■ noun a person who is not sympathetic to the arts ○ He thinks people who don't appreciate modern jazz are simply philistines. Synonym barbarian.

philological /ˌfɪləˈlɒdʒɪkəl/ adj referring to philology

philologist /ˌfɪləˈlɒdʒɪst/ noun an expert in philology

philology /ˌfɪləˈlɒdʒi/ noun the study of language or of the history of languages

philosopher /ˌfɪləˈzoʊfə/ noun a person who studies the meaning of human existence; a person who teaches philosophy

philosophical /ˌfɪləˈsoʊfɪkl/ adj carefully, calmly in the face of problems ○ to take a philosophical attitude ○ It's best to be philosophical about it and not get too upset. 2. referring to philosophy ○ She was involved in a philosophical argument.

philosophically /ˌfɪləˈsoʊfɪklɪ/ adv calmly

philosophy /ˌfɪləˈzoʊfi/ noun 1. the study of the meaning of human existence ○ He's studying philosophy. 2. a general way of thinking ○ My philosophy is that you should treat people as you would want them to treat you

phlegm /ˈflem/ noun 1. an unpleasant thick liquid substance which you get in the nose and throat when you have a cold ○ She sneezes a lot and coughs up phlegm from the throat. ○ The cough mixture should loosen the phlegm on your chest. 2. calm behaviour ○ He responded to the latest disaster with traditional British phlegm.

phlegmatic /ˈfleɡmətɪk/ adj calm, not flustered. Synonym calm

-phobe /-foʊb/ suffix which does not like ○ xenophobe a person who dislikes foreigners

phobia /ˈfaʊbɪə/ noun extreme fear of a particular thing

phoenix /ˈfɪnɪks/ noun a mythical bird, which is said to die in a fire and reappear from its ashes

- phone /ˈfɑn/ noun a telephone ○ If someone rings, can you answer the phone for me? ○ She lifted the phone and called the ambulance. □ by phone using the telephone ○ to place an order by phone ■ verb to speak to someone using a telephone ○ Your wife phoned when you were out. ○ Can you phone me at ten o'clock tomorrow evening? ○ I need to phone our office in New York. Synonym call □ to phone for something to make a phone call to ask for something ○ He phoned for a taxi. □ to phone about something to make a phone call to speak about something ○ He phoned about the message he had received.
phone book /ˈfəʊn bʊk/ noun a book which gives the names of people and businesses in a town in alphabetical order, with their addresses and phone numbers
2 phone booth /ˈfəʊn ˈbaʊt/, phone box /ˈfəʊn boks/ noun a small glass shelter in a public place, containing a public telephone
3 phone call /ˈfəʊn kɔl/ noun a telephone call, speaking to someone by telephone
4 phonecard /ˈfəʊn kərd/ noun a plastic card which you use to pay for calls on a public telephone
phone-in /ˈfəʊn in/ noun a radio show, where members of the public telephone a speaker to ask questions or put their points of view (NOTE: The plural is phone-ins.)
phoneme /ˈfəʊniːm/ noun a single speech sound that makes a word different from other words
5 phone number /ˈfəʊn nʌmbər/ noun the number of one particular phone
phonetic /fəˈnetɪk/ adj referring to spoken sounds
phonetic alphabet /fəˈnetɪk ˈælফəbɛt/ noun a special series of characters which show phonemes
phonetics /fəˈnetɪks/ noun 1. the study of the sounds of a language ○ Every language has to take a course in basic phonetics.
phonetic alphabet /fəˈnetɪk ˈælफəbɛt/ noun a set of symbols that show how words are pronounced.
6 phoney /ˈfəʊni/ adj not real, not what it seems to be ○ He gave a phoney address in Paris. ○ She made a lot of phoney claims in her story in the newspaper.
phony /ˈfəʊni/ phonetic
phosphate /ˈfəʊsfət/ noun the salt of phosphoric acid, which is an essential plant food formed naturally by the effects of the weather on rocks, and produced artificially to make a substance which encourages plants to grow
phosphorescence /ˌfɒsfərəˈses/ noun the ability to shine in the dark without giving out heat
phosphorescent /ˌfɒsfərəˈsent/ adj which shines in the dark without giving out heat
phosphorus /ˌfɒsfəˈrʌs/ noun a poisonous yellow element, which is essential to biological life, being present in bones and nerve tissue; it also burns easily
7 photo /ˈfəʊtəʊ/ noun a photograph, a picture taken with a camera ○ Here’s a photo of the village in the snow. ○ I’ve brought some holiday photos to show you. (NOTE: The plural is photos.)
photocopy /ˌfəʊtəˈkɒpi/ noun a machine which makes photocopies
photocopy /ˌfəʊtəˈkɒpi/ noun a copy of a document made by photographing it ○ She made six photocopies of the contract.
photo-finishing /ˌfəʊtəʊ ˈfɪnɪŋ/ noun a result of a horse race where two horses finish close together, and a photograph is taken to see which was the winner
photogenic /ˌfəʊtəˈdʒɛnɪk/ adj who looks well in photographs
photograph /ˌfəʊtəˈɡræf/ noun a picture taken with a camera ○ I’ve found an old black and white photograph of my parents’ wedding. ○ She’s trying to take a photograph of the cat. ○ He kept her photograph in his wallet. ○ You’ll need two passport photographs to get your visa. ○ verb to take a picture with a camera ○ She was photographing the flowers in the public gardens.
photographer /ˌfəʊtəˈɡræfər/ noun a person who takes photographs, especially as their job
photographic /ˌfəʊtəˈɡræfɪk/ adj referring to photography ○ photographic paper ○ All your photographic kit is still in the back of my car.
photographic memory /ˌfəʊtəˈɡræfɪk ˈmɛməri/ noun the ability to remember things in exact detail, as if you were still seeing them
photography /ˌfəʊtəˈɡræfi/ noun the practice of taking pictures on sensitive film with a camera
photo opportunity /ˌfəʊtəʊ ˈɒpəˌtjuːnɪtɪ/ noun an arranged situation where a famous person can be filmed or photographed by journalists
phrase /frez/⟩ noun a type of verb which has two or three parts, usually a verb and an adverb or preposition, which together have a meaning different from that of the main verb, such as ‘dwell on’, ‘lift off’ and ‘put up with’
phrase /frez/⟩ noun 1. a short sentence or group of words ○ Try to translate the whole phrase, not just one word at a time. ○ I’m trying to remember a phrase from ‘Hamlet’: ○ to coin a phrase to say something which everyone says ○ It’s a case of ‘the pot calling the kettle black’: to coin a phrase 2. a group of notes in a piece of music ○ Do you recognise that little phrase from Mozart’s ‘The Magic Flute’? ○ verb to express something in words ○ I am trying to phrase my letter as politely as I can. Synonym
express
piano /ˈpiːnəʊ/ noun a large musical instrument with black and white keys which you press to make music. She’s taking piano lessons. She played the piano while her brother sang.

pick /pɪk/ noun 1. something which you choose. We’ve got green, red and blue balloons – just take your pick! 2. a large heavy tool with a curved metal head with a sharp end that you lift up and bring down like an axe. They started breaking up the concrete path with picks and shovels. Also called pickaxe.

pickaxe /ˈpɪkəks/ noun a large heavy tool with a curved metal head with a sharp end that you lift up and bring down like an axe.

pickpocket /ˈpɪkpəkɒt/ noun someone who picks pockets without them noticing. The TV showed him picking his nose while listening to the speech.

pickpocket /ˈpɪkpəkɒt/ noun someone who pickpockets.

pickpocket /ˈpɪkpəkɒt/ noun someone who pickpockets.

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pickpocket /ˈpɪkpəkɒt/ noun someone who pickpockets.

pickpocket /ˈpɪkpəkɒt/ noun someone who pickpockets.
with their employers. 2. a group of pickets. 3. a person who stands outside a place to protest against what is going on inside. 4. a pointed piece of wood. 5. to put a picket fence round the field. 6. to try to prevent workers from going to work. 7. Groups of strikers picketed the factory.

**picketing** /ˈpɪkɪtɪŋ/ noun the action of putting people at the entrance of a factory to try to prevent workers going to work

**picket line** /ˈpɪktʃəl/ noun a line of pickets

**picketings** /ˈpɪkɪtɪŋz/ plural nouns things left behind which people can pick up

**picket** /ˈpɪkt/ noun 1. a pick, pickles, pickled cold sauce consisting of small pieces of vegetables preserved in vinegar. 2. a pick up, pick up your meat pie? 3. to pick out, pick out a person

**pick-me-up** /ˈpɪk mi/ noun 1. something such as medicine or alcohol which you take to make you feel less tired (informal). 2. pick up, pick up a person who steals things from people’s pockets. 3. Synonym thief.

**pick up** /ˈpɪk a/ verb 1. to lift something up which is lying on the surface of something. 2. She dropped her handkerchief and he picked it up. 3. He went down to pick up a pound coin which he saw on the pavement. 4. I picked up some holiday brochures at the travel agent’s. 5. to learn something easily without being taught. 6. She never took any piano lessons, she just picked it up. 7. He picked up some German when he was working in Germany. 8. to give someone a lift in a vehicle. 9. The car will pick you up from the hotel. 10. Can you send a taxi to pick us up at seven o’clock? 11. to meet someone by chance and start a relationship with them. 12. She’s a girl, he picked up in a bar. 13. to arrest someone. 14. He was picked up by the police at the airport. 15. to improve, to get better. 16. She’s been in bed for weeks, but is beginning to pick up. 17. Business is picking up after the Christmas holidays. 18. to pick up speed to go faster. 19. The truck began to pick up speed as it went down the hill. 20. to pick up a person, noun 1. a light van with an open back. 2. the act of collecting someone or something. 3. The customer pick-up point is behind the store. 4. I’ve got several pick-ups to do before I can go home. 5. a person who has been picked up. 6. She wasn’t his regular girlfriend – probably just a pick-up. 7. hard to please. 8. picnic. 9. a meal eaten in the open air (informal). 10. If it’s fine, let’s go for a picnic. 11. They stopped by a wood, and had a picnic lunch. 12. to eat a picnic. 13. People were picnicking on the bank of the river. 14. (NOTE: picnicking – picknicking)

**pickenner** /ˈpɪkɪnɪ/ noun a person who goes on a picnic

**pictorial** /ˈpɪktəriəl/ adj referring to pictures. Synonym graphic

**picture** /ˈpɪktʃə/ noun 1. an image of someone or something, e.g. made by drawing, painting or taking a photograph. 2. to put someone in the picture. 3. to get the picture to understand the problem. 4. to get the picture – you want to arrange for him to be disposed of. 5. verb to imagine something. 6. It takes quite an effort to picture her in a bikini.

**picture book** /ˈpɪktʃəbuk/ noun a book with mainly pictures and not much writing

**picture messaging** /ˈpɪktʃəˌmesɪdʒɪŋ/ noun the use of a mobile phone to send images to another mobile phone or computer

**picturesque** /ˈpɪktʃəs/ adj (of places) attractive, like in a picture

**pidgin** /ˈpɪdʒɪn/ noun a language made from elements of several languages, used as a means of communication

**pidgin English** noun a type of English used in the Pacific and Far East

**pie** /par/ noun meat or fruit cooked in a pastry case.

**piebald** /ˈpiəbɔld/ adj (of a horse) with areas of black and white colour on the skin.

**piece** /pi/ noun 1. a bit of something or one of a number of similar things. 2. Would you like another piece of cake? 3. I need two pieces of black cloth.
piecemeal 630  pile-up

was simple – a piece of cake! 3. a work of music © I will now play a piece by Beethoven. 4. one of the objects used in chess, but not usually a pawn © She’s already lost three pieces, and I can’t see how she can win. (NOTE: Piece is often used to show one item of something which has no plural: equipment: a piece of equipment; stone: a piece of stone; cheese: a piece of cheese; news: a piece of news; advice: a piece of advice.) © verb □ to piece together to put things together to form a whole © The police are trying to piece together the events which took place during the evening of the murder. piecemeal /ˈpiːskmɪl/ adj, adv separately, done bit by bit © The work was carried out on a piecemeal basis. © They had bought all sorts of paintings piecemeal.

pieces /ˈpiːzıs plural noun broken bits of something piecework /ˈpiːswɜːk/ noun a system by which you are paid for the amount of work done and not by the hour pie-chart /ˈpiːtʃɑrt/ noun a diagram shaped like a circle with pieces cut out showing how something is divided up pied-à-terre /ˈpiɛdəˈtɛr/ noun a small flat, used by someone as a temporary place to live 3. pier /ˈpaɪər/ noun 1. a structure built from the land out into the sea, often with entertainments on it © If you go to Brighton, you must go on the pier. © We went for a stroll along the pier. © He spent his holiday fishing from the end of the pier. 2. one of the tall strong structures holding up a bridge © The boat collided with one of the piers of the railway bridge. (NOTE: Do not confuse with peer.) pierce /ˈpaɪs/ verb to make a hole in something piercing /ˈpaɪsɪŋ/ adj 1. (of a sound) unpleasantly high and loud © They suddenly heard a piercing cry. © He let out a piercing yell. 2. very severe © You need to shelter from the piercing east wind. © They sat huddled together for protection against the piercing cold. 3. seeming to look through someone or something © He looked at her with his piercing blue eyes.

piety /ˈpiətɪ/ noun having a great respect for religion and showing this in your behaviour pig /pɪɡ/ noun a pink or black farm animal with short legs which gives meat (NOTE: Fresh meat from a pig is called pork. Bacon, gammon and ham are types of smoked or cured meat from a pig.) 3. pigeon /ˈpaɪɡən/ noun a fat grey bird which is common in towns (informal) pigeonhole /ˈpaɪgənhoʊl/ noun one of a series of small square spaces in shelves, used to put away things such as papers or letters

I looked in my pigeonhole to see if there were any messages for me. © verb 1. to file letters or papers, often as the best way to forget about them 2. to say that someone or something belongs to a particular group or class © As an artist he is not easy to pigeonhole.

pigeon-toed /ˈpaɪɡəntoʊd/ trod/ adj walking with the toes turning in piggyback /ˈpɪɡɪbæk/ noun carrying someone on your back with his arms round your neck piggybank /ˈpɪɡɪbæŋk/ noun a child’s money box in the shape of a pig pigheaded /ˈpɪɡəhed/ adj determined to do things in a particular way, refusing to change your mind piglet /ˈpɪɡlɛt/ noun a little pig pigment /ˈpiɡmənt/ noun a substance which colours pigmentation /ˈpiɡməntəˈteɪʃən/ noun the colouring of the skin pigmy /ˈpiɡmi/ noun another spelling of pygmy pigsty /ˈpɪɡstɪ/ noun 1. a little building where a pig is kept. Also called sty (NOTE: The plural is pigsties. The US term is pigpen.) 2. an untidy place (NOTE: The US term is pigpen.) © like a pigsty dirty and in a mess © He left his room looking like a pigsty.

pigtail /ˈpɪɡtɛl/ noun hair twisted into a plait, hanging down at the back of the head pike /paɪk/ noun 1. a large fish which lives in rivers and lakes (NOTE: The plural is pike.) 2. a weapon like a long spear (dated) pilaff /ˈpɪləf/ noun an Indian dish of meat or fish with rice 3. pile /paɪl/ noun 1. a large mass of things © Look at that pile of washing. © The pile of plates crashed onto the floor. © The wind blew piles of dead leaves into the road. © He was carrying a great pile of books. 2. a lot of (informal) © They brought piles of food with them. © There’s no need to hurry; we’ve got piles of time. 3. a large post made of wood, metal or some other strong substance, pressed down into the earth to provide a support for something such as a building © They drove piles into the river bank to hold up the wharf. 4. the soft surface of some types of cloth, e.g. velvet, or of some types of carpet © Just feel the pile on these cushions. © We have put a thick pile carpet in the sitting room. © verb □ to pile, to pile up to put a lot of things into a pile © All the Christmas presents are piled under the tree. piles /paɪlz plural noun same as haemorrhoids

pile-up /ˈpaɪl ʌp/ noun a serious accident involving a series of vehicles which have
crashed into each other (informal) Synonym
pilfer /ˈpɪlfər/ verb to steal small objects or small amounts of money from the office or shop where you work
pilfering /ˈpɪlfərɪŋ/ noun stealing small objects or amounts of money
pilgrimage /ˈpɪlərɪdʒ/ noun 1. a journey to an important religious place for religious reasons 2. a journey to any important place, especially one connected with a famous person 3. a pilgrimage to Mecca at least once.
pilgrim /ˈpɪlərm/ noun a person who goes to visit a holy place
pillage /ˈpɪlj/ noun the act of stealing goods, especially done by soldiers (In the Middle Ages, the country was devastated by bands of English soldiers who lived by pillage. ■ verb to damage buildings and steal goods from a place, especially in a war. ■ The invaders pillaged the monastery buildings, then set fire to them. Synonym plunder
pillar /ˈpɪlər/ a strong tall object which supports part of a building 2. pillar box /ˈpɪlər bɒks/ noun a round red metal container into which you can post letters. Synonym postbox
pillion /ˈpɪljən/ noun 1. pillion seat a seat for a passenger behind the driver of a motorcycle. He came on his motorbike with his girlfriend on the pillion seat. 2. pillion passenger a person riding on the pillion seat. The motorcyclist was badly hurt and his pillion passenger was killed. 3. to ride pillion to ride on the pillion seat. She’s got a spare crash helmet for anyone who rides pillion.
pillow /ˈpɪləʊ/ noun in the past, a wooden stand with holes for the head and hands, where criminals were placed so that the public could throw things at them. ■ verb to make someone appear foolish or silly in public. She was pilloried in the Sunday papers.
synonym ridicule
3. pillow /ˈpɪləʊ/ noun a rectangular bag full of soft material which you put your head on in bed
pillow slip /ˈpɪləʊ slɪp/ noun a cloth bag to cover a pillow
3. pilot /ˈpəʊlɪt/ noun 1. a person who flies a plane. He’s training to be an airline pilot. 2. He’s a helicopter pilot for an oil company. 3. a person who controls boats into or out of a harbour. Ships are not allowed into the harbour without a pilot. 4. a programme made or used as a test. ■ a pilot for a new TV series 5. to control something such as a boat or an aircraft. He safely piloted the ship into harbour. 2. to show someone the way to a place by taking them there. He piloted her through a maze of passageways to the meeting room.
pilot light /ˈpaɪlət lɑt/ noun a little flame, which burns all the time in a piece of equipment such as a gas fire, and which lights the main part of the fire automatically when it is switched on.
pilot scheme /ˈpaɪlət skɪm/ noun a small project which is done as a test to find out if something such as a business is likely to be successful.
pimento /ˈpɪməntəʊ/ noun (NOTE: The plural is pimentos. The US spelling is pimiento.)
pimp /ˈpɪmp/ noun a man who makes money by finding customers for prostitutes. The pimps are supposed to protect the girls if customers turn nasty. ■ verb to work as a pimp. The police think he has been pimping in the West End.
pimple /ˈpɪmpl/ noun a small lump on the surface of the skin, containing pus. Synonym spot
pimply /ˈpɪmplɪ/ adj covered with pimples. Synonym spotty
pin /ˈpɪn/ noun 1. a small thin sharp metal stick with a round head, used for fastening things such as pieces of cloth or paper together. She fastened the ribbons to her dress with a pin. 2. a thin wooden or metal bar used for fastening things together. After the accident, he had to have two pins inserted in his leg. ■ verb to attach with a pin. She pinned up a notice about the meeting. He pinned her photograph on the wall. He pinned the calendar to the wall by his desk. 2. to force someone to stay in a place, either deliberately or because of an accident. Several people were pinned under the fallen roof. The car pinned her against the wall. (NOTE: Pinning – pinned)
pinafore /ˈpɪnəfɔr/ noun 1. a large apron covering the front part of your clothes. All the waitresses wear starched white pinafores. 2. a full dress worn to cover ordinary clothes when working
pinball /ˈpɪnbɔl/ noun an indoor game played on a sloping electronic table in which a player makes a ball move quickly past obstacles to score points
pincers /ˈpɪnsəz/ plural noun 1. a tool for holding something tight,
pinch /pɪntʃ/ noun 1. squeezing tightly between finger and thumb □ He gave her arm a pinch. 2. □ at a pinch if really necessary At a pinch, we can manage with only one sales assistant. □ to feel the pinch to find you have less money than you need □ We really started to feel the pinch when my father lost his job. 3. a small quantity of something held between finger and thumb □ Add a pinch of salt to the boiling water. (NOTE: The plural is pinches.) □ verb 1. to squeeze something tightly, using the finger and thumb □ Oh! You’re pinching me! 2. to steal something □ Someone’s pinched my pin!

pincushion /ˈpɪŋkʃən/ noun a round thick piece of soft material in which you can stick pins so as to keep them to hand □ pin down /ˈpɪn dəʊn/ verb □ to pin someone down to get someone to say what he or she really thinks, to get someone to make his or her mind up □ I’m trying to pin the chairman down to make a decision. □ She’s very vague about dates – it’s difficult to pin her down.

pine /paɪn/ noun 1. □ pine (tree) a type of evergreen tree with needle-shaped leaves □ They planted a row of pines along the edge of the field. 2. wood from a pine tree □ We’ve bought a pine table for the kitchen. □ the pine cupboards in the children’s bedroom □ verb □ to pine for something to feel sad because you do not have something any more □ She’s miserable because she’s pinning for her cat.

pineapple /ˈpɪnəpɔl/ noun a large sweet tropical fruit, shaped like a large pine cone with stiff prickly leaves on top

pine cone /ˈpaɪn kaʊn/ noun the hard case containing the fruit of a pine tree

ping /pɪŋ/ noun the noise made when something such as a small bell or a glass is hit □ The glass went ping and cracked. □ There was a ping as a stone hit the windscreen. □ verb to make a ping □ A little bell pings when the oven reaches the right temperature.

Ping Pong /ˈpɪŋ pɔŋ/ trademark same as table tennis

pinion /ˈpɪnɪən/ noun a wheel with small pieces sticking out around the edge, which makes other wheels move inside a machine □ verb to tie up someone’s arms tightly □ The two men lay pinioned on the floor. Synonym hold down □ pink /pɪŋk/ adj 1. pale red or flesh colour □ The bright pink of the geraniums shows clearly across the garden. 2. a garden flower which has a sweet smell, like a small carnation □ There was a bunch of pinks on the table.

pinkey /ˈpɪŋki/ noun the little finger (informal) □ pin money /ˈpɪn məni/ noun money earned by someone for part-time work. Synonym pocket money

pinnacle /ˈpɪnəkl/ noun 1. the highest point of someone’s career □ By becoming Lord Chief Justice he reached the pinnacle of his legal career. 2. the highest point of a pointed rock □ A narrow ridge connected the two pinacledges. 3. a tall thin stone tower □ looking down on the domes and pinacles of the old Italian city

PIN number /ˈpɪn nʌmbə/ noun a secret number which you use with a bank card in order to take money out of a cashpoint. Full form personal identification number pinpoint /ˈpɪnpɔɪnt/ noun □ a pinpoint of light a very small spot of light □ verb to show exactly where something is □ We can pinpoint the ship’s exact position by radar. Synonym locate

pins and needles /ˈpɪnz ən ˈnɪdzlz/ noun a sharp feeling in a limb after it has been in an uncomfortable position for a time

pinstripe /ˈpɪnstræp/ noun a thin line light on a dark cloth

pinstripe suit /ˈpɪnˌstræp sʊt/ noun a suit, usually a man’s suit, made of dark cloth with a pinstripe in it

pint /ˈpaɪnt/ noun a liquid measure, equal to 0.568 of a litre

pin-up /ˈpaɪn ap/ noun a picture of a person, especially one of a sexually attractive person or in which the person is wearing very few clothes

pioneer /ˈpaiənər/ noun 1. a person who is among the first to try to do something □ He was one of the pioneers of radar. □ The pioneers in the field of laser surgery 2. a person who is among the first to discover or settle in a new land □ The first pioneers settled in this valley in about 1860. □ verb to be the first to do something □ The company pioneered developments in the field of electronics. □ She pioneered a new route across the Andes.

pioneering /ˈpaiənərɪŋ/ adj opening up a new area of activity

pious /ˈpiəs/ adj 1. showing great respect for religion □ A pious benefactor gave the money to build a new church. 2. □ a pious hope a hope for something that is unlikely to happen □ Expecting the children to behave well was something of a pious hope.

piously /ˈpiəsli/ adv in a pious way
pip /pɪp/ noun 1. a small seed in some fruits • Take out all the pips when you cut up the grapefruit. (NOTE: Fruits such as apples, pears, oranges and lemons all have pips.) 2. a star on an officer’s rank • The three pips showed he was a captain. • verb to defeat someone (informal) • She piped me for first place. Synonym beat • to pip someone at the post to beat someone at the last minute • He put on a final spurt and piped me at the post.

drainpipe /drainpɪp/ noun 1. a tube • He’s clearing a blocked pipe in the kitchen. • The water came out of the hole in the pipe. • a pipe for smoking tobacco, with a bend at one end in which the tobacco burns • verb to squeeze soft food mixture through a small tube, so as to make attractive shapes • Duchess potatoes are piped into spiral shapes and cooked. 2. to send water, gas, etc., along a pipe • Hot water is piped to each room from a central boiler.

pirouette /pɪrəʊˈɛt/ noun spinning round on one foot when dancing • verb to spin round on one foot

pirate /ˈpɪrət/ noun 1. a sailor who attacks ships and steals from them • Pirates attacked the ship. • Pirates buried treasure on the island hundreds of years ago. 2. a person who makes illegal copies of things such as books or videos • verb to make an illegal copy of something such as a book, disk or design • The designs for the new dress collection were pirated in the Far East. • I found a pirated copy of my book on sale in a street market.

pitch /pɪtʃ/ noun 1. the ground on which a game is played • I’ll time you, if you run
pitched battle /ˈpɪtʃɪdˈbætʃ/ noun a battle where the opposing sides stand and face each other. Synonym argument

pitcher /ˈpɪtʃər/ noun 1. a large container for liquids, with a handle and a specially shaped part on the top edge for pouring the liquid out ○ My aunt brought out a pitcher of lemonade. 2. a person who throws the ball in baseball ○ The Dodgers are without their regular pitcher this afternoon.

piteous /ˈpɪtiəs/ adj which deserves pity

pitch /ˈpɪtʃ/ noun 1. the soft part in the centre of a plant stem 2. a soft white substance under the skin of fruits such as lemons and oranges

pitchy /ˈpɪtʃi/ adj 1. full of serious meaning ○ He made some pithy remarks. 2. with a soft centre (NOTE: pitier – pithest)

pitiable /ˈpɪtɪəbəl/ adj which deserves pity (formal)

pitiful /ˈpɪtɪfl/ adj 1. making you feel sorry for someone or something ○ The poor cat was in a pitiful state. 2. not at all good ○ His attempts at singing were pitiful.

pitifully /ˈpɪtɪflɪ/ adv 1. in a way which makes you feel sorry for someone ○ He moaned pitifully and kept asking for water. 2. extremely, in a way which is pitiful ○ The pension she has to live on is pitifully small. ○ Her little arms and legs were pitifully thin.

pitiless /ˈpɪtɪləs/ adj 1. not showing any pity ○ His voice was harsh and pitiless. 2. very severe ○ The pitiless wind blew across the ice floes.

pits /pɪts/ plural noun (at car races) the place where the cars get more fuel, are examined and repaired

pitta bread /ˈpɪtə, breqd/ noun a type of flat bread
piece of paper in the book to mark my place.
○ I’ve lost my place and can’t remember where I got to.
○ to take place to happen
○ The fight took place outside the football ground. ○ The film takes place in China.
○ a name given to a street in a town ○ They live in Regent Place.
○ verb 1. to put something somewhere ○ The waitress placed the teapot on the table. ○ Please place the envelope in the box.
2. to remember who someone is ○ His face seems familiar but I can’t place him.

placebo /ˈpleɪsəʊ/ noun a pill which appears to be a drug, but has no medicine in it (NOTE: The plural is placebos.)
placemat /ˈpleɪsmæt/ noun a flat piece of thick cloth which a person’s plate is put on
placement /ˈpleɪsmənt/ noun the action of finding a job for someone
placenta /ˈplæsəntə/ noun a tissue that grows inside the womb when a baby is developing, and which supplies the oxygen and nutrients needed for the baby to grow
place setting /ˈplɛs ˌsetɪŋ/ noun a set of objects such as a knife, fork and spoon, plate and cup, which one person needs at a meal
placid /ˈplæsɪd/ adj calm. Antonym excitable
placidly /ˈplæsɪdlɪ/ adv calmly
placing /ˈplæsɪŋ/ noun the position of something in a list
plagiarise /ˈpleɪʒəraɪz/, plagiarize verb to copy the work of another author and pretend it is your own
plagiarism /ˈpleɪʒərɪz(ə)m/ noun copying another person’s written work and passing it off as your own
plague /ˈpleɪɡ/ noun 1. a serious infectious disease which people catch off fleas from rats ○ Thousands of people died in the Great Plague of London in 1665.
○ to avoid someone like the plague to try not to meet someone ○ I avoid him like the plague because he’s always asking if he can borrow money.
2. a great quantity of unpleasant things ○ We’ve had a plague of ants in the garden.
verb to annoy someone or cause them problems ○ We were plagued with wasps last summer. ○ She keeps plaguing me with silly questions.
placce /ˈpleɪs/ noun a common flat sea fish (NOTE: The plural is place.)
plaid /ˈplæd/ noun 1. a type of cloth which has a pattern of different coloured lines on it ○ He wore plaid trousers.
2. (in Scotland) a long piece of such cloth ○ The highlanders traditionally wore the plaid wrapped around their whole body.
○ plain /ˈplɛn/ adj 1. easy to understand ○ The instructions are written in plain English.
2. obvious ○ It’s perfectly plain what he wants. ○ We made it plain to them that this was our final offer.
3. simple and not complicated ○ We put plain wallpaper in the dining room.
4. not attractive ○ His two daughters are rather plain.
5. (NOTE: plain – plainest) noun a flat area of country ○ a broad plain bordered by mountains. Synonym prairie (NOTE: Do not confuse with plane.)
plain chocolate /ˈplɛn tʃɒklət/ noun a dark bitter chocolate
plain clothes /ˈplɛnkləʊdz/ adj wearing ordinary clothes, not a uniform
plain flour /ˈplɛn flaʊə/ noun white flour with no baking powder in it
plainly /ˈplɛnli/ adv 1. obviously ○ He’s plainly bored by the French lesson.
2. clearly ○ It is plainly visible from here.
3. in a simple way ○ She always dresses very plainly.
plainness /ˈplɛnɪzn/ noun 1. the fact of being clear 2. the fact of being simple
plain sailing /ˈplɛn sɛlkɪŋ/ noun easy progress
plaintiff /ˈplɛntɪfl/ noun a person who starts a legal action against someone in the civil courts (dated). Antonym defendant
(NOTE: This is an old term; it has now been replaced by claimant. The other party in an action is the defendant.)
plaintive /ˈplɛntɪv/ adj (of sounds) sad and complaining. Synonym mournful. Antonym cheerful
plain /ˈplɛn/ noun three long pieces of hair, woven together ○ She wears her hair in a plait or in plaits. Synonym braid
verb to form someone’s hair into a plait ○ My mother used to plait my hair before I went to school in the morning.
1. plan /ˈplæn/ noun 1. an organised way of doing things ○ He made a plan to get up earlier in future.
○ She drew up plans for the village fête. ○ according to plan in the way it was arranged ○ The party went off according to plan.
2. a drawing of the way something is arranged ○ Here are the plans for the kitchen.
○ The fire exits are shown on the plan of the office.
verb 1. to arrange how you are going to do something ○ She’s busy planning her holiday in Greece.
2. to intend to do something ○ They are planning to move to London next month.
○ We weren’t planning to go on holiday this year. ○ I plan to take the 5 o’clock flight to New York.
3. to arrange how to build something ○ She planned the bathroom herself. ○ A new town is being planned next to the airport. (NOTE: planning – planned)
plane /ˈplɛn/ noun 1. an aircraft, a vehicle which flies ○ When is the next plane for
plane-spotter /pliːn, ˈspɔtə/ noun a person who collects details of the numbers and makes of planes.

planet /ˈplænt/ noun 1. one of the objects in space which move round the Sun  ○ Is there life on any of the planets?  ○ Earth is the third planet from the Sun. 2. the planet Earth  ○ an environmental disaster which could affect the whole planet.

planetary /ˈplæntr(ə)ri/ adj referring to the planets.

plane tree /ˈpliːn trɪs/ noun a large tree with wide leaves, often grown in towns (NOTE: Do not confuse with plain.)

plank /plæŋk/ noun a long flat piece of wood used in building.  ○ thick

plankton /ˈplæŋktn/ plural noun very small animals and plants which live and move about slowly in the sea, and are the food of large animals.

planner /ˈplænər/ noun a person who draws up plans  ○ The planners made the car park too small.

planning /ˈplænɪŋ/ noun the act or practice of making plans  ○ The trip will need very careful planning.  ○ The project is still in the planning stage.

plant /plænt/ noun 1. a living thing which grows in the ground and has leaves, a stem and roots  ○ He planted a row of cabbage plants.  ○ Sunflower plants grow very tall. 2. machinery  ○ Investment in buildings and plant accounts for 90% of our setting up costs. 3. a large factory  ○ They are planning to build a car plant near the river.  ○ verb 1. to put a plant in the ground  ○ We’ve planted two pear trees and a peach tree in the garden. 2. to put in a place  ○ They phoned to say that a bomb had been planted in the High Street. 3. to put goods secretly in a place in order to make it look as if they were placed there illegally  ○ The police were accused of planting the drugs in her car.

plantation /ˈplæntʃən/ noun 1. an area of trees planted as a crop  ○ a plantation of pines. 2. a tropical farm growing a particular crop  ○ a coffee plantation  ○ a rubber plantation.

planter /ˈplæntər/ noun 1. a person in charge of a plantation  ○ As a young man he went out to Ceylon as a tea planter. 2. a decorated container to hold plants in pots  ○ A set of planters for indoor plants.

plant pot /ˈplænt pɒt/ noun a container for growing plants in

plaque /ˈpleɪk, ˈplæk/ noun 1. a flat plate made of a hard substance such as stone or metal and with some writing on the surface  ○ They put up a plaque to commemorate the soldiers who died.  ○ The Princess unveiled a plaque commemorating her visit and the opening of the new library. 2. a substance which forms on the teeth  ○ Use dental floss every morning to control plaque. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning)

plasma /ˈplæzmə/ noun a thin yellow liquidity which makes up the main part of blood.

plasma screen /ˈplæzmə skrɪn/ noun a very thin television or computer screen which shows extremely clear images.

plaster /ˈplæsta/ noun 1. a mixture of powdery sand and lime which is mixed with water and is used for covering the walls of houses  ○ The flat hasn’t been decorated yet and there is still bare plaster in most of the rooms. 2. a white substance which becomes hard when it dries, used to cover a broken arm or leg and hold it in place  ○ He had an accident skiing and now has his leg in plaster.  ○ verb 1. to cover with plaster  ○ They had to take off the old plaster and plaster the walls again. 2. to cover with a thick layer as if with plaster  ○ She plastered her face with makeup.

plaster cast /ˈplæsta kæst/ noun 1. a hard covering of plaster put round a broken arm or leg  ○ a shape made by covering something with plaster  ○ a copy of an object made in plaster.

plastered /ˈplæstəd/ adj 1. covered with plaster  ○ We painted the plastered walls pink. 2. covered with a substance, e.g. mud  ○ very drunk  ○ He got completely plastered at his brother’s party.

plastic /ˈplæstɪk/ noun 1. a synthetic material used to make many things  ○ We take plastic plates when we go to the beach.  ○ The supermarket gives you plastic bags to put your shopping in.  ○ We cover our garden furniture with plastic sheeting when it rains. (NOTE: no plural: a bowl made of plastic)

plastic credit cards and charge cards (informal)  ○ I don’t have any cash with me, do you take plastic?

Plasticine /ˈplæstɪsɪn/ trademark a coloured substance like clay, which children form into shapes.

plasticity /ˈplestrɪsɪtɪ/ noun the state of being plastic.

plastic surgery /ˈplæstɪk ˈsɜːdʒəri/ noun a medical treatment to repair damaged parts of the body.
plate /ˈpleɪt/ noun 1. a flat round dish for putting food on. 2. Pass all the plates down to the end of the table. 2. food which is served on a plate. 3. They passed round plates of sandwiches. 4. She ate two plates of cold meat. 5. a flat piece of something such as metal or glass. 6. The dentist has a brass plate on his door.

plateau /ˈpleɪtəʊ/ noun 1. an area of high flat land. 2. the high plateau region of southern Argentina. The town lies on a plateau about 2000 feet above sea level. 3. that part of the earth’s crust or submarine area which is not sexual. 4. a high flat place or at a particular time. 5. to reach a plateau. 6. A huge joint of meat was carried in a plate.

platform /ˈpleɪtʃəm/ noun 1. a very large flat sheet, used for windows. 2. a platform at the side of the railway lines at a station, to help passengers get on or off the trains easily. 3. crowds of people were waiting on the platform. 4. The train for Liverpool will leave from platform 10. 5. The next train at this platform is the Circle Line to Paddington. 6. a high wooden floor for speakers to speak from. 7. the main speakers sat in a row on the platform. 8. A US programme of action proposed by a political party at an election.

platform shoes /ˈpleɪtʃəm ʃu/ noun shoes with very thick soles.

plate glass /ˈpleɪt ˈɡlɑːs/ noun glass made in very large flat sheets, used for windows.

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platonic /ˈpleɪtɒnɪk/ adj (of a relationship) which is not sexual.

platonic /ˈpleɪtɒnɪk/ adj (of a relationship) which is not sexual.

platoon /ˈpləˈtɔːn/ noun a small group of soldiers with a lieutenant in charge, part of a company.

play /pleɪ/ noun 1. a written text which is acted in a theatre or on TV. 2. Did you see the play on TV last night? 3. We went to the National Theatre to see the new play. 4. Two of Shakespeare’s plays are on the list for the English exam. 5. The activity of taking part in a game. 6. Play will start at 3 o’clock.

play back /pleɪ bæk/ verb to listen to something which you have just recorded.

playboy /ˈpleɪbɔʊ/ noun a rich man who spends his time enjoying himself rather than working.

playboy /ˈpleɪbɔʊ/ noun a rich man who spends his time enjoying himself rather than working.

plausible /ˈpleɪzəbəl/ adj 1. which sounds as though it could be correct or true. 2. He couldn’t produce any plausible excuse to explain why he was in the warehouse. 3. good at telling lies so that people believe what you say. 4. He sounds very plausible over the phone.

plausibly /ˈpleɪzəbli/ adv in a plausible way.

platitude /ˈplædɪtədʒ/ noun nice things which you say to praise someone for their goodness or success.

platonist /ˈplætəˌnɪst/ noun a philosopher who believed that the world of ideals is what exists, separate from the world of physical things.

platonist /ˈplætəˌnɪst/ noun a philosopher who believed that the world of ideals is what exists, separate from the world of physical things.

platter /ˈplætər/ noun 1. a large flat serving plate. 2. A huge joint of meat was carried in a platter. 3. a large plate of prepared food, arranged in an attractive way. 4. We ordered a seafood platter.

plaudits /ˈplɔːdɪts/ plural noun nice things which you say to praise someone for their goodness or success.
Play-doh /ˈpleɪ daʊ/ trademark a type of coloured plastic material like clay, which children form into shapes
play down /ˈpleɪ ˈdʌn/ verb to make something seem less important. Synonym minimise. Antonym accentuate
\( \text{player} /ˈpleɪər/ \text{ noun} 1. \text{a person who plays a game} \quad \text{You only need two players for chess.} \quad \text{Rugby players have to be fit.} \text{Four of the players in the opposing team are ill.} \quad \text{a person who plays a musical instrument} \quad \text{a famous horn player}
\( \text{playful} /ˈpleɪfl(ə)l/ \text{ adj} \text{ lively and enjoying playing}
\text{playground} /ˈpleɪgrəʊnd/ \text{ noun} a place, at a school or in a public area, where children can play
\text{playgroup} /ˈpleɪgruːp/ \text{ noun} a group of small children who play together, looked after by a teacher
\text{playhouse} /ˈpleɪhaus/ \text{ noun} 1. a theatre \quad \text{There’s a brand new play on at the playhouse.} \quad \text{a model house for children to play in. Also called Wendy house}
\text{playing field} /ˈpleɪər fiːld/ \text{ noun} a large field where sports can be played
\text{playmate} /ˈpleɪmət/ \text{ noun} a child who regularly plays with another
\text{play off} /ˈpleɪ əf/ \text{ verb} \quad \text{ to play someone off against someone} \quad \text{to try to benefit by making two people compete against each other} \quad \text{Children try to get what they want by playing their parents off against each other}
\text{playoff} /ˈpleɪf(ə)l/ \text{ noun} a game to decide the final result, played between two players or teams that have the same score
\text{playpen} /ˈpleɪpɛn/ \text{ noun} a structure in which a baby can be left to play safely
\text{playroom} /ˈpleɪrʊm/ \text{ noun} a room in which children can play
\text{plaything} /ˈpleɪθɪŋ/ \text{ noun} 1. something or someone that a person uses simply for his own pleasure \quad \text{Luxury yachts are the playthings of the rich.} \quad 2. a toy for a child to play with (old) \quad \text{I keep all the children’s playthings in this cupboard}
\text{playtime} /ˈpleɪtɪm/ \text{ noun} a time in school when children can play. Synonym break
\text{play up} /ˈpleɪ əp/ \text{ verb} \text{ to cause trouble}
\text{playwright} /ˈpleɪraɪt/ \text{ noun} a person who writes plays. Synonym dramatist
\text{plaza} /ˈplɑːzə/ \text{ noun} a large open square in a town
\text{Plc} abbr public limited company
\text{plea} /ˈpliː/ \text{ noun} 1. an answer to a charge in court \quad \text{He entered a plea of ‘not guilty’.} \quad 2. a request \quad \text{Her pleas for clemency were rejected}
\text{plead} /ˈplɛd/ \text{ verb} 1. to answer a charge in a law court \quad \text{He pleaded guilty to the charge of murder.} \quad 2. to give an excuse \quad \text{She said she couldn’t come, pleading pressure of work.} \quad \text{3. to plead with someone} \quad \text{to try to change someone’s mind by asking again and again} \quad \text{I pleaded with her not to go}
\text{pleading} /ˈplɛdɪŋ/ \text{ adj} \text{ asking in a way that shows something is wanted very much} \quad \text{The dog needed a pleading look in his eyes.} \quad \text{noun} 1. the action of asking for something in an emotional or desperate way \quad \text{He finally gave in to her pleading.} \quad 2. the action of speaking in court on someone’s behalf \quad \text{In English courts, a solicitor prepares the case and a barrister does the actual pleading}
\text{pleasant} /ˈpleɪz(ə)nt/ \text{ adj} \text{ which pleases} \quad \text{What a pleasant garden!} \quad \text{How pleasant it is to sit here under the trees!} \quad \text{he didn’t bring the pleasantest of news he brought bad news}
\text{pleasantly} /ˈpleɪz(ə)ntl/ \text{ adv} \text{ in a pleasant way}
\text{pleasantry} /ˈpleɪz(ə)ntri/ \text{ noun} a joke or a pleasant remark. Antonym insult (NOTE: The plural is pleasantries)
\text{please} /pliːz/ \text{ interj} \text{ used to ask politely} \quad \text{Please sit down.} \quad \text{Can you close the window, please?} \quad \text{Can I have a ham sandwich, please?} \quad \text{Do you want some more tea?} \quad \text{Yes, please!} \quad \text{Compare thank you \text{ verb} \text{ to make someone happy or satisfied} \quad \text{She’s not difficult to please.} \quad \text{please yourself} \quad \text{do as you like} \quad \text{Shall I take the red one or the green one?} \quad \text{Please yourself}
\text{pleased} /pliːzd/ \text{ adj} \text{ happy} \quad \text{We’re very pleased with our new house.} \quad \text{I’m pleased to hear you’re feeling better.} \quad \text{He wasn’t pleased when he heard his exam results}
\text{pleasant} /ˈpleɪz(ə)nt/ \text{ adj} \text{ which pleases}
\text{pleasure} /ˈpleɪz(ə)rr/ \text{ noun} a pleasant feeling \quad \text{His greatest pleasure is sitting by the river.} \quad \text{It gives me great pleasure to be able to visit you today.} \quad \text{with pleasure} \quad \text{happily} \quad \text{I’ll do the job with pleasure}
\text{pleat} /ˈplɛt/ \text{ noun} a flat fold in a piece of clothing such as a skirt or in something such as a curtain \quad \text{His shirt front was decorated with a row of small pleats.} \quad \text{ verb} \text{ to make neat folds in something such as a piece of clothing or a curtain} \quad \text{Plating the skirt makes it hang better.}
\text{pleated} /ˈplɛtɪd/ \text{ adj} \text{ (of fabric) made with pleats}
\text{plebian} /ˈplɛbiən/ \text{ adj} \text{common or ordinary; belonging to the working class}
plebiscite /ˈplɛbɪsɪt/ noun a type of vote, where the whole population of a town, region or country is asked to vote to decide a particular issue. Synonym referendum

pledge /pledʒ/ noun 1. a promise ○ They made a pledge to meet again next year; same time, same place. ○ The government never fulfilled its pledge to cut taxes. 2. □ to take the pledge to swear never to drink alcohol again. 3. an object given to a lender when borrowing money, and which will be returned to the borrower when the money is paid back. ○ Any pledges which have not been claimed after six months will be sold. □ verb 1. to promise something formally ○ She pledged £50 to the charity. ○ Thousands of people have pledged their support for the scheme. 2. to give something as a pledge when borrowing money ○ She had to pledge her ring to buy food for the children.

plenary /ˈplɪnərri/ adj complete, covering everything (formal)

plenary session /ˈplɪnərri ˌsɛʃən/ noun the part of a conference where all the people involved meet together

plentiful /ˈplɛnɪfl/ adj in large quantities. Synonym abundant. Antonym scarce

plentious /ˈplɛntʃuəs/ adj a plentiful quantity ○ You’ve got plenty of time to catch the train. ○ Plenty of people complain about the bus service. ○ Have you got enough bread? – Yes, we’ve got plenty. (NOTE: no plural)

plethora /ˈplɛθərə/ noun □ a plethora of too many (formal) ○ There has been a plethora of books about the 'Titanic' following the success of the film.

pleurisy /ˈplɪrəsɪ/ noun a serious medical condition which affects the lungs, often caused by pneumonia

pliers /ˈplɛzərz/ plural noun □ pair of pliers a tool shaped like scissors for squeezing, pulling or cutting wire ○ I need a pair of pliers to pull out these rusty nails.

plight /plɪt/ noun a bad situation or condition (dated) ○ You must pity the plight of the people made homeless by the war. □ verb to promise something (dated) □ to plight your troth to make a serious promise to love and support the person you are going to marry

plimsolls /ˈplɪmsɔlz/ plural noun light shoes with thin rubber bottoms, worn when doing sports such as gymnastics

plinth /ˈplɪnθ/ noun a stand which supports an object such as a statue. Synonym pedestal

plod /plɒd/ verb 1. to walk slowly and with heavy steps ○ The camels plodded across the desert. ○ He plodded round the department stores but didn’t find anything he wanted. 2. to work steadily ○ The police plodded slowly through a list of people who had to be interviewed. (NOTE: plodding – plodded)

plonk /ˈplɒŋk/ noun cheap wine (informal)

plonk (dated) □ verb to put something down in a careless way ○ The waiter just plonked the plates down in front of us and went off. ○ A big fat man plonked himself down in the seat next to me and went to sleep.

plot /plot/ noun 1. a small area of land, e.g. used for building or for growing vegetables ○ They own a plot of land next to the river. ○ They plotted a course to take us to the island. 2. the basic story of a book, play or film ○ The novel has a complicated plot. ○ I won’t tell you the plot of the film so as not to spoil it for you. 3. a secret and evil plan ○ They plotted to assassinate the Prime Minister. (NOTE: plotting – plotted)

plotter /ˈplɔtə/ noun a person who makes secret and evil plans. Synonym schemer

plough /ˈplau/ noun a farm machine for turning over soil ○ The plough is pulled by a tractor. □ verb 1. to turn over the soil ○ Some farmers still use horses to plough the fields. 2. to work slowly ○ He was there until midnight, ploughing through all the paperwork. (NOTE: all verb senses) The US spelling is plow.

ploughman’s lunch noun a meal of bread, cheese and pickles

plough on /ˈplau ən/ verb to continue with something difficult (informal)

plow /ˈplau/ noun, verb US spelling of plough

ploy /plɔɪ/ noun a clever trick ○ pluck /plɔk/ noun courage (dated) ○ It took a lot of pluck to leave home and go to Australia. Synonym courage. Antonym cowardice □ verb 1. to pull out feathers from a bird ○ to pluck a chicken ○ Ask the butcher to pluck the pheasants for you. 2. to pick something such as flowers ○ She plucked an apple from the tree. 3. to pull and release the strings of a guitar or other musical instrument, to make a sound ○ He was idly plucking the strings of his guitar. 4. □ to pluck up courage to get ready to face a dan-
plucky /ˈplʌki/ adj brave. Synonym brave. Antonym cowardly (NOTE: pluckier — pluckiest)
  1. plug /plʌg/ noun 1. a flat rubber disc which covers the hole for dirty water in a bath or sink. 2. a device with pins which go into an electric socket, and which allows the electric current to pass through. The vacuum cleaner is supplied with a plug. 3. (sparking) plug (in a car) a device which passes the electric spark through the petrol vapour. If the plugs are dirty, the engine won’t start. 4. The garage put in a new set of sparking plugs.
  2. plug away at a hole in a bath or washbasin through which the dirty water drains away.
  3. plug in /ˈplʌgin/ verb to push an electric plug into a socket and so attach a device to the electricity supply. Antonym unplug
  4. plum /plʌm/ noun 1. a gold, red or purple fruit with a smooth skin and a large stone. She bought a pound of plums to make a pie. 2. to have a plum job to have an important well-paid job (informal) He’s landed a plum job with the BBC.
  5. plumage /ˈplʌmeɪdʒ/ noun feathers on a bird (NOTE: no plural)
  6. plum/dʒ/ 1. to measure the depth of water by using a plum line. 2. to plumb the ocean’s depths. 3. to plumb something (in) to attach something to the water pipes in a building. 4. I can’t wash any clothes because the washing machine still hasn’t been plumbed in. 5. He hit the target plumb in the middle.
  7. plumber /ˈplʌmər/ noun a person who installs or mends water pipes, radiators, etc.
  8. plumb line /ˈplʌmlain/ noun a string with a lead weight attached to see how deep water is, or if something is straight
  9. plump /ˈplʌmp/ noun 1. a long feather, especially one worn in a hat. 2. a hat with ostrich plumes
  10. plume /ˈplʌm/ noun 1. a long cloud of smoke from a factory chimney or volcano. 2. a plume of smoke rose from the burning oil depot.
  11. plummets /ˈplʌmɪt/ verb to fall sharply
  12. plumage /ˈplʌmɪdʒ/ 1. (of a person) with an attractively fat or rounded body or body part
  13. plump 1. full and round, not flat or wrinkled. 2. plump fruit a plump cushion
  14. plug 1. to plug up a hole. 2. We plugged the leak in the bathroom. 3. He plugged his ears with cotton wool because he couldn’t stand the noise.
  15. plug away at to block up a hole. During the radio interview, she got in a plug for her new film.
  16. plug away at to work hard doing something
  17. plug in /ˈplʌgin/ verb to plug something in a system of water pipes in a house
  18. plug line /ˈplʌmlain/ noun a string with a lead weight attached to see how deep water is, or if something is straight
  19. plus /plʌs/ prep 1. added to. 2. His salary plus commission comes to more than plus commission. 2. more than one of something. 3. We are aiming to contact a plurality of social groups.
It's a definite plus that the weather wasn't very good, but on the plus side, it didn't actually rain. A favourable sign, a good or favourable point. On the plus side as a favourable point. The weather wasn't very good, but on the plus side, it didn't actually rain. A favourable sign, a good or favourable point. It's a definite plus that the hotel has room service.

The country has been taken over, but there are still pockets of resistance in some mountain areas.

They poached our best salesman. They poached our best salesman.

The gamekeeper suspected that someone was poaching his rabbits. 3. To persuade an employee to leave his or her job and work for another employer. They poached our best salesman.

2. To cook food, e.g. eggs without their shells, or fish, in gently boiling water. Would you like your eggs boiled or poached? They served lightly poached salmon as a first course. 2. To catch game, i.e. animals, birds or fish, illegally on someone else’s land. The gamekeeper suspected that someone was poaching his rabbits.
to put mortar between bricks in a completed wall, so as to make the surface smooth. After the wall was built they pointed it with grey mortar.

point-blank /ˈpɔɪnt ˈblæŋk/ adj 1. at point-blank range at very close range. He was shot at point-blank range. adv sharply, directly and rudely. I told him point-blank that his work was no good.

pointedly /ˈpɔɪntldi/ adv in a pointed way

pointer /ˈpɔɪntə/ noun 1. something which points to. The pointer moved quickly around positions on the wall map. 2. a piece of advice or information. She asked her teacher for some pointers to help her with her project. 3. a dog which is trained to point out game with its nose. The pointer suddenly stopped, staring at a clump of bushes.

pointless /ˈpɔɪntlɪs/ adj with no sense. Synonym useless. Antonym useful

point of view /ˈpɔɪnt av ˈvju/ noun a particular way of thinking about something. Synonym opinion

point out /ˈpɔɪnt ˈaʊt/ verb 1. to show something. The tour guide will point out the main things to see in the town. The report points out the mistakes made by the agency over the last few years. 2. to give a point of view. She pointed out that the children in her class were better behaved than in previous years.

points /ˈpɔɪnts/ plural noun movable rails which allow trains to cross from one line to another.

point up /ˈpɔɪnt ˈʌp/ verb to make something seem very obvious. Synonym emphasise

poise /ˈpɔɪz/ noun balance, a graceful way of holding your head or of standing upright. She has the grace and poise of a ballet dancer. verb to be poised to do something to be ready to do something. The army is poised to capture the city. The tiger was poised to spring on the antelope.

poison /ˈpɔɪzn/ noun a substance which kills or makes you ill if it is swallowed or if it gets into the blood. There’s enough poison in this bottle to kill the whole town. Don’t drink that—it’s poison. verb 1. to kill someone with poison. She was accused of poisoning her husband. 2. to put poison in something. He didn’t know the wine was poisoned. Chemicals from the factory are poisoning the river.

poisoning /ˈpɔɪznɪŋ/ noun 1. the act of taking poison into your system. 2. the act of using poison to kill or harm people.
from the other players at the same time trying to hide their position. Players gamble on the cards in their hands, at the same time trying to hide their position from someone’s umbrella. Synonym stab verb 1. to push a person or an animal with your finger or with a stick. He poked the pig with his stick. 2. to poke fun at someone or something to laugh at someone or something. He poked fun at the maths teacher. (literary) polemic in his speeches. 

Poisonous /ˈpɔzə(n)əs/ adj which can kill or harm people or animals with poison. 

Poke /ˈpʊk/ noun a jab with something sharp. He got a poke in the eye in the street from someone’s umbrella. Synonym stab verb 1. to push a person or an animal with your finger or with a stick. He poked the pig with his stick. 2. to poke fun at someone or something to laugh at someone or something. He poked fun at the maths teacher. (literary) polemic in his speeches. 

Polish /ˈpɔliʃ/ noun an organisation which controls traffic, tries to stop crime and tries to catch criminals. The police are looking for the driver of the car. The police emergency number is 999. Call the police! I’ve just seen someone drive off in my car. Verb to make sure that rules or laws are obeyed. We need more constables to police the area. The problem is how to police the UN resolutions. 

Police constable /ˈpɔliʃ ˈkɒnstəb(ə)l/ noun an ordinary member of the police. (NOTE: also used as a title before a name: Police Constable John Smith, usually shortened to PC or WPC for women police constables: PC John Smith) 

Police force /ˈpɔliʃ fɔːs/ noun the group of police in a certain area. Police man /ˈpɔliʃmən/ noun a man who is an ordinary member of the police. (NOTE: The plural is policemen.) 

Police officer /ˈpɔliʃ ˈɒfɪsə/ noun a member of the police force. 

Police state /ˈpɔliʃ stɛt/ noun a country whose government controls the freedom of the people through the police. 

Policewoman /ˈpɔliʃwʊmən/ noun a woman who is an ordinary member of the police. (NOTE: The plural is policewomen.) 

Policy /ˈpɔlɪsi/ noun 1. decisions on the general way of doing something. Government policy on wages or government welfare. Policy it is not our policy to give details of employees over the phone. People voted Labour because they liked their policies. 2. a comprehensive or an all-in policy an insurance which covers all risks, to take out a policy to sign the contract for an insurance and start paying the premiums. She took out a house insurance policy. 

Policy-making /ˈpɔlɪsɪmɛkɪŋ/ noun the process of deciding what the policies of a party or government should be. The committee reports to the Cabinet, but plays no part in actual policy-making. Adjective which makes policy decisions. A policy-making committee. 

Polio /ˈpɔliəʊ/ noun She caught polio when she was ten years old. 

Polio/myelitis /ˌpɒliəʊˌmaɪlɪtɪs/ noun full form of polio. 

Polish /ˈpɔliʃ/ noun 1. a substance used to make things shiny. Wash the car thoroughly before you put the polish on. Floor polish was used to make wooden floors shiny. Furniture polish was used to make furniture shiny. 2. a shiny surface. Look at the polish on this table. 3. the action of rubbing something to make it shiny. Give the
He polished his shoes until they shone.

2. rudeness

3.

2. off a job quickly

He gave up his political career when he knew three words of Polish. You will need an English-Polish phrasebook if you’re visiting Warsaw.

-polished /ˈpolɪʃt/ adj 1. shiny Be careful that polished floor is very slippery. 2. made perfect by practice He gave a polished performance as Hamlet. 3. very polite, with sophisticated manners She’s a very polished young lady, who has obviously been taught how to speak in public.

-polish off /ˈpolʃ əf/ verb 1. to finish off a job quickly He polished off his essay in half an hour. 2. to eat a meal quickly They polished off the scrambled eggs and then asked for baked beans.

-polish up /ˈpolʃ əp/ verb to improve a skill

-polite /ˈpələt/ adj respectful, not rude Sales staff should be polite to customers.

-politely /ˈpələtli/ adv in a respectful way

-politeness /ˈpələtneɪs/ noun good manners. Antonym rudeness

-political /ˈpələtɪkl/ adj referring to government or to party politics I don’t want to get involved in a political argument. She gave up her political career when she had the children.

-political asylum /ˈpələtɪkləsəm/ noun the right to stay in another country and be protected by its government because for political reasons it would be dangerous for you to return to your own country

-political correctness /ˈpələtɪkl kəˈrektɪs/ noun acting in an exaggerated way to avoid giving offence for racial, sexist or other reasons.

-politically correct /ˈpələtɪkl kəˈrektəl/ adj done in an exaggerated way to avoid giving offence for racial, sexist or other reasons.

-political party /ˈpələtɪkl pərti/ noun an organised group of people who have the same beliefs about how a country should be governed. Compare party political

-political patronage /ˈpələtɪkl pətrənidʒ/ noun the right to give government posts or honours to people who have supported the party

-political prisoner /ˈpələtɪkl prɪznər/ noun a person kept in prison because they are an opponent of the political party in power

-political science /ˈpələtɪkl səns/ noun the study of governments and their use of political power

-political scientist /ˈpələtɪkl səntɪst/ noun a person who studies political science

-political suicide /ˈpələtɪkl səˈsaʊnd/ noun an action which ends your political career

-politician /ˈpələtʃən/ noun a person who works in politics, especially a Member of Parliament. Politicians from all parties have welcomed the report.

-politics /ˈpəlɪtɪks/ plural noun the ideas and methods used in governing a country. Party politics noun the study of how countries are governed. He studied politics and economics at university.

-polka /ˈpəlkə/ noun a type of lively dance

-poll /ˈpəl/ noun 1. a vote or the act of voting We are still waiting for the results of yesterday’s poll. A poll of factory workers showed that more than 50% supported the union’s demands. 2. the number of votes cast in an election The poll was lower than usual – only 35% of the voters bothered to vote. 3. to go to the polls to vote in an election The people of France go to the polls next Sunday to elect a new president.

-poll 1. verb 1. to get a certain number of votes in an election She polled more than ten thousand votes. 2. to poll a sample of the population to ask a sample group of people what they feel about something

-pollen /ˈpələn/ noun a yellow powder on the stamens of a flower which touches part of a female flower and so creates seeds

-pollen count /ˈpələn kɒnt/ noun a number showing the amount of pollen in the air, which can cause hay fever

-pollinate /ˈpələnat/ verb to fertilise a plant with pollen. Synonym fertilise

-pollination /ˈpələnɪˈneɪʃən/ noun the act of fertilising a plant with pollen. Synonym fertilisation

-polling /ˈpəlnɪŋ/ noun the act of voting in an election

-polling booth /ˈpəlnɪŋ buːθ/ noun a small enclosed space in a polling station, where the voter goes to mark his or her ballot paper in private

-polling day /ˈpəlnɪŋ deɪ/ noun a day when an election is held

-polling station /ˈpəlnɪŋ stɛnˈdeɪn/ noun a place where you vote in an election, usually in a public building such as a library or school

-polls /ˈpəulɔs/ plural noun places where people vote in an election

-polister /ˈpəlstə/ noun an expert in understanding what polls mean
more than one wife at a time

There's a polo match in the park this afternoon.

A polyglot on the staff.

Some pollen is hard to see but it can cause problems.

Our polyglot guide had to translate everything into three languages.

Polymer /ˈpɒləmər/ noun a type of synthetic fibre used especially to make clothing

A polycarbonate /ˈpɒliˌkɑːrboʊn/ is a type of thermoplastic polymer which is capable of absorbing more hydrogen 2. (of fat) which is less likely to be converted into cholesterol in the body. Vegetable oils and fish oils are polyunsaturated.

Polyurethane /ˈpɒlɪˌjʊrəˌθiːn/ noun a type of plastic used in paints

Pollution /ˈpɒljuːʃən/ noun the act of making the environment dirty. Pollution of the atmosphere has increased over the last 50 years. Dirty or harmful materials that are put into the environment. It took six months to clean up the oil pollution on the beaches. The pollution in the centre of town is so bad that people have started wearing face masks.

Polyester /ˈpɒliˌɛstər/ is a type of synthetic fibre used especially to make clothing

What's that terrible pong in here?

A ponies /ˈpʌnɪz/ is a small horse (NOTE: The plural is ponies.)

PPPOOH-PPOOH /ˈpəʊ, ˈpəʊ/ verb to ridicule something. Antonym Praise

A pond /ˈpɒnd/ noun a small lake. Synonym pool

A polyglot /ˈpɒlɪɡlɒt/ noun a person who speaks several languages. It's useful to have a polyglot on the staff.

A polygon /ˈpɒlɪɡɔn/ noun a geometrical figure with more than three sides

A poly-syllabic /ˌpɒlɪsɪˈlæbɪk/ is a word with several syllables. Antonym monosyllable

Polytechnic /ˌpɒlɪˈtekɪnɪk/ is an educational establishment for school-leavers, giving degrees, especially in technical subjects, now replaced in Britain by universities

Polythene /ˌpɒlɪθiːn/ noun a type of strong transparent plastic used in thin sheets

Pollutant /ˈpʊljuːtənt/ noun a substance which pollutes

Pollute /ˈpʊljuːt/ verb to make the environment dirty by discharging harmful substances into it

Polluted /ˈpʊljuːtɪd/ adj made dirty

Pollution /ˈpʊljuːʃən/ noun 1. the action of making the environment dirty. 2. dirty or harmful materials that are put into the environment. It took six months to clean up the oil pollution on the beaches. The pollution in the centre of town is so bad that people have started wearing face masks.

A polo shirt /ˈpʊləʊ ʃərt/ noun a shirt with short sleeves, a collar and three or four buttons at the neck

A poly- /ˈpɒlɪ/ prefix several

A polymer /ˈpɒləmər/ noun a type of synthetic fibre used especially to make clothing

A polysyllabic /ˌpɒlɪsɪˈlæbɪk/ is a word with several syllables. Antonym monosyllable

A polytechnic /ˌpɒlɪˈtekɪnɪk/ is an educational establishment for school-leavers, giving degrees, especially in technical subjects, now replaced in Britain by universities

A polythene /ˌpɒlɪθiːn/ noun a type of strong transparent plastic used in thin sheets

A polyunsaturated /ˌpɒlɪˈʌnsətərɪd/ is a type of fatty acid which is less likely to be converted into cholesterol in the body. Vegetable oils and fish oils are polyunsaturated.

A pool /puːl/ noun 1. a small lake. 2. a large bath of water for swimming in. An outdoor pool 3. a heated pool. We have a little swimming pool in the garden. 4. He dived in and swam across the mountain pool.

A poisoning /ˌpɒljuːˈziŋ/ (of a poison) is a disease caused by poisoning

A politeness /ˌpɒlɪˈtiːzn/ noun a polite manner of speaking or writing

A polyglot /ˈpɒlɪɡlɒt/ noun a person who speaks several languages. He walked with ponderous steps across the stage. He imitated the ponderous way of walking of a Japanese wrestler.
swam two lengths of the pool. 3. an area of water or other liquid 4. She stared at the pool of blood on the floor. 4. a group in which people share facilities 5. We belong to a pool of people who baby-sit for one another. 6. a supply of something ready to be used 7. We can draw on a pool of unemployed talent. 8. a game rather like snooker, where you hit balls into pockets using a long stick called a ‘cue’ 9. We were playing pool in the bar. 6. verb 10. to pool resources to group resources together 11. The only way we can afford it will be to pool our resources.

- **poor** /pɜr/ adj 1. with little or no money 2. The family is very poor now that both parents have no work. 3. This is one of the poorest countries in Africa. 4. poor in something 5. with very little of something 6. The soil in my garden is very poor in nutrients. 7. not very good 8. Vines can grow even in poor soil. 9. They were selling off poor quality vegetables at a cheap price. 10. She’s been in poor health for some months. 11. showing you are sorry **Poor old you!** – Having to stay at home and finish your homework while we go to the pictures. 12. My poor legs, after climbing up the mountain! (NOTE: poorer – poorest) 13. poorly /ˈpɔrli/ adv in quite a bad way 14. The offices are poorly laid out. 15. The job is very poorly paid. 16. poorly paid staff 17. staff with low wages 18. adj ill (informal) 19. She felt quite poorly and had to go home. 20. He was very poorly on Monday, but by the end of the week he was a little better. 21. Synonym **ill**

- **pop** /pɒp/ noun 1. a noise like a cork coming out of a bottle 2. There was a pop as she lit the gas. 3. to go pop to make a noise like a cork coming out of a bottle 4. The car engine went pop and we stopped suddenly. 5. The balloon landed on the candles and went pop. 6. a fizzy drink 7. a bottle of pop 8. US a name for a father 9. I’ll ask my Pop if we can borrow his ladder. 10. verb 11. to make a noise like ‘pop’ 12. Champagne corks were popping as the result was announced. 13. 2. to go somewhere quickly 14. I’ll just pop down to the town. 15. He popped into the chemist’s. 16. I’m just popping round to Jane’s. 17. I’d only popped out for a moment. 18. to put something somewhere quickly 19. Pop the pie in the microwave for three minutes. (NOTE: popping)

- **popcorn** /ˈpɒpkrɔːn/ noun the seed of a type of maize plant which is heated until it bursts and is eaten as a snack

- **Pope** /ˈpɒp/ noun the head of the Roman Catholic Church

- **pop group** /ˈpɒp gruːp/ noun a group of singers and musicians who play pop songs

- **poplar** /ˈpɒpələ/ noun 1. a common tall and slender tree 2. a tree used for making shirts 3. a group of metres which people share facilities 4. a group in which people can share facilities 5. the only way we can afford it will be to pool our resources 6. a game rather like snooker, where you hit balls into pockets using a long stick called a ‘cue’ 7. We were playing pool in the bar. 8. the only way we can afford it will be to pool our resources

- **poplin** /ˈpɒplɪn/ noun a strong cotton cloth used for making shirts

- **pop music** /ˈpɒp ˌmjʊzɪk/ noun modern popular music

- **poppadom** /ˈpɒppədɒm/ noun a thin round crisp Indian pancake, fried or grilled

- **poppy** /ˈpɒpi/ noun a common red wild flower which often grows in fields

- **populous** /ˈpɒpjuːləs/ adj 1. by most people 2. She was popularly supposed to possess magic powers. 3. by the ordinary people 4. The plant popularly known as ‘old man’s beard’ is in fact wild clematis. 5. The department store is popular with young mothers. 6. The rest of the populace envied the privileges of the rich.

- **population** /ˈpɒpjʊleɪʃn/ noun 1. by a lot of people 2. The department store is popular with young mothers. 3. The South Coast is the most popular area for holidays. 4. referring to the mass of ordinary people 5. He was elected by popular vote. 6. It is a popular belief that it is unlucky to walk under a ladder. 7. Syonyms **immigration** 8. **admiration** 9. Antonym **infamy** 10. **populist** /ˈpɒpjʊlist/ noun a person who believes that ordinary people should have more say in government 11. **populist politician**

- **popular** /ˈpɒpjʊlər/ adj 1. by a lot of people 2. The department store is popular with young mothers. 3. The South Coast is the most popular area for holidays. 4. referring to the mass of ordinary people 5. He was elected by popular vote. 6. It is a popular belief that it is unlucky to walk under a ladder. 7. Syonyms **admiration** 8. **populist** 9. Antonym **infamy** 10. **popular** 11. **popularis** /ˈpɒpjʊləraɪz/, popularize verb to make something understood or liked by a lot of people

- **poorly** /ˈpɔrli/ adv in quite a bad way 1. The offices are poorly laid out. 2. The job is very poorly paid. 3. poorly paid staff 4. staff with low wages 5. adj ill (informal) 6. She felt quite poorly and had to go home. 7. He was very poorly on Monday, but by the end of the week he was a little better. Synonym **ill**
pop-up /ˈpɒp ʌp/ adj (of a book) with cut-out pictures that stand up when the book is opened. 1. a children’s pop-up book.

pop-up menu /ˈpɒp aʊmɛnu/ noun a list of possible actions shown on a computer screen when you press a key.

porcelain /ˈpɔsə(ʊ)l/ noun fine china.

porch /ˈpɔrtʃ/ noun 1. a sheltered area joined onto a doorway. 2. a balcony at ground level around a house. They like to sit out on the porch on summer evenings. (NOTE: The plural is porches.)

porcupine /ˈpɔrkjuːpɪn/ noun an American rodent with long sharp spikes covering its body.

pore /pɔːr/ noun a tiny hole in the skin or in a leaf, through which moisture such as sweat passes. I was sweating from every pore as I waited for the results of the test. Water evaporates from the pores of the leaves.

verb to pore over something to look very closely at something such as a book. He spent days in the library poring over old documents.

pork /pɔːrk/ noun fresh meat from a pig, eaten cooked. (NOTE: no plural. Note also that salted or smoked meat from a pig is ham or bacon.)

porn /pɔːrn/ noun pornography (informal)

pornographic /ˈpɔːrnəˌɡrafik/ adj obscene, aiming to arouse sexual excitement.

pornography /ˈpɔːrnəˌɡrafi/ noun books, films, etc., with obscene subject matter.

porous /ˈpɔːrəs/ adj which has many little holes in it, allowing water or air to seep through slowly. Synonym absorbent.

porpoise /ˈpɔːrpɔɪz/ noun a sea animal similar to a dolphin, which swims in groups. (NOTE: A group of them is a school of porpoises.)

porridge /ˈpɔːrdʒ/ noun oatmeal cooked in water or milk, eaten for breakfast. (NOTE: no plural.)

2. port /pɔːrt/ noun 1. a harbour, or a town with a harbour. 2. a fishing port. The ship is due in port on Tuesday. We left port at 12.00. 3. to call at a port to stop at a port to load or unload cargo. 4. on a ship or aircraft, the left side when looking forwards. 5. an opening in a computer for plugging in an attachment. 6. a mouse port. 7. a strong sweet wine from Portugal. 8. at the end of the meal the port was passed round. 9. an opening in a ship’s side for a gun. The galleon sank when her gun ports went below the surface of the sea.

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a portable /ˈpɔːrtəb(ə)l/ adj which can be carried. He used his portable computer on the plane. Portable phones won’t work in the Underground. a noun a small computer which can be carried. I keyboard all my orders on my portable.

portal /ˈpɔrtəl/ noun an imposing entrance gate (literary)

portent /ˈpɔrənt/ noun a warning that something unpleasant is going to happen (literary)

porter /ˈpɔrtər/ noun 1. a person who carries luggage for travellers at a railway station. 2. a person who does general work in a hospital, including moving the patients around. 3. a doorman in a building such as a hotel or a block of flats. Ask the porter if there have been any messages for us.

portfolio /ˈpɔrtəfəʊliə/ noun 1. a large cardboard case for carrying something, e.g. drawings or designs. He brought a portfolio of samples of his work. 2. a portfolio of shares all the shares owned by someone. 3. a minister’s position in a government. She’s taken over the defence portfolio. She has become Minister of Defence.

porch /ˈpɔrʃ/ noun a round window in the side of a ship.

portico /ˈpɔrtɪkəʊ/ noun a roof supported by columns forming a porch in front of the entrance to a building. (NOTE: The plural is porticoes or porticos.)

portion /ˈpɔrʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. a part. This is only a small portion of the material we collected. 2. Our carriage was in the rear portion of the train. 3. a serving of food, usually for one person. 4. The portions in that French restaurant are tiny. Ask the waiter if they serve children’s portions. 5. to portion something out to share something out. We portioned out the money between the four of us.

portly /ˈpɔrtlɪ/ adj rather fat. Synonym overweight (NOTE: portly — portliest)

port of call /ˈpɔrt əv ˈkɔl/ noun a port at which a ship stops.

portrait /ˈpɔrtrɪt/ noun a painting or photograph of a person. He has painted a portrait of the Queen. Old portraits of members of the family lined the walls of the dining room.

Synonym picture

portray /ˈpɔrtreɪ/ verb to paint or to describe a scene or a person. Synonym depict

portrayal /ˈpɔrtrɪəl/ noun the description of a scene or person.

Portuguese /ˈpɔrɡuiz/ adj referring to Portugal. 1. a Portuguese explorer. 2. a noun 1. a person from Portugal. 2. She married a Portuguese. 3. the Portuguese people from...
immigration services.

Gal immigrants poses a problem for the manager.

Your question at this point in time.

Where the light and dark appear as they are in organised a posse to hunt down the outlaws.

She was possessed by an evil spirit.

She is painted standing in an elegant pose.

He struck a funny pose as I was taking the photo.

A way of standing sitting or lying.

She posed for her in her uniform.

To pretend to be something.

He got into the prison by posing as a doctor.

To set a problem or put a question.

What to do with illegal immigrants poses a problem for the immigration services.

Very smart.

A smart and clever person.

We ate in a really posh restaurant.

Portugal.

He posed for her in his uniform.

The ship's last known position was 200 miles east of Bermuda.

He decided I'd better wear my poshest frock to the wedding.

Bicycle is the cheapest possible way of getting round the town.

She positioned herself near the exit.

Antonym of 'posing' is 'posing'.

A photograph printed from a negative.

I am not in a position to answer your question at this point in time.

To put or place someone or something in a position.

He put on a posh voice when he's talking on the phone.

A large piece of wood or metal put in the ground.

The fence is attached to concrete posts.

His shot hit the post.

A job.

The sales manager has a key position in the firm.

I'm positive I put the key in my pocket.

I decided I'd possess several farms in the south of the country.

He was possessed by his girlfriend's very possessive and hates it when he goes out with his mates.

He tells me he's very possessive about his gold pen, and won't let anyone else use it.

She was possessed by an evil spirit.

I don't know the word for it in Portuguese.

A way of standing sitting or lying.

I'm not in a position to answer your question at this point in time.

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post- before the rest of the staff arrive. 4. the system of sending letters and parcels ○ It is easier to send the parcel by post than to deliver it by hand. 5. a place where a sentry is on duty ○ He was accused of having left his post. 6. a small settlement far from civilisation ○ He was sent to a little trading post in the north of Canada. 7. the last post a bugle call to commemorate the dead. 8. to send a letter or parcel ○ Don’t forget to post your Christmas cards. ○ The letter should have arrived by now — we posted it ten days ago. 9. to keep someone posted to keep someone informed ○ Please keep us posted about your holiday arrangements. 2. to send someone to another place, often overseas, to work ○ He was posted to an air base in East Anglia. ○ She has been posted overseas. (NOTE: Referring to the postal services, American English only uses mail while British English uses both mail and post.)

post- /ˈpəʊst/ prefx later than or after ○ post-Christmas sales ○ post-holiday gloom 3. postage /ˈpəʊstɪdʒ/ noun money which you pay to send something by post 4. postage stamp /ˈpəʊstɪstæmp/ noun a piece of paper which you buy and stick on a letter or parcel to pay for it to be sent on by the post office 5. postal /ˈpəʊst(ə)l/ adj referring to the post 6. postal ballot /ˈpəʊst(ə)l bɔːlət/ noun an election where the votes are sent by post 7. postal order /ˈpəʊst(ə)l ˈɔːdər/ noun a paper which you can buy for sending small amounts of money through the post 8. postal vote /ˈpəʊst(ə)l ˈvɔːt/ noun 1. same as postal ballot ○ The result of the postal vote will be known next week. 2. a vote which a voter sends by post ○ I’ve applied to have a postal vote.

postbag /ˈpəʊstbæg/ noun letters sent, e.g. to a radio programme, TV show or MP 9. postbox /ˈpəʊstbɒks/ noun a box into which you can put letters, which will then be collected and sent on by the post office 10. postcard /ˈpəʊstkɑːrd/ noun a piece of card often with a picture on one side, which you send to someone with a short message on it 11. postcode /ˈpəʊstkɔːd/ noun a system of letters or numbers to indicate a town or street in an address, to help with the sorting of mail (NOTE: The US term is zip code.)

postdate /ˈpəʊstə ˈdɛt/ verb to put a date on a cheque which is later than the day on which you actually write it 12. poster /ˈpəʊstər/ noun a large notice, picture or advertisement stuck on a wall 13. posterity /pəʊˈstɛrɪti/ noun the generations which will follow this one

poster paints /ˈpəʊstə ˈpeɪnts/ plural noun water paints in bright colours, often used by children 14. postgraduate /ˈpəʊstɡrədʒuət/ noun a person who has a first degree from a university and who is studying for a further degree ○ He’s taking a postgraduate course in physics. 15. posthumous /ˈpəʊstjʊməs/ adj after death. Synonym subsequent ○ posthumous son or daughter a son or daughter born after his or her father’s death 16. posthumously ○ /ˈpəʊstjʊməsli/ adv after death 17. posting /ˈpəʊstɪŋ/ noun a new job with the same organisation, for which you have to move to a different country or district. Synonym placement 18. Post-it /ˈpəʊst ıt/ trademark a small piece of gummed coloured paper which you can write a note on and stick onto something

postman /ˈpəʊstmən/ noun a person who delivers letters to houses (NOTE: The plural is postmen. The US term is mailman.) 19. postmark /ˈpəʊstmɑːrk/ noun a mark stamped on a letter to show when and where it was posted ○ a letter with a London postmark ○ You can see from the postmark that it was posted two weeks ago. Synonym date stamp 20. to stamp a letter with a postmark ○ The letter had been postmarked in New York. Synonym frank 21. post mortem /ˈpəʊst mərˈtiːm/ adj after death; trying to find out the cause of death ○ a post-mortem examination 22. an examination of a corpse to find out the cause of death ○ The post mortem revealed that she had been poisoned. 2. an examination of something which has happened ○ The government is carrying out a post mortem on the result of the elections. Abbr PM 23. postnatal /ˈpəʊstnɛtl/ adj which happens after childbirth 24. post office /ˈpəʊst ˈɔffɪs/ noun a place which deals with the collection and delivery of letters and parcels 25. postpaid /ˈpəʊstˌpɛd/ adj with postage paid by the sender 26. postpone /ˈpəʊsənˈpəʊn/ verb to put something back to a later date or time. Synonym delay. Antonym bring forward 27. postponement /ˈpəʊsnəmənt/ noun the act of putting something off until later. Synonym delay 28. postulate /ˈpəʊstjʊleɪt/ (formal) noun a statement upon which a theory is based ○ The postulate that the Earth was round was in the end accepted as correct. ○ The postulate on which the argument is based is demonstrably false. 29. verb to suppose that
posture /ˈpɒstʃər/ noun a way of sitting or standing. She does exercises to improve her posture. Synonym bearing (noun)

pot /pɒt/ noun 1. a glass or china container, usually without a handle. He made ten pots of strawberry jam. 2. (informal) lots of money. Ask him to pay – he’s got pots of money. 3. marijuana, a drug made from hemp. He started smoking pot when he was at university.

pots /pɒts/ plural referring to the period after a war

pout /paut/ adj referring to the period after a war

poultry /ˈpɔltri/ noun common farm birds such as ducks or hens, reared for eggs or to be eaten
pounce /ˈpaʊns/ noun a sudden attack by jumping on something ○ In one quick pounce the cat caught the mouse. ■ verb □ to pounce on something to jump on something ○ The cat was waiting in the bushes, ready to pounce on any bird that came by. ○ He pounced on the mistake I’d made.

pound /paʊnd/ noun 1. a measure of weight, equal to about 450 grams (NOTE: pound is usually written lb after figures: it weighs 26lbs.; Take 6lbs of sugar: say ‘twenty-six pounds, six pounds’.) 2. the money used in Britain and several other countries ○ He tried to pay for his bus ticket with a £20 note (twenty-pound note). ○ He earns more than six pounds an hour. ○ The price of the car is over £50,000 (fifty thousand pounds). (NOTE: pound is usually written £ before figures: £20, £6,000, say ‘twenty pounds, six thousand pounds’. With the word note, pound is singular: twenty pounds but a twenty-pound note.) 3. a place where illegally parked cars are taken ○ He had to go to the police pound to get his car back. Compare impound ■ verb 1. to smash something into little pieces ○ The ship was pounded to pieces by heavy waves. 2. to hit something hard ○ He pounded the table with his fist. 3. to run or walk heavily ○ The policeman pounded along after the bank robbers. ○ He pounded up the stairs. 4. (of someone’s heart) to beat fast ○ Her heart was pounding as she opened the door.

pound sterling /paʊnd ˈstreɪlər/ noun the official term for the British currency

pour /pɔːr/ verb 1. to make a liquid flow ○ The waiter poured water all over the table. ○ He poured the wine into the glasses. ○ She poured water down his neck as a joke. 2. to make something flow like a liquid ○ He poured the sand into the bag. 3. to flow out or down ○ Clouds of smoke poured out of the house. ○ There was a sudden bang and smoke poured out of the engine. 4. □ to pour with rain to rain very hard ○ It poured with rain all afternoon. 5. it never rains but it pours troubles or problems never come one at a time, but several together (informal) 6. □ to pour down ○ It poured down a power drill

poverty /ˈpɒvəti/ noun 1. the fact of being poor ○ He lost all his money and died in poverty. ○ Poverty can drive people to crime. 2. □ the poverty of something the very small amount of something (formal) ○ The poverty of our resources means that we are dependent on outside funds.

powder /ˈpaʊdər/ noun 1. a substance like flour with very small dry grains ○ to grind something to powder ○ The drug is available in the form of a white powder. ■ verb □ to put face powder on something ○ She was powdering her cheeks. □ to powder your nose (of a woman) to go to the toilet ○ Can you wait a minute? — I’m just going to powder my nose.

powdered /ˈpaʊdəd/ adj dried and made into powder. Synonym ground. Antonym whole

powder puff /ˈpaʊdə pʌf/ noun a small pad with which you put powder on your face

powder room /ˈpaʊdə rʊm/ noun a women’s toilet in a public place, e.g. a restaurant or shop

powdery /ˈpaʊdə ri/ adj fine and dry, like powder

power /ˈpaʊər/ noun 1. the ability to control people or happenings ○ He is the official leader, but his wife has all the real power. ○ I haven’t the power or it isn’t in my power to ban the demonstration. ○ the full power of the law the full force of the law. 2. a driving force ○ They use the power of the waves to generate electricity. ○ The engine is driven by steam power. 3. electricity used to drive machines or devices ○ Turn off the power before you try to repair the TV set. 4. political control ○ The socialists came to power in 1997. ○ During the period when he was in power the country’s economy was mined. 5. an important powerful country ○ China is one of the great powers. 6. (in mathematics) the number of times one number is multiplied by itself ○ 3 to the power 4 (NOTE: written 3⁴) ■ verb 1. □ to be powered by something or someone to be driven by something or someone ○ Powered by two Olympic oarsmen, the boat raced across the lake. 2. to move fast ○ With its huge outboard motor the boat powered through the water.

power base /ˈpaʊər bɛs/ noun a group or area which supports a politician

powerboat /ˈpaʊərboʊt/ noun a boat which has a powerful engine, used for racing

power cut /ˈpaʊər kʌt/ noun same as power failure

power drill /ˈpaʊər drɪl/ noun a powerful electric drill
powered

powered /ˈpaʊəd/ suffix driven or worked by a certain type of energy

power failure /ˈpaʊə fælə/ noun a breakdown in electricity supplies

d  powerful /ˈpaʊəfl/ adj 1. very strong ○ This model has a more powerful engine. ○ The treasurer is the most powerful person in the organisation. ○ The raft was swept away by the powerful current. ○ This is the most powerful personal computer on the market. 2. which has a strong effect ○ The film is a powerful drama set in Russia.

t  powerhouse /ˈpaʊəhaus/ noun a person, place or thing that is full of energy and very productive (informal)

powerless /ˈpaʊəls/ adj unable to do anything because of not having any power or authority. Synonym helpless

t  power line /ˈpaʊə laɪn/ noun a cable carrying electric current

power of attorney /ˌpaʊər ɔv əˈtɛnəri/ noun the power to act on behalf of someone else

power point /ˈpaʊər ˈpɔɪnt/ noun an electric socket in a wall

power-sharing /ˈpaʊər ˈʃeərɪŋ/ noun the practice of sharing the powers and responsibilities of government between different parties (NOTE: no plural)

t  power shower /ˈpaʊər ˈʃɔʊər/ noun a strong shower driven by an electric pump

power station /ˈpaʊər ˈsteɪʃən/ noun a factory where electricity is produced

power steering /ˈpaʊər ˈstɪərɪŋ/ noun steering in a car, which is powered by the engine

power tool /ˈpaʊər tuːl/ noun a powerful electrical tool

pp abbr pages

PR abbr public relations

practicability /ˈpræktɪkəbɪləti/ noun the fact of being able to be put into practice. Synonym feasibility. Antonym impossibility

practicable /ˈpræktɪkəb(ə)l/ adj which can be done or can be put into practice. Synonym feasible

practical /ˈpræktɪk(ə)l/ adj 1. referring to practice and action rather than ideas ○ She needs some practical experience. ○ He passed the practical exam but failed the theory. ○ I need some practical advice on how to build a wall. 2. possible or sensible ○ It isn’t practical to plug the computer into the same socket as the TV. ○ Has anyone got a more practical suggestion to make? ○ You need practical clothing for camping. ○ We must be practical and not try anything too ambitious.  ■ noun an examination or test to show how well someone can work in practice

pragmatic /ˈpræɡmætɪk/ adj dealing with facts or practical matters, not concerned with theories. Antonym idealistic

pragmatism /ˈpræɡmætɪzəm/ noun the practice of adopting a practical approach to a problem. Antonym idealism

prairie /ˈprɛəri/ noun an area of grass-covered plain in North America, mainly without trees, where most of the world’s grain is produced
praise /ˈpreɪz/ noun admiration, the fact of showing approval. □ The rescue team earned the praise of the survivors. □ to sing the praises of someone to praise someone all the time. □ She’s always singing the praises of the new vicar. □ verb to express strong approval of something or someone. □ The mayor praised the firemen for their efforts in putting out the fire.

praiseworthy /ˈpreɪzwaʊər/ adj which should be praised. Synonym admirable. Antonym blameworthy

pram /ˈpræm/ noun a light carriage for pushing a baby in. [NOTE: The US term is carriage. In British English, for slightly older children who can sit up, it is also called a buggy or pushchair.)]

prance /ˈpræns/ verb to jump about, to move fast and lightly. Synonym swagger

prank /ˈpræŋk/ noun a trick □ to play a prank on someone to play a trick on someone. □ The students played a prank on their teacher.

prattle /ˈprætəl/ verb to chatter a lot about things which aren’t important

prawn /ˈpræzn/ noun a shellfish like a large shrimp

pray /ˈpreɪ/ verb to speak to God, asking for something. □ Farmers prayed for rain. □ to pray for someone to ask God to protect someone. □ We pray for the children from the village, missing in the mountains. □ adv please (dated) □ pray be seated please sit down

prayer /ˈpreɪər/ noun the act of speaking to God. □ She says her prayers every night before going to bed. □ They said prayers for the sick.

pre-/pri/ prefix before □ the pre-Christmas rush □ We have been invited for pre-lunch drinks

preach /ˈprɛtʃ/ verb 1. to give a sermon in church □ She preached to a packed congregation about the need for tolerance. □ to preach to the converted to try to convince people of something when they already know about it □ It’s a waste of time telling us about the advantages of using computers – you’re just preaching to the converted. 2. to recommend or advise something □ The government is preaching the wisdom of saving.

preacher /ˈprɛtʃər/ noun a person who gives a sermon in church

preamble /ˈprɛmbər/ noun remarks made at the beginning of something, e.g. a speech or treaty. Synonym introduction

precarious /ˈprekrɪəriəs/ adj not safe, likely to fall off or to fail

precariously /ˈprekrɪəriəsl/ adv in an unsafe way

precaution /ˈprɛkjuəʃən/ noun care taken in advance to avoid something unpleasant. Synonym protection

precautionary /ˈprɛkjuəʃənər/ adj □ as a precautionary measure in order to avoid something unpleasant. □ We lock the doors at night as a precautionary measure.

precede /ˈprɛsɪd/ verb to take place before something

precedence /ˈpresɪdəns/ noun □ to take precedence over someone or something to be more important than someone or something, when considered as part of a hierarchy. □ Presidents take precedence over prime ministers.

precedent /ˈprɛsɪdənt/ noun a thing which has happened before, and which can be a guide as to what should be done. Synonym example

preceding /ˈprɛsɪdɪŋ/ adj which comes before something. Synonym previous. Antonym following

precinct /ˈprɪsɪŋkt/ noun US an administrative district in a town □ the 10th precinct (NOTE: The British term is ward.)

precious /ˈpreʃəs/ adj 1. worth a lot of money 2. of great value to someone □ All her precious photographs were saved from the fire. □ The memories of that holiday are very precious to me. 3. which you don’t think is valuable □ She can’t talk about anything except her precious boyfriend. □ Do you think I’m interested in you and your precious car?

adv very □ He has precious little money left to spend.

precious metal /ˈpreʃəs ˈmeɪtəl/ noun a metal such as gold, which is worth a lot of money

precious stone /ˈpreʃəs ˈstoʊn/ noun a stone such as a diamond, which is rare and very valuable

precipice /ˈpreʃpɪs/ noun a high cliff on the side of a mountain, not usually near the sea

precipitate verb /ˈprɛsɪpatət/ 1. to make something happen suddenly □ The assassination precipitated a political crisis. 2. to settle at the bottom of a liquid □ The crystals precipitate at the bottom of the flask. 3. to make someone fall or drop suddenly □ The pram tipped over, precipitating the baby into the ditch. □ adj /ˈprɛsɪpətəl/ rushed or hurried (formal) □ Their decision to marry seems a bit precipitate. □ noun /ˈprɛsɪpət/ a substance which settles at the bottom of a liquid □ The precipitate begins to form as soon as the reactant is added.

precipitation /ˈprɛsɪpɪˈteɪʃən/ noun 1. a quantity of rain, snow, etc., which falls on a certain place □ The north-west of the country experienced higher precipitation than nor-
precipitous /prɪˈspɪritəs/ adj very steep
précis /ˈpreʃi/ noun a summary of the main points of a text
Synonym summary (BE). The plural is précis /ˈpreʃɪz/.
verb to make a summary of a text
Can you précis this report on global warming for me?
Synonym summarise

precise /ˈpriːskəs/ adj exact
We need to know the precise measurements of the box.
At that precise moment my father walked in.
Can you be more precise about what the men looked like?

precisely /ˈpriːskəli/ adv 1. exactly
The train arrived at 12.00 precisely.
I don’t know precisely when it was, but it was about three months ago.
How, precisely, do you expect me to cope with all this work?
2. (showing agreement) quite correct
You felt he was making a mistake? – ‘Precisely’!

precision /ˈprɪsɪən/ noun accuracy
preclude /ˈprɪklʊd/ verb to prevent something taking place (formal).
Antonym permit.
preconceived /prɪkənsˈsiːvId/ adj to have a preconceived idea about something or someone to have an idea about something or someone which is formed in advance
preconception /prɪkənsˈsepʃən/ noun an idea which is formed in advance, without the benefit of information or experience.
Synonym prejudice
precondition /prɪkənˈdɪʃən/ noun a condition which leads to something more important.
Synonym forerunner.
Antonym successor
predate /prɪdət/ verb to come before something in time

predator /prɪˈdɛtə/ noun an animal which kills and eats other animals.
Synonym marauder

predatory /prɪˈdɛtri/ adj 1. referring to a predator ○ Predatory animals such as foxes eat other animals and birds.
○ The cat’s predatory instincts came out when she caught a mouse.
2. (of a business) which is trying to ruin another business

predecease /prɪˈdɛsiːs/ verb to die before someone else

predecessor /prɪˈdɛsɪsər/ noun a person who has held the same job, etc., before you.
Synonym precursor.
Antonym successor
predestination /prɪˈdɛstɪnˈeɪʃən/ noun the idea that the fate of everyone is decided in advance by God

predestined /prɪˈdestɪnd/ adj whose fate has been decided in advance.
Synonym fated
predetermine /prɪˈdɛtərɪn/ verb to decide something in advance

predicament /prɪˈdɪkəmənt/ noun trouble or a difficult situation.
Synonym difficulty

predict /prɪˈdɪkt/ verb to foretell something or tell in advance what will happen
He predicted correctly that the deal would not last.
Everything happened exactly as I had predicted.
Synonym forecast

predictable /prɪˈdɪktəb(ə)l/ adj which could be predicted

predictably /prɪˈdɪktəbli/ adv in a way which could have been predicted

prediction /prɪˈdɪkʃən/ noun an instance of foretelling something.
Synonym forecast

predestination /prɪˈdɛstɪnən/ noun the fact of being predestined.
Synonym tendency

predominant /prɪˈdɒmənt/ adj most striking or obvious.
Synonym main.
Antonym minor

predominantly /prɪˈdɒməntli/ adv mainly.
Antonym partially

predetermine /prɪˈdɛtəmənt/ verb to be more powerful than others

preeminent /prɪˈɛmənənt/ adj, most striking or obvious.
Synonym maɪn.

preempt /prɪˈempt/ verb to get an advantage over someone by doing something quickly before anyone else.
Synonym forestall.
Antonym react

prevent /prɪˈvɛnt/ verb (of a bird) to smooth its feathers ○ to preen yourself to smarten yourself up

prefabricated /prɪˈfæbrɪkətɪd/ adj (of a building) built from sections which are easy to put together

preface /ˈpriːfɑs/ noun the text at the beginning of a book, after the title page, in which the author introduces the book and thanks people for helping make it ○ She explains in a preface what motivated her to write the book.

Compare foreword
prefect /prɪˈfɛkt/ noun 1. an older school pupil chosen to be in charge of others ○ The prefects help to maintain discipline in the school. 2. a high official ○ the Prefect of Police.

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preference /ˈprɛfərəns/ noun a liking for one thing more than another ○ The receptionist asked him if he had any preference for a room with a view. ○ The children all showed a marked preference for chocolate ice cream.

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preliminary /ˈprɪlɪməri/ adjective preliminary report ○ the main report will be published later. Synonym initial.

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premature /ˈpremətʃər/ adjective premature death. ○ This can be a cause of premature death. 2. (of a baby) born less than nine months after conception ○ Little John was six weeks premature and only weighed three pounds when he was born.

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prematurely /ˈpremətʃərli/ adverb ○ the right time ○ Putting tanks near the border is a premature action.

premeditated /ˈpremədɪtətɪd/ adjective premeditated crime ○ planned before it is committed.

premenstrual syndrome /ˈprɪmənstrʊəl /ˈsɪndrəʊm/ noun premenstrual syndrome ○ premenstrual tension ○ a feeling of being more emotional than usual, which some women have before their monthly period.

premier /ˈpremiər/ noun a prime minister or head of government ○ The French premier is visiting London. ○ The premier league, the group of top football clubs who play against each other ○ a premiere match.
premise /ˈprems/ noun 1. an assumption, a thing which you assume to be true 2. premises /ˈpremsi/ plural noun a building and the land it stands on 3. smoking is not allowed on the premises. 4. there is a doctor on the premises at all times.

premium /ˈprɪmiəm/ noun 1. an amount paid for an insurance policy 2. the house insurance premium has to be paid this month. 3. we pay a monthly premium of £25 4. at a premium scarce, and therefore valuable 5. fresh vegetables were at a premium during the winter months. 6. to put a premium on something to show that something is useful or valuable 7. employers put a premium on staff who can speak good English. 8. a bonus 9. they pay a premium for work completed ahead of schedule.

premonition /ˌprɪməˈnɪʃən/ noun a feeling that something is going to happen

preparability /ˌprɪpəˈrætərəbɪlətɪ/ noun the action of getting ready

preparation /ˌprɪpəˈreɪʃən/ noun 1. the action of getting ready 2. the preparations for the wedding went on for months. 3. we’ve completed our preparations and now we’re ready to start 4. in preparation for something to get ready for something 5. she bought a hat in preparation for the wedding. 6. a substance which has been mixed 7. a chemical preparation

preparatory /ˌprɪpəˈrætərē/ adj 1. which prepares someone for something 2. this is a preparatory course in chinese for beginners.

prepare /prɪˈpɛər/ verb 1. to get something ready 2. we have prepared the hall for the school play. 3. i have some friends coming to dinner and i haven’t prepared the meal. 2. to get ready for something 3. he is preparing for his exam. 4. you’d better prepare yourself for some sad news.

preparing /prɪˈpɛərɪŋ/ verb 1. ready 2. be prepared, you may get quite a shock. 3. six people are coming to dinner and i’ve got nothing prepared. 4. prepared to do something willing to do something

carefree /ˈkeəfriz/ adj referring to pregnancy

carefree /ˈkeəfriz/ adj 1. worried 2. she prescribed some antibiotics.

prescription /ˌprɪskrɪˈʃən/ noun 1. a thing which you must have before you can do something. 2. prescription available on prescription available from a chemist only when prescribed by a doctor 3. this medicine is only available on prescription. 4. prescriptive /ˌprɪskrɪˈspevtɪv/ adjective which prescribes something. 5. prescriptive /ˌprɪskrɪˈspevtɪv/ adjective which prescribes something.
watch as a Christmas present. ○ How many birthday presents did you get? ○ The office gave her a present when she got married. 2. at present now ○ The hotel still has some vacancies at present. ○ for the present for now ○ That will be enough for the present. 3. the form of a verb showing that the action is happening now ○ The present of the verb 'to go' is 'he goes' or 'he is going'. ○ adj / prez(ə)nt/ 1. being there when something happens ○ How many people were present at the meeting? 2. at the time we are in now ○ What is his present address? ○ verb / prez(ə)nt/ 1. to give something formally to someone as a present ○ When he retired after thirty years, the firm presented him with a large clock. 2. to introduce a show on TV or radio ○ She's presenting a programme on gardening. 3. □ to present yourself to go to a place ○ He was asked to present himself at the police station the next morning.

press /prɛz/ noun 1. the act of giving something to someone ○ The present of the sports club. 2. to iron something and keep it in the same state ○ Our committee aims to preserve the wildlife in our area. ○ The doctors' aim is to preserve the life of the unborn child. ○ The Inuit would like to preserve their own alphabet rather than use the Roman one. 2. to treat something so that it does not rot ○ Meat can be preserved in salt. ○ Freezing is a common method of preserving meat.

press /prɛz/ verb 1. □ to press at or over a meeting to sit at the head of the table and be the chairman of a meeting ○ The meeting was held in the town hall, with the mayor presiding. ○ The deputy presided in the absence of the chairman who was ill. 2. to be in power during a certain period ○ He presided over a period of radical change.

presidency /prɛzɪdənsi/ noun 1. the job of being president ○ He has been proposed as a candidate for the presidency. 2. the time when someone is president ○ during Britain's presidency of the European Union ○ The Second World War ended during the Truman presidency.

press /prɛz/ noun 1. the head of a republic ○ President Bush was elected in 2000. ○ The French president came on an official visit. (NOTE: also used as a title before a surname: President Wilson) 2. the chief member of a club ○ We're wondering who'll be the next president of the cricket club. ○ A. B. Smith was elected president of the sports club.

presidential /prɛzɪdənʃəl/ adj referring to a president

press /prɛz/ verb 1. □ to present oneself to appear in public ○ The chairman will make the presentation to the retiring sales manager. 2. the demonstration of a presidential plan ○ The distribution company made a presentation of the services they could offer.

press /prɛz/ verb 1. □ to press something into something ○ He's presently working for a chemical company. ○ She's presently in England. ○ What is presently being done to correct the problem?

press /prɛz/ noun 1. a person who presents a TV or radio show. Synonym contemporary. Antonym past

press /prɛz/ verb 1. □ to press something (with or without force) ○ He's presently working for a chemical company. ○ She's presently in England. ○ What is presently being done to correct the problem?

press /prɛz/ noun 1. a word formed by adding -ing to a verb, used either to form the present continuous tense, e.g. I am reading, or as an adjective or noun

press /prɛz/ noun 1. the simple past tense of a verb

press /prɛz/ noun 1. a machine which presses things ○ The car body is moulded from a metal sheet in a hydraulic press. (NOTE: The plural is presses.)

press /prɛz/ verb 1. □ to press or squeeze something ○ Press the button for first floor. ○ Everyone pressed round the film stars. 2. to iron something ○ His jacket needs to be pressed. 3. □ to press on or forward with to continue or press on or forward with to continue or go ahead ○ In spite of the weather they pressed on with the preparations for the village fair.
press agent 658

press agent /prens ˈeɪdʒ(ə)nt/ noun a person who organizes dealings with the press for an organization or important person

press baron /prens ˈbærən/ noun an important newspaper owner (informal)

press conference /ˈpredəsən(ə)ns/ noun a meeting where newspaper, radio and TV reporters are invited to hear news of a new product or a takeover bid, or to talk to a famous person. Synonym news conference

press corps /prens kɔrps/ noun all the journalists working in a certain place

press cutting /ˈpredətʃə/ noun a piece cut out from a newspaper with an article which is relevant to someone or something

pressed /ˈprest/ adj □ we’re pressed for time we are in a hurry □ I’ve had to press to do it it would be difficult for me to find time to do it

press gang /ˈpredʒən/ noun a group of people who forced men to join the Royal Navy (dated) □ Without the press gangs it would have been impossible to find crews for many ships in the 18th century. □ verb □ to pressgang someone into doing something to force someone to do something □ I was pressed into helping her move house.

pressing /ˈprezn/ adj urgent, which needs to be done quickly

press office /ˈpredəfs/ noun an office in an organization which is responsible for relations with the media

press officer /ˈpredəsə/ noun a person who works in a press office, in charge of an organization’s relations with the media

press release /ˈpredərlıs/ noun a sheet giving news about something which is sent to newspapers and TV and radio stations

press-up /ˈpredəp/ noun an exercise where you lie on the floor and push yourself up with your arms (NOTE: The US term is push-up)

pressure /ˈpredəs/ noun 1. something which forces you to do something □ Pressure from farmers forced the minister to change his mind. □ to put pressure on someone to do something to try to force someone to do something □ They put pressure on the government to build a new motorway. □ under pressure being forced to do something □ He did it under pressure. □ We’re under pressure to agree to a postponement. 2. the force of something such as air which is pushing or squeezing □ There is not enough pressure in your tyres. 3. stress caused by having a lot of responsibility □ He gave up his job in the bank because he couldn’t stand the pressure.

pressure cooker /ˈpredəs ˈkəkə/ noun a type of pan with a tight-fitting lid, which cooks food rapidly under pressure

pretend 664

pretend /prɪˈtend/ verb to make someone believe something which is untrue, the action of pretending □ He kept up the pretence of being in love with her while he was seeing another girl. □ All this talk about his aristocratic connections is mere pretense or is just a pretence. □ They made a pretence of being interested. 2. □ by false pretences by doing or saying something to cheat someone □ He was sent to prison for obtaining money by false pretences. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is pretense.)

pressure group /ˈpreʃə gruːp/ noun a group of people who try to influence an organization, e.g. the government or the local town council

pressurise /ˈpreʃəraɪz, ˈpredʒəraɪz/, pressurize verb 1. to increase air pressure inside a plane so that it is the same as the pressure on earth. 2. to force someone to do something □ She was pressurised to change her mind.

pressurised /ˈpreʃəraɪzd, ˈpredʒəraɪzd, əˈpraɪzd/ adj (of an aircraft) which is kept at a constant atmospheric pressure which is the same as the pressure on earth

prestige /preeˈstiːj/ noun, importance, e.g. because of high quality or high value. Antonym notoriety □ prestige offices or flats expensive offices or flats in a good area of the town □ Our offices are old and functional, not prestige offices like theirs.

prestigious /ˈprestrɪdʒəs/ adj which brings prestige. Antonym insignificant

presumably /prɪˈzuːməbli/ adv probably, as you think is true

presume /prɪˈzuːm/ verb 1. to suppose or assume something □ I presume this little bridge is safe for cars? □ The jury has to presume he is innocent until he is proved guilty. □ She is presumed to have fled to South America. 2. □ not to presume to do something not to do something because it would be rude to do it (formal) □ I wouldn’t presume to contradict her – she’s the expert.

presumption /prɪˈzuːmpʃən/ noun 1. a thing which is assumed to be correct □ We are working on the presumption that what he has said is in fact true. □ presumption of innocence the practice of assuming that someone is innocent until a court has found him guilty 2. disrespectful behaviour, doing something when you have no right to do it □ It’s sheer presumption for her to suggest that she could do the job better than me.

presumptuous /prɪˈzʌmpʃəs/ adj rude or bold

presuppose /prɪˈsuːp/ verb to depend on something having already happened

pretax /ˈprɪteɪks/ adj before tax is paid

pretext /prɪˈtɛns/ noun 1. the act of making someone believe something which is untrue, the action of pretending □ He kept up the pretext of being in love with her while he was seeing another girl. □ All this talk about his aristocratic connections is mere pretext or is just a pretence. □ They made a pretext of being interested. 2. □ by false pretences by doing or saying something to cheat someone □ He was sent to prison for obtaining money by false pretences. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is pretense.)
pretext /priːtekst/ noun an excuse for doing something which is not the real reason for doing it
pretentious /prɪˈtentʃəs/ adj claiming to be more important than you are. Synonym pretentious (NOTE: pretentious – prettiest)
prevalence /prɪˈvenəns/ noun the fact of being very common or widespread. Synonym occurrence
prevent /prɪˈvent/ verb 1. to stop something happening ○ We must try to prevent any more flooding. 2. to prevent someone or something from doing something ○ We can’t do much to prevent the river from flooding. ○ The police prevented anyone from leaving the building.
prevention /prɪˈvenʃən/ noun the process of stopping something from happening
preventing disease /prɪˈventɪŋ diˈziːs/ noun the practice of putting people in prison because they may cause a disturbance
prevent medicine /prɪˈvent med(ə)si/ noun a medical action to prevent a disease from occurring
prevention × prevention /prɪˈvenʃən × prɪˈvenʃən/ noun 1. a doubtful claim (NOTE: often plural) 2, a way of behaving that suggests you are more important than you are
preted /prɪˈtentʃəd/ noun a person who has claims to something, usually a person who claims to be king although this is not accepted by all the people
pretension /prɪˈtenʃən/ noun 1. a doubtful claim (NOTE: often plural) 2, a way of behaving that suggests you are more important than you are
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previous /prɪˈvɪəs/ adj 1. former, earlier ○ The letter was sent to my previous address. ○ The gang of workers arrived the previous night and started work first thing in the morning. ○ I had spent the previous day getting to know my way round the town. Synonym preceding ○ he could not accept the invitation because he had a previous engagement he could not accept the invitation because he had earlier accepted another invitation to go somewhere 2. previous to before ○ What job were you in, previous to this one?
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previous /prɪˈvɪəs/ adv before ○ This is my first train trip to Paris – previously I’ve always gone by plane. ○ The arrangements had been made six weeks previously.
prey /priː/ noun an animal eaten by another animal ○ Mice and small birds are the favourite prey of owls. Antonym hunter ○ verb □ to prey on or upon to attack animals and eat them ○ Here the sharks mainly prey on seals.
price /prайs/ noun money which you have to pay to buy something ○ The price of petrol is going up. ○ I don’t want to pay such a high price for a hotel room. ○ There has been a sharp increase in house prices during the first six months of the year. ○ to increase in price to become more expensive ○ verb to give something a price ○ The book is priced at £25. ○ That house won’t sell – it is too highly priced. ○ the company has priced itself out of the market the company has raised its prices so high that its products do not sell
priceless /prɪˈziːls/ adj 1. extremely valuable ○ His priceless collection of paintings was destroyed in the fire. ○ This ring is quite priceless. 2. very funny ○ Some of the things she said were absolutely priceless.
price tag /prɪˈteɪz tæg/ noun 1. a ticket with a price written on it ○ How much is this shirt? – The price tag has come off it. 2. a price at which something is for sale ○ car with a £50,000 price tag
price war /prɪˈweər wɔr/ noun a competition between companies to get a larger market share by cutting prices
pricey /prɪˈziː/ adj expensive (informal) Synonym costly. Antonym cheap (NOTE: pricier – priciest)
before a fall'

"if you are very proud of your-

self, you are likely to find yourself in trouble

own ability or possessions

something sharp

plant or animal

place, being most important

when she was picking roses.

mal religious duties

her cakes.

2. main female singer in an opera company

do in the way they want

important and makes a fuss if things are not
done in the way they want

He’s a real prima donna when it comes to choosing flow-
erers for his office.

as things seem at first

She pricked her finger

my finger on a pin and had to put a plaster on it.

prick /prɪk/ verb 1. to jab something with

something sharp ○ She pricked her finger

when she was picking roses. ○ I pricked my

finger on a pin and had to put a plaster on it.

2. to prick up your ears to listen attent-

ively ○ When his name was mentioned I

pricked up my ears.

prickly /prɪkli/ adj 1. covered with prickles
○ a prickly holly bush ○ a prickly hedgehog

2. (of a person) who takes offence easily ○
Be careful what you say to her – she’s very

prickly.

prickly heat /prɪkliˈhɪt/ noun a skin rash
caused by a hot climate

prickly pear /prɪkliˈpɛər/ noun a type of
cactus with fruit shaped like a red pear

pride /praɪd/ noun 1. a pleasure in your

own ability or possessions ○ He takes great

pride in his garden. 2. a very high opinion of

yourself ○ His pride would not let him admit

that he had made a mistake. ○ "pride goes

before a fall" if you are very proud of your-

self, you are likely to find yourself in trouble

(saying) 3. a group of lions ■ verb ○ to

pride oneself on something to be extremely

proud of something ○ She prides herself on

her cakes.

priest /ˈpriːst/ noun a person who has

been blessed to serve God, to carry out for-

mal religious duties

priestess /ˈpriːstəs/ noun a female priest

in a non-Christian religion (NOTE: The plural

is priestesses.)

priesthood /ˈpriːstʃʊd/ noun 1. ○ the

priesthood the position of a priest ○ At thirty-

he found he had a vocation for the priest-

hood. 2. all priests considered as a group ○

The priesthood refused to accept the govern-

ment’s decree.

prig /prɪɡ/ noun an exceedingly moral and

proud person

priggish /prɪɡɪʃ/ adj very moral and proud

prim /ˌprɪm/ adj very correct, very easily

shocked (NOTE: primer – primest)

prima ballerina /ˌprɪmə bələˈrɪnə/ noun
the main female dancer in a ballet

company

primacy /ˌprɪməsɪ/ noun being in first

place, being most important (formal)

prima donna /ˌprɪmə ˈdɔnə/ noun 1. the

main female singer in an opera company 2. a

person who thinks he or she is extremely im-

portant and makes a fuss if things are not

done in the way they want ○ He’s a real

prima donna when it comes to choosing flow-
erers for his office.

prima facie /ˌprɪmə ˈfɛsɪ/ adj, adv Latin

as things seem at first

660 primal /ˈprɪm(ə)l/ adj old, dating from the

very earliest period or state

primarily /ˈprɪməlɪ/ adv mainly, mostly

primary /ˈprɪməri/ adj main, basic ○
Our primary concern is the safety of our pas-

sengers. ■ noun US a primary election ○ He

won the New Hampshire primary. (NOTE: The

plural is primaries.)

classroom /ˈprɪmərɪ /noun a school for children up to the age of eleven

(NOTE: The US term is elementary school.)

prime /ˈprɪm/ noun 1. most important ○ The

prime suspect in the case is the dead

woman’s husband. ○ She is a prime target

for any kidnapper. ○ This is a prime example

of what is wrong with this country. 2. of the

best quality ○ prime Scottish beef ■ noun a

period when you are at your best ○ He was at

or in his prime when he won the champion-

ship. Antonym nadir ○ past your prime no

longer at your best ○ At 35, she’s past her

prime as a tennis player. ■ verb 1. to get

something prepared ○ The bomb had been

primed and would have exploded in ten min-

utes. 2. to give wood or metal a first coat of

special paint, before giving the top coat ○
The paint is coming off because the wood

hadn’t been primed properly. 3. to put water

into a water pump or oil into a machine, so as

to start it working 4. ○ to prime someone to
do something to prepare someone in ad-

cance to do something by giving them infor-

mation, advice, etc. ○ She came primed with

a few questions which would embarrass the

speaker.

Prime Minister /ˈprɪm ɪnˈmɪnəstə/ noun

the head of the government in Britain and

other countries ○ the Australian Prime Min-

ister or the Prime Minister of Australia ○ She

cut out the picture of the Prime Minister from

the newspaper. ○ The Prime Minister will

address the nation at 6 o’clock tonight.

prime number /ˈprɪm ə nʌmbə/ noun a

number such as 2, 5, or 11 which can only be

divided by itself or by 1

primer /ˈprɪmər/ noun 1. a special paint

which is put on bare wood before giving the
top coats 2. a book with simple instructions

or that is an introduction to a subject. Syn-
onym textbook

primeval /ˈprɪmɪv(ə)l/ adj 1. referring to

the period at the beginning of the world’s ex-

istence ○ the primeval forest 2. same as

primai
discuss some of the details more thoroughly.

something /L50263

Synonym
to a sum of money that you think is not large
is a bit primitive but it works.

ple

edge of the forest.

/L50263

lege

/L50263

of a king or queen

personal sense of what is right

started work at the princely sum of £10 a

week.

princely sum

原則

country ruled by a prince

principal

princess

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2 priority /prəˈrɪəti/ noun 1. a right to be first ○ to have priority over something, to take priority over something to be more important than something, to need to be done first ○ People with serious injuries have priority over those with only cuts and bruises. ○ to give something top priority to make something the most important item ○ We should give top priority to solving our own financial problems. ○ The President wants us to give the problem top priority. 2. a thing which has to be done first ○ Finding somewhere to stay the night was our main priority.

prise /prəz/ verb □ to prise something open to lift something open with force ○ He prised the lid open with a metal bar.

prism /ˈprɪz(ə)m/ noun a glass block, usually with a cross-section shaped like a triangle, which splits white light up into the colours of the rainbow

prison /ˈprɪzn/ noun a building where people are kept when they are being punished for a crime ○ The judge sent him to prison for five years. ○ His father’s in prison for burglary. (NOTE: Prison is often used without the article the.)

prisoner /ˈprɪznər/ noun a person who is in prison ○ The prisoners were taken away in a police van.

prisoner of war /ˈprɪznər ɔv wɔr/ noun a member of the armed forces captured by the enemy in time of war. Abbrev POW

pristine /ˈprɪstɪn/ adj fresh like new

privacy /ˈprɪvəsɪ/ noun not being disturbed by other people ○ private ○ priv...
proactive

very well because they have been doing it for a long time

proactive /prəˈæktɪv/ adj working by starting actions yourself, rather than reacting to what other people do. Antonym passive

probability /prəˈbɪlɪtɪ/ noun the quality of being probable. Synonym likelihood □ in all probability very probably ○ In all probability they will get married at Easter.

probable /prəˈbərəbl/ adj likely ○ probably /prəˈbərəbl/ adv likely to happen ○ We’re probably going to Spain for our holidays. ○ My father is probably going to retire next year. ○ Are you going to Spain as usual this year? – Very probably.

probate /prəˈbeɪt/ noun the acceptance in law that a document such as a will is valid.

probation /prəˈbeɪʃən/ noun 1, a legal system for dealing with criminals where they are not sent to prison provided that they continue to behave well under the supervision of a probation officer ○ She was put on probation for one year or was put on one year’s probation, 2, a period when a new employee is being tested before being given a permanent job ○ on probation being tested ○ We are employing him on three months’ probation. ○ She can’t have a pay rise as she is still on probation.

probationary /prəˈbeɪʃənərɪ/ adj referring to a time when a person is on probation.

probation officer /prəˈbeɪʃən əˈfɪsər/ noun an official of the social services who supervises young people on probation.

probe /prɒb/ noun a thorough investigation ○ a police probe into organised crime.

probe /prɒb/ verb to examine something deeply ○ I don’t want the police to start probing into my financial affairs. ○ The surgeon probed the wound to try to find the bullet. Synonym investigate

problem /ˈprɒbləm/ noun 1, something or someone which causes difficulty ○ to pose a problem to be something that is difficult to change or improve ○ What to do with truant poses a problem for the schools. ○ to solve a problem to find an answer to a problem ○ The police are trying to solve the problem of how the thieves got into the house. ○ We have called in an expert to solve our computer problem. ○ no problem fine, that will be easy 2, a question in a test ○ Half the students couldn’t do all the problems in the maths test.

proboscis /prəˈɒbsɪs/ noun a long tube coming from the head of an animal, such as the trunk of an elephant or the sting of a mosquito (NOTE: The plural is proboscises.)

procedural /prəˈsɪdʒərəl/ adj referring to procedure. Synonym technical
proclivity /prəˈklɪvɪti/ noun a natural tendency, usually to do something bad. Synonym liking
procrastinate /prəˈkræstɪneɪt/ verb to delay, to postpone something until later
proceed /prəˈkjʊənt/ verb 1. to obtain something ○ Somehow he had managed to procure the equipment he needed without anyone knowing ○ We need to procure a map of the area, 2. to arrange for a woman to provide sexual intercourse for money
procurement /prəˈkjʊəntmənt/ noun the obtaining of equipment or supplies
procurer /prəˈkjʊrə/ noun a person who provides prostitutes for sex. Synonym buyer
produce /prəˈdjuːs/ noun 1. a poke ○ He gave the pig a prod with his stick ○ He gave me a prod in the ribs. Synonym nudge ○ to give someone a prod to nudge someone, to try to get someone to do something ○ He’s late with his work – better give him a prod. ■ verb 1. to poke someone or something with a finger or stick ○ He prodded the pig with his stick. 2. ○ to prod someone into doing something to do something to persuade someone to take action ○ The group tried to prod the government into action or into taking some sort of action.
prodigious /prəˈdɪdʒɪəs/ adj enormous, very powerful ○ The children ate a prodigious quantity of cakes. ○ He used his prodigious strength to lift up the trunk. 2. extraordinary ○ He’s a prodigious writer of children’s stories.
prodigiously /prəˈdɪdʒɪəsli/ adv enormously
prodigy /prəˈdjɪdʒi/ noun 1. a remarkable person, usually a young person ○ By the age of ten he was already a mathematical prodigy, 2. an extraordinary action ○ The firemen performed prodigies of bravery. (NOTE: The plural is prodigies.)
produce /prəˈdjuːs/ verb 1. to show or bring out something ○ The tax office asked him to produce the relevant documents. ○ He produced a bundle of notes from his inside pocket. ○ The factory produces cars and trucks. 2. to put on a play or film, etc. ○ She is producing ‘Hamlet’ for the local drama club. 3. to make ○ The factory produces cars and trucks. 4. to grow crops, to give birth to young ○ The region produces enough rice to supply the needs of the whole country. ○ Our cat has produced six kittens. ○ producer /prəˈdjuːsər/ noun 1. a company or country which makes or grows something ○ an important producer of steel ○ The company is a major car producer. 2. a person who is in overall charge, especially of the financing, of a film or play, but does not deal with the technical details. Compare director
production /prəˈdʌkʃn/ noun 1. a thing which is manufactured ○ Germany is helping her industry to sell more products abroad. (NOTE: Do not confuse with produce.) 2. (in mathematics) a number which is the result when numbers are multiplied ○ The product of 4 times 10 is 40.
producer /prəˈdʌkʃə/ noun 1. manufacturer ○ We are trying to step up production. ○ Production will probably be held up by the strike. 2. putting on a play or film ○ The film is currently in production at Teddington Studios. 3. a particular way of putting on a play ○ Have you seen the production of ‘Henry V’ at the Globe Theatre?
production line /prəˈdʌkʃn lайн/ noun a system of making a product, where each item such as a car moves slowly through the factory with new sections being added to it as it goes along
productivity /prəˈdʌkтивɪti/ noun the rate of output, rate of production in a factory. Synonym output
prof /prəf/ verb declare something
professional /prəˈfeʃənl/ adj 1. referring to a profession ○ He keeps his professional life and his private life completely separate. 2. expert or skilled ○ They did a
very professional job in designing the new office. 3. (of sportsmen) who is paid to play ∙ a professional footballer ∙ noun 1, an expert ∙ Don't try to deal with the problem yourself – get a professional in. 2. a sportsman who is paid to play ∙ For many years, professionals were not allowed to compete in the Olympics. ∙ He ran as an amateur for several years, then turned professional. 3. a sportsman who teaches others ∙ a golf professional

professor /prəˈfɪzər/ noun 1, the most senior teacher in a subject at a university ∙ a professor of English ∙ an economics professor 2, the title taken by some teachers of music and art ∙ She goes to Professor Smith for piano lessons. (NOTE: used as a title before a name: Professor Smith)

professorial /prəˈfɪzəriəl/ adj referring to a professor

professional /prəˈfɪʃənl/ noun 1, capable of doing something well ∙ L50263 doing something. Antonym cian needs to keep a high profile. ∙ Sic and art ∙ be proficient at ∙ capable ∙ do something well. Synonym to a professor profile. ∙ing helps to maintain the company's high profile. ∙ 2. very proficient at mental arithmetic. ∙ L50263

program /ˈprɔɡræm/ noun instructions given to a computer ∙ to load a program ∙ to run a program ∙ a graphics program ∙ a word-processing program ∙ verb to give in-
programme noun /ˈprəʊɡrəm/ 1. a TV or radio show ○ We watched a programme on life in the 17th century. ○ There’s a football programme after the news. ○ I want to listen to the phone-in programme at 9.15. ○ There are no good television programmes tonight. 2. a paper in a theatre or at a sports event, which gives information about the show ○ The programme gives a list of the actors. ○ verb to arrange programmes on TV or radio ○ The new chat show is programmed to compete with the gardening programme on the other channel. (NOTE: [all verb senses] The US spelling is program.)

programmer noun /ˈprəʊɡrəmər/ 1. a person who programs a computer ○ The programmers made a few alterations to our software. 2. a person who programmes TV or radio shows ○ Programmers are always trying to win audiences from other channels.

programming noun /ˈprəʊɡrəmɪŋ/ the process of creating computer programs

programming language noun /ˈprəʊɡrəmɪŋ leŋkwɪdʒ/ a system of signs and words used to program a computer

program language noun /ˈprəʊɡrəmɪŋ ˈlɛŋkwɪdʒ/ a tool for writing computer programs

programme noun /ˈprəʊɡrəm/ 1. a TV or radio show ○ Radio shows on the bypass is progressing slowly. 2. a plan, scheme ○ We are working on a building project. □ verb /ˈprəʊɡrəm/ 1. to plan something, to expect to do something ○ They are projecting to build a new science park near the university. 2. to send a picture onto a screen ○ The lecturer projected slides of his visit to the Arctic. 3. to forecast something from existing data ○ They projected sales of over £10m.

project noun /ˈprəʊɡrəkt/ 1. a plan, scheme ○ Her project is to write the history of her village. 2. work planned by students on their own ○ She asked her teacher for some pointers to help her with her project. □ verb /ˈprəʊɡrəkt/ 1. to plan something, to expect to do something ○ They are projecting to build a new science park near the university. 2. to send a picture onto a screen ○ The lecturer projected slides of his visit to the Arctic. 3. to forecast something from existing data ○ They projected sales of over £10m.

prolonged adjective /ˈprəʊlənd/ lasting for a long time. Synonym lengthy

prolong noun /ˈprəʊləŋ/ 1. a piece spoken as the introduction of a play or poem ○ The prologue sets the scene and introduces the main characters. Compare epilogue 2. a preliminary event that leads on to something else ○ The discussions between Foreign Ministers are a prologue to the signing of a full-scale treaty. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is prolog.)

projectile noun /ˈprəʊdʒektɪl/ 1. a thing which sticks out from a gun or something which is thrown, or fired from a gun

projection noun /ˈprəʊdʒɛktʃən/ 1. a calculation of something which is forecast for the future ○ We have made a projection of the additional housing needed in this area by the year 2010. ○ Computer projections forecast an easy win for the government. 2. a thing which sticks out ○ She gashed her arm on a sharp projection of rock. 3. the action of projecting a picture onto a screen

projector noun /ˈprəʊdʒɛktər/ a machine which sends pictures onto a screen

proletarian adjective /ˈprəʊlətərɪən/ referring to the working class. Synonym aristocratic

proletariat noun /ˈprəʊlətərɪət/ the working class, especially manual and industrial workers and their families ○ In the nineteenth century, in most countries the peasantry still vastly outnumbered the proletariat. ○ The proletariat were considered incapable of organising themselves as a political force.

proliferate verb /ˈprəʊlɪfərət/ to increase quickly in number (formal) proliferation noun /ˈprəʊlɪfərəʃən/ a rapid spread. Synonym propagation

prolific adjective /ˈprəʊlɪfɪk/ 1. producing many children, fruit or other offspring ○ Rabbits are notoriously prolific. 2. producing a lot of something ○ He’s a prolific writer of travel guides.
promenade /prəˈmændə/ noun a walkway built along the side of the sea. Our hotel was right on the promenade.

prominence /prəˈmɛnəns/ noun 1. being important or famous. He first rose to prominence in the 1960s. 2. to give prominence to something to emphasise something. The newspapers gave too much prominence to that part of the speech. 3. a piece of land which stands out higher than the rest. The castle stands on a prominence overlooking a bend in the river.

prominent /prəˈmɛnt/ adj 1. standing out, easily seen. She has a very prominent nose. 2. famous or important. She is a prominent trade union leader. They assassinated a prominent member of the ruling party. prominently /prəˈmɛntli/ adv easily seen

promiscuous /prəˈmɪskjuəs/ adj who has sexual relations with many people. Synonym immoral

promise /prəˈmæs/ noun 1. the act of saying that you will definitely do something. But you made a promise not to tell anyone else and now you've told my mother! I'll pay you back on Friday - that's a promise. 2. to go back on a promise. He broke his promise to keep a message to a computer user, telling him to do something. 3. to keep a promise. He says he will pay next week, but he never keeps his promises. She kept her promise to write to him every day. 4. to show promise. They promised to be back for supper. 5. You must promise to bring the computer back when you have finished with it. He promised he would look into the problem. They promised the staff an extra week's holiday but it never materialised. 2. to look as if something will happen. The meeting promises to be very interesting.

promising /prəˈmɛsɪŋ/ adj 1. who is likely to succeed. She's the most promising candidate we have interviewed so far. 2. good, and likely to become much better. The results of the antibiotic have been very promising. The economic situation looks much more promising than it did a year ago.

promontory /prəˈmɒntəri/ noun a piece of high land jutting out into the sea. (NOTE: The plural is promontories.)

promote /prəˈmɔːt/ verb 1. to give someone a better job. He was promoted from salesman to sales manager. 2. to make sure that people know about a product or service, by advertising it. There are posters all over the place promoting the new night club. 3. to encourage something. The club's aim is to promote gardening.

promoter /prəˈmɔːtə/ noun a person who organises boxing matches

promotion /prəˈmɔːʃən/ noun 1. a move to a better job. He ruined his chances of promotion when he argued with the boss. 2. advertising of a new product. We're giving away small bottles of shampoo as a promotion.

promotional /prəˈmɔːʃənəl/ adj used in an advertising campaign. Synonym publicity

prompt /prɒmpt/ adj done immediately. Thank you for your prompt reply. (NOTE: prompter – promptest) verb 1. to suggest to someone that he should do something. It prompted him to write to the local paper. 2. to tell an actor words which he has forgotten. He first rose to prominence in the 1960s. 3. to keep a promise. He says he will pay next week, but he never keeps his promises. She kept her promise to write to him every day. 4. to show promise. They promised to be back for supper. 5. You must promise to bring the computer back when you have finished with it. He promised he would look into the problem. They promised the staff an extra week's holiday but it never materialised. 2. to look as if something will happen. The meeting promises to be very interesting.

promptly /prɒmptli/ adv immediately; rapidly

promptness /prɒmptnəs/ noun quickness

promulgate /prəˈmʌlgət/ verb to make a law known to the public

prone /prəʊn/ adj 1. lying flat. They found her lying prone on the floor. 2. prone to likely to do something, likely to suffer from something. When you're tired you are prone to make mistakes. He's prone to chest infections. Accident-prone likely to have accidents often. The new waitress seems to be accident-prone.

pronoun /prəˈnauən/ noun one of the sharp points of a fork

pronounce /prəˈnaʊns/ verb 1. to speak sounds which form a word. How do you pronounce 'Paris' in French? 2. to state
been suggested which has been suggested out of proportion to not in a proper relationship His salary is totally out of proportion to the work he does.

proportional /'prɔpɔrʃənəl/ adj which is directly related to something The amount you get in interest is proportional to the amount invested.

proportional representation /'prɔpɔrʃənəl ˌrepri.zenzətʃən/ noun a system of voting where the votes cast for each party are more or less accurately reflected in the number of MPs each party has.

proportionate /'prɔpɔrʃənət/ adj in proportion proportionately /'prɔpɔrʃənətli/ adv in proportion proportionally /'prɔpɔrʃənəli/ adv in proportion

propose /'prɔpəz/ verb 1. to make a suggestion I propose that we all go for a swim. 2. to propose to do something to say that you intend to do something They propose to repay the loan at £20 a month.

proposer /'prɔpəzə/ noun a person who proposes something

proposition /'prɔpəzəʃən/ noun 1. a thing which has been proposed The proposition is not very attractive. 2. a tough proposition a problem which is difficult to solve proprietary /'prɔprətɔrɪ/ adj acting as though you own something She cast proprietary glances over her boyfriend.

proprietary company /'prɔprətɔrɪ kəmpənə/ noun US a company formed to invest in stock of other companies so as to control them

proprietary medicine /'prɔprətɔrɪ med′ɪsən/ noun medicine which is sold under a brand name and manufactured by a particular company

proprietary /'prɔprətɔrɪ/ noun an owner

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cells float (NOTE: Do not confuse with prostitute).

**prostitute** /proʊˈstɪtjuːt/ noun a woman who receives money for sexual intercourse

**prostitution** /proʊˈstɪtʃuərɪəl/ noun the practice of providing sexual intercourse in return for payment

**prostrate** adj /prəˈstreɪt/ lying flat on your face. ○ He was lying prostrate on the floor. (NOTE: Do not confuse with prostate.)

verb /prəˈstreɪt/ **to prostrate oneself before someone** to fall down in front of someone as a mark of respect or fear. ○ Anyone who came into the Emperor’s presence had to prostrate himself before the throne.

**protagonist** /prəˈteɪɡənist/ noun 1. the main character in a story. ○ The protagonist is a Danish prince. 2. the leader of one side in a conflict. ○ The two protagonists were finally persuaded to shake hands. 3. a supporter of a cause. ○ He was a leading protagonist of the movement for electoral reform.

**protect** /prəˈtekt/ verb to keep someone or something safe from dirt or danger, etc.

○ The cover protects the machine against dust.

○ The injection is supposed to protect you against flu.

**protected** /prəˈtektɪd/ adj (of species of animals or plants) classified as being in danger of extinction

**protection** /prəˈtekʃən/ noun shelter, the process of being protected. ○ The trees give some protection from the rain. ○ The legislation offers no protection to part-time workers. ○ The injection gives some protection against cholera.

**protectionism** /prəˈtekʃənɪzəm/ noun a policy of discouraging imports from abroad in order to protect a country’s own industry

**protectionist** /prəˈtekʃənist/ adj in favour of protectionism. Synonym protective

**protective** /prəˈtekтив/ adj who or which protects. Synonym defensive

**protector** /prəˈtektrə/ noun 1. a person or country that protects. ○ Parliament is supposed to be the protector of the people’s rights. ○ She needed a protector, that’s what attracted her to him. 2. a thing which protects ○ The machinists all wear ear protectors because the machines are so noisy.

**protectorate** /prəˈtektrətə/ noun a country which is protected and usually controlled by another country. Synonym dominion

**protégé** /prəˈteʒe/ noun a person, usually a young person, who is supported in artistic work by money or advice, by someone else.

**protein** /priˈteɪən/ noun a compound which is an essential part of living cells; one of the elements in food which you need to keep your body working properly.
proven /ˈprəʊvən/ adj tested and shown to be correct. Synonym established

proverb /ˈprəʊvərb/ noun a saying which teaches you something. Synonym maxim

proverbial /ˈprəʊvərbiəl/ adj 1. as mentioned in a proverb. 2. well known. 3. the committee’s proverbial slowness to take any decisions.

provide /ˈprəʊvɪd/ verb to supply something. 1. Medical help was provided by the Red Cross. 2. Our hosts provided us with a car and driver.

provide for /ˈprəʊvɪd fɔr/ verb 1. to provide for someone to give enough money to feed and clothe someone. 2. He earns very little and finds it difficult to provide for a family of six children. 3. Will your family be provided for when you die?

providence /ˈprəʊvɪdəns/ noun a lucky force which protects you (literary). 1. to tempt providence to take a great risk. 2. It will be tempting providence to buy that car without having had it checked by a garage.

providential /ˈprəʊvɪdənʃəl/ adj lucky (fortuitous). provider /ˈprəʊvərdaɪə/ noun a person who provides material support for someone or something, especially a family.

province /ˈprəʊvɪns/ noun 1. a large administrative division of a country or the provinces of Canada. 2. an area of knowledge or of responsibility. 3. That’s not my province; you’ll have to ask the finance manager.

provinces /ˈprəʊvɪnssz/ plural noun parts of a country away from the capital.

provincial /ˈprəʊvɪnjəl/ adj 1. referring to a province, to the provinces. 2. a provincial government. 3. not very sophisticated. 4. They’re very provincial down in that part of the world.

provincialism /ˈprəʊvɪnjəlɪzəm/ noun narrow-mindedness and lack of sophistication supposed to be found in provincial areas.

provision /ˈprəʊvɪʒən/ noun 1. the act of providing something. 2. The provision of medical services is the responsibility of local government. 3. to make provision for to see that something is allowed for in the future.

prove /prəv/ verb 1. to prove to be something. 2. to actually be something when it happens. 3. The weather for the holiday weekend proved to be even hotter than was expected.

prudence /ˈprəʊdəns/ noun great care or caution.
psychological /saikəlɒdʒi/ noun the study of the human mind. ○ She’s taking a psychology course.

psychoanalysist /saikənaˈlænəst/ noun a doctor who is trained in psychoanalysis (NOTE: also shortened to analyst)

psychoanalysis /saikəˈnælənɪsɪs/ noun a treatment of mental disorder where a specialist talks to patients and analyses their condition.

psychological /saikəlɒˈdʒɪkl/ adj referring to psychology. ○ Her problems are mainly psychological. ○ This could have a very bad effect on the child’s psychological development. Synonym mental

psychopath /saɪˈθəpt/ noun a person who suffers from a mental disorder. ○ He is psychotic and sounds like a religious poem or a psalm.

psychopathological /saɪˈθəptəlɒdʒɪkl/ adj referring to or experiencing psychosis.

psychosomatic /saɪˈθəpsəmətɪk/ adj describing a physical illness that is caused by a mental problem.

psychotherapist /ˌsaɪkəθəˈreɪpɪst/ noun a person trained to give psychotherapy.
travel frequently □ the great British public the British people (humorous) □ general public 2. □ in public in the open; in front of everyone □ This is the first time he has appeared in public since his accident. □ I dare you to repeat those remarks in public. □ to go public 1. to tell something to everyone □ After the leaks to the press, the government finally went public on the proposal. 2. to sell shares in a private or nationalised company on the stock exchange □ The plan is for the company to go public next year.

public-address system /pʌbliksˈɛdʒəsɪstəm/ noun full form of PA

publican /ˈpʌblɪkən/ noun a person who manages a pub

publication /ˈpʌblɪkʃən/ noun 1. the process of making something public □ The publication of the official figures has been delayed. 2. a book or newspaper which has been published □ He asked the library for a list of gardening publications.

public conveniences /ˈpʌblɪk kənˈvɪniməns/ plural noun toilets for the general public

public domain /ˈpʌblɪk dɔːmən/ noun property or information which belongs to and is available to the public

public holiday /ˈpʌblɪk ˈhɔːlɪdi/ noun a day when most businesses and banks are closed

public house /ˈpʌblɪk ˈhɔːs/ noun a place where you can buy beer and other alcoholic drinks, as well as snacks and meals (formal) (NOTE: usually shortened to pub)

publicise /ˈpʌblɪsaɪz/, publicize verb to attract people’s attention to something; to make publicity for something

publicist /ˈpʌblɪstɪst/ noun a person who attracts people’s attention to something through advertising

publicity /ˈpʌblɪstɪti/ noun advertising which attracts people’s attention to something □ We’re trying to get publicity for our school play. □ The failure of the show was blamed on bad publicity.

publicity campaign /ˈpʌblɪstɪk kamˈpɛn/ noun a period when planned publicity takes place

publicly /ˈpʌblɪkli/ adv in public. Synonym openly. Antonym secretly

public opinion /ˈpʌblɪk əˈpinʃən/ noun what people in general think or feel about something

public ownership /ˈpʌblɪk ˈəʊnjərp/ noun a situation where an industry is owned by the state, or has been nationalised

The publication of the official figures has been delayed. 2. a book or newspaper which has been published □ He asked the library for a list of gardening publications.

public transport /ˈpʌblɪk ˈtrɜːŋspɔːrt/ noun transport such as buses and trains which can be used by everyone

public works /ˈpʌblɪk ˈwɜːks/ plural noun engineering and building work paid for by the government □ The government has been forced to scrap several large public works projects. □ The local authority is increasing its spending on public works.

publish /ˈpʌblɪʃ/ verb 1. to make publicly known □ The government has not published the figures yet. 2. to bring out a book or newspaper for sale □ The company publishes six magazines for the business market. □ We publish dictionaries for students.

publishable /ˈpʌblɪʃəbəl/ adj suitable to be published

publisher /ˈpʌblɪʃər/ noun a person or company that produces books or newspapers for sale

publishing /ˈpʌblɪʃɪŋ/ noun the process of producing books or newspapers for sale

publishing house /ˈpʌblɪʃɪŋ həʊs/ noun a firm which publishes books

puck /pʌk/ noun a small hard rubber disk used in ice hockey

puck /pʌk/ noun a small hard rubber disk used in ice hockey

pudding /ˈpʌdʒ/ noun 1. the sweet course at the end of a meal □ I’ll have ice cream for my pudding. Synonym dessert 2. a sweet food which has been cooked or boiled □ There’s too much sugar in this pudding. □ He helped himself to some more pudding.

puddle /ˈpʌdl/ noun a small pool of water, such as a pool on the pavement left after rain

puff /pʌf/ noun 1. a small breath of air or smoke □ He took a puff on his cigarette. □
puff out
Little puffs of smoke came out of the chimney.
2. out of puff having difficulty in breathing after running, etc.
verb 1. to blow 2. to puff out of the engine. 3. He was puffing and panting and he’d only run fifty yards.
puff out /pʌf ‘aut/ verb 1. to make something swell by bringing in air. 2. to become tired and out of breath. 3. to exhaust completely.
puff pastry /pʌf ‘pastr/ noun a light sort of pastry.
puffy /pʌfi/ adj swollen.
pugnacious /pʌgnəsɪəs/ adj ready to argue or fight.
puke /pjuːk/ verb to make someone (want to) puke.
1. verb to make someone believe something as a fact.
2. verb to cause to vomit.
3. verb to make someone (want to) puke.
puke /pjuːk/ noun a squasy mass.
pull /pʊl/ verb 1. to move something towards you or after you. 2. to pull the door to open it, don’t push. 3. The truck was pulling a trailer. 4. She pulled some envelopes out of her bag. 5. These little boys spend their time pulling girls’ hair.
6. to pull someone’s leg to make someone feel angry and upset.
7. to pull up partly digested food into your mouth.
pull together /pʊl təˈɡeðə/ verb to become more calm.
pull over /pʊl ovər/ verb to drive a car away from the side of the road.
pull round /pʊl ‘raʊnd/, pull through /pʊl ‘θruː/ verb to recover from an illness.
pull yourself together to become more calm.
pull over /pʊl ovər/ verb to drive a car towards the side of the road.
pulmonary /pʌlmənəri/ adj referring to the lungs.
pulp /pʌlp/ noun a squasy mass.
pulp fiction /pʌlp fikˈʃən/ noun cheap novels which are considered to be of poor quality.
pump /pʌmp/ noun a machine for forcing liquids or air.
pump /pʌmp/ verb 1. to force something such as liquid or air with a pump.
pull out /pʊl ‘aut/ verb 1. to pull something out of something. 2. They used a rope to pull the car out of the river.
pull the car out of the river.
pull out /pʊl ‘aut/ verb 2. to drive a car away from the side of the road. 3. He forgot to signal as he was pulling out.
pull the car out of the river.
pull together /pʊl təˈɡeðə/ verb 2. to drive close to the side of the road and stop.
pull together /pʊl təˈɡeðə/ verb to stop being part of a deal or agreement.
pull the car out of the river.
pull together /pʊl təˈɡeðə/ verb 3. to stop being part of a deal or agreement.
pull the car out of the river.
pull together /pʊl təˈɡeðə/ verb 4. to drive very close to the side of the road.
pull the car out of the river.
Your back tyre needs pumping up. • the heart pumps blood round the body. 2. to ask someone a lot of questions to try to get information (informal) • we pumped her after the interview to find out the sort of questions she had been asked.

pumpkin /ˈpʌmpkɪn/ noun a large round orange-coloured vegetable

pun /pʌn/ noun a play with words which have several different meanings • he made an awful pun about ‘ploughing on’ with his book on agriculture. Synonym witticism • verb to make puns • he was punning on the two senses of ‘hedge’. (note: punning – punned)

• punch /pʌntʃ/ noun 1. a blow with the fist • she landed two punches on his head. 2. a metal tool for making holes • the holes in the belt are made with a punch. (note: the plural is punches.) 3. a drink made of wine or spirits and spices • he drank a bowl of rum punch. • verb 1. to hit someone with your fist • he punched me on the nose. 2. to make holes in something with a punch • the conductor punched my ticket.

Punch and Judy /ˈpʌntʃ ənd ˈdʒudɪ/ noun a children’s puppet show with the traditional characters of Punch, a man with a large hooked nose, his wife Judy and their dog • as pleased as Punch very pleased • he’s as pleased as Punch to be chosen to play for the school.

punchdrunk /ˈpʌntʃdraŋk/ adjective suffering from brain damage from being punched on the head too often • by the end of his career as a boxer he was obviously punchdrunk. 2. tired out and not able to think clearly • the delegates emerged punchdrunk from the all-night negotiating session.

punchline /ˈpʌntʃlайн/ noun the last part of a joke, which is the part that makes you laugh

punctual /ˈpʌŋktʃəl/ adjective on time

punctuality /ˈpʌŋktʃəlɪti/ noun the practice of being on time, never being late. Synonym promptness

punctually /ˈpʌŋktʃəli/ adverb on time

punctuate /ˈpʌŋktʃjuːt/ verb 1. to interrupt something • their conversation was punctuated with long silences. 2. to add punctuation marks to a text • the sentence was not punctuated correctly.

punctuation /ˈpʌŋktʃəʃən/ noun the practice of dividing up groups of words with special printed symbols

puncture /ˈpʌŋktʃər/ noun a hole in a tyre • I’ve got a puncture in my back tyre. (note: the us term is flat.) • verb to make a small hole in something • the tyre had been punctured by a nail.

pundit /ˈpʌndɪt/ noun an expert, especially in political matters

pungent /ˈpʌŋdʒənt/ adjective 1. with a strong taste or smell • the pungent odour of curry came from the kitchen. 2. a particularly pungent type of goat’s cheese. 3. (of comments) strong and sharp • she reserved her most pungent criticism for the way we performed the musical numbers.

punish /ˈpʌnɪʃ/ verb to make someone suffer because of something they have done • the children must be punished for stealing apples. • the simplest way to punish them will be to make them pay for the damage they caused. Synonym chastise. Antonym commend.

punishable /ˈpʌnɪʃəbl/ adjective for which you can be punished. Synonym disciplinary

punishing /ˈpʌnɪʃɪŋ/ adjective exhausting, which makes you tired. Synonym gruelling

punishment /ˈpʌnɪʃmənt/ noun a treatment given to punish someone • as a punishment, you’ll wash the kitchen floor.

punitive /pʌnɪtɪv/ adjective which aims to punish. Synonym disciplinary

punk /pʌŋk/ noun a person who dresses in unconventional clothes, has brightly coloured hair and pins through parts of the body

punk rock /ˈpʌŋk rɒk/ noun a type of loud music popular in the 1960s

punter /ˈpʌntə/ noun a person who gam- bed on plastic or thin pieces of wood, used to hold soft fruit. Synonym basket

punt /pʌnt/ noun 1. a long flat-bottomed boat, pushed along with a pole • i took her out in a punt and we picnicked on the river.

punters /ˈpʌntərz/ plural noun the members of a club who use a service

punters /ˈpʌntərz/ plural noun the young of certain animals, especially a young dog or seal • our bitch has had pups. • they went out onto rocky islands looking for seal pups. • verb to
have pups  ○ She’s likely to pup in the next couple of days. (NOTE: pupping = pupped)
pupa /ˈpjuːpə/ noun a resting period in the life of an insect when it is covered with a hard case as it changes from a larva to a butterfly or moth. Also called chrysalis. (NOTE: The plural is pupae.)

pupil /ˈpjʊɪpəl/ noun 1. a child at a school ○ There are twenty-five pupils in the class.  ○ The piano teacher thinks she is her best pupil.  2. a black hole in the central part of the eye, through which the light passes ○ The pupil of the eye grows larger when there is less light.
puppet /ˈpʌpɪt/ noun a doll which moves, used to give a show

puppy fat /ˈpʌpi fæt/ noun fat on the bodies of young children (informal)
purchase /ˈpɜːrʃəs/ noun 1. a thing bought ○ She had difficulty getting all her purchases into the car.  ○ to make a purchase to buy something ○ We didn’t make many purchases on our trip to Oxford Street. 2. the ability to get a grip on something ○ I couldn’t get any purchase on the smooth face of the rock.  ○ It’s difficult to get a purchase on a box as large as this one. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning)  ○ verb to buy something ○ They purchased their car in France and brought it back to the UK.
purchase price /ˈpɜːrʃəs prəs/ noun a price paid for something (formal)
purchaser /ˈpɜːrʃəsər/ noun a person who buys something. Synonym buyer

purchase tax /ˈpɜːrʃəs tæks/ noun a tax paid on things which are bought

purchasing power /ˈpɜːrʃəs ˈpauə/ noun a quantity that can be bought with a certain amount of money

pure /ˈpjuːər/ adj 1. very clean; not mixed with other things ○ a bottle of pure water ○ a pure silk blouse ○ a pure mountain stream 2. with no faults ○ She led a pure life.  3. total, complete ○ This is pure nonsense.  ○ It is pure extortion.  ○ It is pure spite on his part.  ○ It was by pure good luck that I happened to find it. (NOTE: purer – purest)

purely /ˈpjuːli/ adv only, solely ○ He’s doing it purely for the money.  ○ This is a purely educational visit.
purgatory /ˈpurɡətəri/ noun 1. a place where some people believe your soul will suffer temporarily after you die, before entering heaven ○ Masses were said for the souls in purgatory. 2. an experience which makes you suffer ○ It was sheer purgatory listening to her singing out of tune.
purge /ˈpɜːrg/ noun the process of removing opponents and unacceptable people from a group ○ The party has begun a purge of right-wing elements.  ○ verb 1. to remove something bad or harmful from your mind or body ○ I want you to purge your minds of any unhappy memories. ○ This special diet is designed to purge the toxins from your body. 2. to remove opponents or other unacceptable people from a group ○ The activists have purged the party of moderates or have purged the moderates from the party. 3. to purge your contempt, to purge a contempt of court to do something, such as make an apology, to show that you are sorry for the lack of respect you have shown to the court

4. to make a patient have a bowel movement ○ Old-fashioned doctors frequently purged their patients.
purification /ˌpɜːrfəˈʃən/ noun the process of making something or someone pure

purify /ˈpɜːrfai/ verb to make something or someone pure. Synonym cleanse. Antonym contaminate

purist /ˈpjuːrɪst/ noun a person who insists that everything has to be done in the correct way. Synonym traditionalist

puritan /ˌpɜːrɪtən/ noun a puritanical person

puritanical /ˌpɜːrɪtəˈnɪkəl/ adj very strict concerning morals

purity /ˈpɜːrəti/ noun the quality of being pure

purloin /ˈpɜːrloʊn/ verb to steal (formal or humorous)
purple /ˈpɜːrpəl/ adj blue-red in colour ○ The sky turned purple as night approached. ○ His face was purple with fury.  ○ noun a blue-red colour ○ They painted their living room a deep purple.
purport /ˈpɜːrpɔːrt/ a general meaning (formal)

purposely /ˈpɜːrpəli/ verb to claim something ○ He was purposed to be a friend of the princess.
purpose /ˈpɜːrps/ noun 1. an aim or plan ○ The purpose of the meeting is to plan the village fair. ○ I need the invoice for tax purposes I need the invoice so that I can declare it to the tax authorities. 2. on purpose in a way which was planned ○ Don’t be cross – he didn’t do it on purpose. Antonym by accident

purpose-built /ˈpɜːrpəs ˈbɪlt/ adj made specially for a purpose. Synonym tailor-made
purposely /pəˈpəsəli/ adv. with a specific aim in view

purposely /pəˈpəsəli/ adv. with a specific aim

purposely /pəˈpəsəli/ adv. without having any specific aim

purposely /pəˈpəsəli/ adv. intentionally. Synonym deliberately. Antonym accidentally

purse /pɜːs/ noun 1. the noise made by a cat when pleased ○ The cat rubbed against my leg with a loud purr. 2. a low noise made by a powerful engine ○ the purr of the boat’s engine.

pursue /pəˈsuː/ verb 1. to chase someone or something ○ The police pursued the stolen car across London. ○ The guerrillas fled, hotly pursued by government troops. 2. to carry on a career, an activity ○ He pursued his career in the Foreign Office. ○ We intend to pursue a policy of reducing taxation.

pursuer /pəˈsuːr/ noun a person who chases someone. Synonym follower

pursuit /pəˈsuːtʃ/ noun 1. a chase after someone ○ The pursuit lasted until the thieves were caught in an alleyway. ○ in pursuit of looking for ○ We set off in pursuit of our friends who had just left the hotel. ○ The robbers left in a stolen car with the police in pursuit. ○ in hot pursuit chasing someone actively ○ The rebels retreated into the mountains with the government forces in hot pursuit. 2. trying to find something, to do something ○ Her aim in life is the pursuit of pleasure. 3. an occupation or pastime (dated) ○ He spends his time in country pursuits like gardening and birdwatching.

purse /pɜːs/ noun 1. a small bag for carrying money ○ I know I had my purse in my pocket when I left home. ○ She put her ticket in her purse so that she wouldn’t forget where it was. ○ to control or hold the purse strings to control the money ○ As she’s the only money-earner, she holds the purse strings in her family. 2. US a small bag which a woman carries to hold her money and other small objects ○ A robber snatched her purse in the street. (Note: The British term is handbag.)

purse /pɜːs/ noun 1. to press your lips together to show you are annoyed

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purse /pɜːs/ noun 1. the action of making something move forwards ○ He gave the pram a little push and sent it out into the road. ○ Can you give the car a push? – It won’t start. 2. the action of attacking, of moving forward against someone ○ Our troops made a sudden push into enemy-held territory. ○ The company made a big push to get into European markets. 3. ○ at a push with some difficulty (informal) ○ The cottage will sleep ten people at a push. 4. determination to do well (informal) ○ He doesn’t have enough push to be a salesman. Synonym energy ○ verb 1. to make something move away from you or in front of you ○ We’ll have to push the car to get it to start. ○ The piano is too heavy to lift, so we’ll have to push it into the next room. ○ Did she fall down the stairs or was she pushed? 2. to press something with your finger ○ Push the right-hand button to start the computer. 3. □ I am pushed for time I haven’t much time to spare (informal) ○ Let’s have a snack because I’m pushed for time. 4. to sell drugs illegally ○ The police found him pushing drugs behind the railway station.

push back 1. to push something or someone go back by pushing

pushbike /pəˈbɪk/ noun same as bicycle (dated)

pushbutton /pəˈbutn/ noun a switch which is operated by pushing ○ adj operated by a button which can be pushed ○ a pushbutton timer

pushchair /pəˈtʃeə/ noun a light folding chair with wheels for pushing a child in. Also called buggy

pusher /pəˈʃər/ noun a person who sells drugs illegally (slang) Synonym dealer

push /pəʃ/ verb 1. to start on a journey (informal) Synonym go away ○ we really ought to push off now it’s time for us to go ○ push off go away! 2. ○ push over noun 1. something that is easy to do ○ a person who is easily tricked

push-up /pəʃ ʌp/ noun US an exercise where you lie on the floor and push yourself up with your arms (Note: The British term is press-up.)

pushy /pəʃi/ adj always trying to push yourself forward, trying too hard to achieve success (informal) Synonym assertive. Antonym retiring

pussyfoot /pəˈsʌft/ verb (informal) ○ to pussyfoot about to be unable to decide what to do or how to do something ○ Stop pussy-footing about and make your mind up!

put /pʊt/ verb 1. to place something somewhere ○ Did you remember to put the milk in the fridge? ○ Where do you want me to put this book? 2. to say in words ○ If you put it like that, the proposal seems attractive.

Can I put a question to the speaker? 3. □ to put the shot to throw a heavy ball as a...
put away 678

put away 678

sport ○ He has put the shot farther than any other athlete in our team.

put away (put away) verb to clear things away

put back (put back) verb to put something where it was before ○ to put the clocks back to one hour earlier at the beginning of winter ○ Did you remember to put the clocks back last night?

put by (put by) verb to save money

put down (put down) verb 1, to place something lower down onto a surface ○ Put that book down on my account. 4, to let passengers off ○ The taxi driver put me down outside the hotel. 5, to make a deposit ○ to put down money on a house 6, to kill a sick animal ○ The cat is very old, she’ll have to be put down. 7, to defeat a group of people who make an attack against people in authority ○ to put your foot down, 1, to say firmly that something must be done ○ She put her foot down and told them to stop playing music all night. 2, to make a car go faster ○ He put his foot down and we soon left the police car behind.

put forward (put forward) verb 1, to suggest something ○ I put forward several suggestions for plays we might go to see. 2, to change an arrangement to meet someone at a particular time ○ Can we put forward the meeting from Thursday to Wednesday? 3, to change the time on a clock to an earlier one ○ to put back time ○ He put the light out and went to bed. 4, to be put out to be annoyed (informal) ○ He was very put out because you didn’t ask him to stay for dinner.

putrid (putrid) adjective decaying; which smells extremely unpleasant

put a short shot on a green in golf ○ He sank a fifteen-foot putt to win the game. □ verb to hit a short, gentle shot on the green in golf ○ He putted much better than his opponent.

put up (put up) noun golf club for putting ○ He uses a special lightweight putter. □ verb 1, to put something up ○ She put up a tent to stay the night. 2, to do anything in particular, to do little jobs here and there ○ He likes to putter around in the yard at the weekend.

put through (put through) 1, to speak to someone ○ I asked to speak to Simon. 2, to connect something on the phone ○ Put through Peter please.

putting green (putting green) noun a short shot on a green in golf course where only short shots are to be made close to the hole 2, a small golf course where only short shots are needed.
put up with

marktions all along Regent Street. 2. to build something so that it is upright. 3. to lift something up. The gunman told us to put our hands up. 4. to increase something, to make something higher. The shop has put up all its prices by 5%. 5. to give someone a place to sleep in your house. They’ve missed the last train, can you put them up for the night?

put up with, /pʌt ʌp wið/ verb to accept someone or something unpleasant.

puzzle /ˈpʌzəl/ noun 1. a game where you have to find the answer to a problem. I can’t do today’s crossword puzzle. 2. something you can’t understand. It’s a puzzle to me why they don’t go to live in the country.

verb 1. to be difficult to understand. It puzzles me how the robbers managed to get away. 2. to find something difficult to understand. She puzzled over the crossword for hours.

puzzled /ˈpʌzld/ adj confused, not understanding something. Antonym enlightened

puzzling /ˈpʌzlɪŋ/ adj which is difficult to understand and does not seem reasonable

PVC noun a strong plastic material, used in floor coverings, water pipes and clothing

pygmy /ˈpɪɡmi/ adj much smaller than usual. A pygmy breed of elephant.

pyjamas /ˈpaɪdʒəmz/ plural noun a light shirt and trousers which you wear in bed

I bought two pairs of pyjamas in the sale. When fire broke out in the hotel, the guests ran into the street in their pyjamas. (NOTE: A pair of pyjamas means one shirt and one pair of trousers. The US spelling is pajamas.)

pylon /ˈpaɪlən/ noun a tall metal tower for carrying electric wires

pyramid /ˈpraɪmɪd/ noun a shape with a square base and four sides rising to meet at a point

pyre /ˈpɪər/ noun a large fire which is burned as part of a ceremony

pyromaniac /ˌpaɪrəˈmæni.æk/ noun a person who cannot control their strong feeling of wanting to start fires

pyrotechnics /ˌpɪrəˈtektnɪks/ noun the art of making fireworks. They called in a pyrotechnics expert to set up the display.

plural noun 1. a firework display. The pyrotechnics lit up the night sky. 2. an occasion such as a performance in which someone shows a lot of skill. A piece of music notable for the pyrotechnics demanded from the percussion section. She is capable of amazing vocal pyrotechnics when reciting Shakespeare.

Pyrrhic victory /ˈpraɪrɪk ˈvɪktəri/ noun a victory which costs too much or involves too many losses

python /ˈpaɪθən/ noun a large snake which kills animals by crushing them.
bird, like a very small partridge /L50263
/duck
quack and he gave me some pills.

danger of sinking or of becoming stuck extremely wet ground, where you may be in was like a quagmire.

2. doctor (disapproving) quailed at the thought of having to do all the

with four legs
restrictions.

down in a quagmire of government quagmire.
careful when you take the path across the shape with four sides, such as a square, rectangle or parallelogram

make a noise like a duck

alphabet, between P and R

quate quake

verb 1. to shake ○ The explosion made the build-
ings quake. 2. □ to quake with something to shake because you have a strong feeling such as fear or because you are very cold ○ She was quaking with fear at the thought of going for an interview. ○ He was quaking in his boots at the idea of having to speak to an audience of specialists.

qualifition /kwɒlɪfaʃən/ noun 1. something necessary for a job, such as proof that you have completed a particular course of study ○ Does she have the right qualifications for the job? □ what are his qualifications? what type of degree or diploma does he have? 2. something which limits the meaning of a statement, or shows that you do not agree with something completely ○ I want to add one qualification to the agreement: if the goods are not delivered by the 30th of June, then the order will be cancelled. 3. being successful in a test or competition which takes you on to the next stage ○ She didn’t reach the necessary standard for qualification. ○ qualified /kwɒlɪfaid/ adj 1. with the right qualifications ○ She’s a qualified doctor. □ highly qualified with very good results in examinations ○ All our staff are highly qualified. 2. not complete, with conditions attached ○ The committee gave its qualified approval. ○ The school fair was only a qualified success. qualifier /kwɒlɪfər/ noun 1. a person who qualifies in a sports competition ○ How many qualifiers were there from the first round? 2. a round of a sports competition which qualifies a team to go to the next round ○ They won their qualifier and went through to the semi-final. ○ to qualify as to study for and obtain a qualification which allows you to do a certain type of work ○ He has qualified as an engineer. ○ When I first qualified I worked as a solicitor. 2. to attach conditions to something ○ I must qualify the offer by saying that your proposals still have to be approved by the chairman. □ the auditors have qualified the accounts the
auditors have found something in the accounts of the company which they do not agree with. 1. to qualify for 1. to be in the right position for, to have the right to have something 2. The project does not qualify for a government grant. 2. to pass a test or one section of a competition and so go on to the next stage. She qualified for round two of the competition.

qualitative /kwɔlˈtɪfɪtɪv/ adj referring to quality

1. quality /ˈkwɔlɪti/ noun 1. how good something is 2. of quality of good quality 3. something which is part of a person’s character.

2. something is 3. of things referred to such as ‘all’ or ‘some’ that shows the range of things referred to quantity /ˈkwɔntɪtɪ/ noun an amount

4. a property of a noun phrase that specifies the quantity of things referred to that noun phrase.

A small quantity of illegal drugs was found in the garage. She has many good qualities, but unfortunately is extremely lazy. What qualities do you expect in a good salesman?

NOTE: The plural is qualities.

quantitative /kwɔntɪˈtɪtɪv/ adj referring to quantity

1. quantity /ˈkwɔntɪtɪ/ noun an amount of quantities of a large amount of Quantities of explosives were found in the garage. A quantity of stolen jewels. 2. a certain amount of A small quantity of illegal drugs was found in the car.
year 5. one of the four compass directions which come between north, east and west 6. an area O The fire started in the merchants’ quarter of the town. 7. someone who may give help or information O We didn’t expect any help from that quarter. 8. verb to arrange for soldiers to live in a place temporarily O The battalion was quartered in a village near the front line.

quarterback /ˈkwɔːtərˌbæk/ noun US a key player in American football who plays behind the forwards and directs the team’s attack.

quarter-final /ˈkwɔːrtərˌfɪnl/ noun (in sport) one of four matches in a competition, in which the person or team which wins goes into the semi-finals.

quarterly /ˈkwɔːrtəli/ adj, adv which happens every three months O a quarterly payment O There is a quarterly charge for electricity. O We pay the rent quarterly or on a quarterly basis. O noun a magazine which appears every three months O He writes for one of the political quarterlies. (NOTE: The plural is quarterlies.)

quartet /ˈkwɔːrtət/ noun 1. four musicians playing together O She plays the cello in a string quartet. 2. a piece of music for four musicians O a Beethoven string quartet 3. four people or four things O A quartet of British archaeologists discovered the tomb. O Have you read his quartet of novels about Egypt?

quartz /ˈkwɔːrz/ noun a hard mineral often found as crystals in rocks and which makes up the major part of sand

quasar /ˈkwɔːzər/ noun a very distant object in the universe, similar to a star, which gives off very strong radiation

quash /kwɔʃ/ verb 1. to make a judgment or ruling no longer valid O The appeal court quashed the verdict. O He applied for judicial review to quash the order. 2. to make something end O The government moved quickly to quash rumours of a split in the Cabinet.

quaver /ˈkwɔːvər/ noun 1. a musical note lasting half as long as a crotchet and a quarter as long as a minim (NOTE: The US term is eight note.) 2. a tremble in the voice O There was a slight quaver in her voice as she answered the judge’s question. O verb (of voice) to shake slightly O A quavering voice answered the telephone.

quay /ˈkwɔɪ/ noun a place where ships tie up to load or unload (NOTE: Do not confuse with key.)

quayside /ˈkwaɪsайд/ noun the edge of a quay

queasy /ˈkwɛzi/ adj feeling sick

queen /ˈkwiːn/ noun 1. the wife of a king O King Charles I’s queen was the daughter of the king of France. 2. a woman who rules a country O The Queen sometimes lives in Windsor Castle. O Queen Victoria was queen for many years. 3. the second most important piece in chess, after the king O In three moves he had captured my queen. 4. (in playing cards) the card with the face of a woman, with a value between the king and jack O He had the queen of spades. (NOTE: Queen is spelt with a capital letter when used before a name or when referring to a particular person: Queen Elizabeth I)

Queen’s Counsel /ˈkwɛinz ˈkaʊnsəl/ noun a senior lawyer. Abbrev QC

queue /kwɪː/ noun 1. unusual or strange (dated) O There’s something very queer about the message. O Isn’t it queer that she hasn’t phoned back? O There’s a queer smell in the kitchen. (NOTE: queerer – queerest)

queer /kwɪər/ adj 2. homosexual (offensive unless used by people who are gay) 3. slightly ill (dated) O She felt queer and went home to bed. O noun a homosexual man (offensive unless used by people who are gay) O verb to upset someone’s plans (dated) O His offer has queered the pitch for all the others.

quell /kwɛl/ verb 1. to calm a situation in which there is a lot of noise and fighting O Extra police were drafted in to quell the disturbances. 2. to hold back feelings O She tried to quell her fears about the journey. O It was difficult to quell a feeling of resentment.

quench /kwɛntʃ/ verb O to quench your thirst to have a drink when you are thirsty O I expect you would like something to quench your thirst.

querulous /ˈkwɛrələs/ adj complaining in a bad-tempered way (literary)

query /ˈkwɔri/ noun a question O She had to answer a mass of queries about the tax form. (NOTE: The plural is queries.) O verb to doubt whether something is true; to ask a question about something O I would query whether these figures are correct. O The committee members queried the cost of the Christmas party.

quest /ˈkwɛst/ noun a search O in quest of in search of, looking for O They set off in quest of shelter.

question /ˈkwɛʃən/ noun 1. a sentence which needs an answer O The teacher
questionable

couldn’t answer the children’s questions. ○ Some of the questions in the exam were too difficult. ○ The manager refused to answer questions from journalists about the fire. ○ a problem or matter ○ The question is, who do we appoint to run the shop when we’re on holiday? ○ The main question is that of cost. ○ He raised the question of moving to a less expensive part of town. ○ in question under discussion ○ Please keep to the matter in question. ○ it is out of the question it cannot possibly be done ○ You cannot borrow any more money – it’s out of the question. ○ It’s out of the question for her to have any more time off. ○ a question, to ask questions ○ The police questioned the driver for four hours. ○ 2. to suggest that something may be wrong ○ We all question how accurate the computer is.

quick-witted

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member of staff is free. ○ his order went to the end of the queue his order was dealt with last. ○ to queue (up) to stand in line waiting for something ○ We queued for hours to get the theatre tickets. ○ Queue here for the London sightseeing bus. (NOTE: queuing – queued)

queueing system ○ a system where telephone calls are held and answered in turn

quivuble ○ a minor argument ○ I have only a few quibbles about the style, but basically I like the book. Synonym objection: ○ to quibble about something to argue about the details of something which is extremely unimportant ○ They spent hours quibbling about who should pay the bill.

quiche ○ an open pastry case with a filling of food such as eggs or vegetables ○ quick ○ fast ○ I’m trying to work out the quickest way to get to the Tower of London. ○ We had a quick lunch and then went off for a walk. ○ He is much quicker at calculating than I am. ○ I am not sure that going by air to Paris is quicker than taking the train. ○ quick as a flash ○ very quickly ○ I dropped my purse and quick as a flash a little boy picked it up. ○ to be quick off the mark to do something very fast, faster than everyone else ○ to be quick on the uptake to understand something very fast, faster than anyone else ○ she has a quick temper she becomes angry easily ○ fast (informal) ○ Come here quick, I want to show you something. ○ the flesh under the nails on your fingers and toes

quicken ○ to make some- thing go faster ○ He quickened his steps as he neared the house. ○ to make more active, to become more active ○ The decision is bound to quicken racial tensions. ○ The interest of the public began to quicken as it came closer to the time for the festival.

quickie ○ a quick divorce ○ quickly ○ very fast, without taking much time ○ He ate his supper very quickly because he wanted to watch the match on TV. ○ The firemen came quickly when we called 999.

quicksilver ○ mercury, silver-coloured liquid metal used in thermometers (archaic literary) ○ like quicksilver very fast ○ The money seemed to disappear like quicksilver.

quick-witted ○ who thinks very fast
past a feather used as a pen
calming things down, as quiet as a mouse, watching what was going on.
the quietest part of the town.
the quietest part of a room, and which are not bright
calm and peace, very quiet
without any noise
The children have gone out and the house is so quiet.
I'm trying to work.
the colours which are used for painting something such as the walls of a room.
the rooms were quiet, but ours looked out over a busy main road.
peace and quiet.
Can't you make the children keep quiet?
I'll try to quiet the screaming child.
the quietness of the Sunday afternoon.
We decided to have a quiet wedding – just our brothers and sisters.
quietness
The quiet of the room.
the quietest part of the town
We had been in with his girlfriend twenty years earlier.
the quietest part of the room, and which are not bright
the quietest part of a room, and which are not bright
We had been in with his girlfriend twenty years earlier.
Can't you make the children keep quiet?
I'll try to quiet the screaming child.
the quietest part of a room, and which are not bright
The hotel is in the quietest part of the town.
She had been in with his girlfriend twenty years earlier.
the quietest part of a room, and which are not bright
Can't you make the children keep quiet?
I'll try to quiet the screaming child.
the quietest part of a room, and which are not bright
Can't you make the children keep quiet?
I'll try to quiet the screaming child.
the quietest part of a room, and which are not bright
The police quizzed him for hours about the missing car.

quizmaster /ˈkwɪzməstə/ noun a person who asks the questions on a quiz show or game show

quiz show /ˈkwɪz ʃəʊ/ noun a TV or radio programme where people are asked a series of questions

quizzical /ˈkwɪzlɪk(ə)/ adj showing that you think something is surprising or funny

quoits /ˈkwəʊts/ noun a game where large rings are thrown over a stick set upright in the ground

quorum /ˈkwɔːrəm/ noun the number of people who have to be present at a meeting to make it official or legal

quotation /ˈkwəʊtʃən/ noun 1. the words of one person which are repeated by another person 2. a statement of the likely cost of work to be done 3. a list showing the beginning of a quotation when speaking 4. to give a statement showing the cost for work to be done

quote /ˈkwəʊt/ noun 1. a quotation 2. a statement of the cost of work to be done 3. to use a particular number to refer to something 4. In reply please quote this number 5. He replied, quoting the number of the invoice 6. He started his speech by quoting lines from Shakespeare’s ‘Hamlet’. 7. can I quote you on that? can I repeat what you have just said? 8. I think the fee will be £15,000, but don’t quote me on that 9. to show the beginning of a quotation when speaking 10. His quotation was much lower than all the others

quotient /ˈkwəʊʃənt/ noun the result when one number is divided by another
r noun the eighteenth letter of the alphabet, between Q and S. Nouns can only be eaten when there is an R in the month you are not supposed to eat oysters when the name of the month doesn’t have an R in it, i.e. in May, June, July and August.

rabbi /ˈræbj/ noun a Jewish religious leader or teacher (NOTE: also used as a title before a name: Rabbi Jonathan Sacks)

rabbit /ˈræbɪt/ noun a common wild animal with grey fur, long ears and a short white tail. The rabbit ran down its hole. She kept a pet rabbit in a cage. Synonym bunny

rabid /ˈræbd/, ˈrɛθɪd/ adj. 1. referring to rabbits, suffering from rabies 2. extremely violent 3. a rabid socialist. The government has been taken over by rabid nationalists.

rabies /ˈrɛbɪz/ noun a serious disease which can cause death and which is passed to humans by infected animals. Also called hydrophobia.

raccoon /ˈrakoʊn/ noun a type of small North American wild animal, with black and white bands of colour on its face.

race /rɛs/ noun 1. a competition to see which person, animal or vehicle is the fastest. She was second in the 200 metres race. The bicycle race goes round the whole country. 2. race against time to have difficulty in getting something finished on time. They tried to block the hole in the sea wall but with the high tide rising it was a race against time. 3. boat race 2. one of the large groups into which people are divided, according to features such as the colour of their skin or hair. The government is trying to stamp out discrimination on grounds of race. They are prejudiced against people of mixed race.

verb 1. to compete in a race 2. I’ll race you to see who gets to school first. To run fast. They saw the bus coming and raced to the bus stop. He snatched some watches from the shop window and then raced away down the street.

racecourse /ˈrɛskaʊs/ noun a grass-covered track where horse races are held.

racehorse /ˈrɛshɔ/ noun a horse bred and trained especially to run in horse races.

racer /ˈrɛsər/ noun 1. a person who is running in a race 2. He’s a well-known bicycle racer. All the racers came round the corner together. 2. something such as a special car, boat or horse used for racing He’s bought a new racer.

race relations /ˈrɛs rɪˈlɛf(ə)z/ plural noun relations between different groups of races in the same country. Race relations officers have been appointed in some police forces.

races /ˈrɛsiz/ plural noun a series of horse races held during one single day, or over several days.

race track /ˈrɛstræk/ noun a track where races are run.

racing /ˈrɛsɪŋ/ noun competitions to see who is fastest.

racially /ˈrɛsl(ə)li/ adv in a racial way.

racially motivated done because of racial hate. The arson attack on the house was racially motivated.

racing /ˈrɛsɪŋ/ noun competitions to see who is fastest.

racism /ˈrɛsɪz(ə)m/ noun the belief that a group of people are not as good as others because they are of a different race, and treating them differently.

racist /ˈrɛsɪst/ adj believing that some people are not as good as others because of race and treating them differently. The murderer was thought to have been a racist.
rack /ræk/ noun 1. a frame for holding things, e.g. letters, tools or suitcases ○ He put the envelope in the letter rack on his desk. 2. to go to rack and ruin to get into a bad state ○ He spent all his time in the bar and let his business go to rack and ruin. ■ verb □ to rack your brains to think very hard ○ I’m racking my brains, trying to remember the name of the shop.

racket /ˈrækit/ noun 1. a light frame with tight strings, used for hitting the ball in games ○ She bought a new tennis racket at the start of the summer season. ○ She asked if she could borrow his badminton racket for the tournament. 2. a loud noise ○ Stop that racket at once! ○ The people next door make a terrible racket when they’re having a party. 3. an illegal deal which makes a lot of money ○ Don’t get involved in that racket, you’ll pay a hefty fine if you get caught. ○ He runs a cut-price ticket racket.

racy /ˈræsi/ adj (of behaviour) slightly shocking

radar /ˈrædər/ noun a system for finding objects such as ships or aircraft, and working out where they are from radio signals which are reflected back from them as dots on a screen ○ The plane’s radar picked up another plane coming too close.

radar trap /ˈrædər trap/ noun a small piece of equipment by the side of a road which notes details of cars which are travelling too fast. Also called speed trap

radial /ˈrædɪəl/ adj 1. which comes out from a central point ○ The streets are arranged in a radial pattern around the roundabout. 2. referring to a radius

radial tyres /ˈrædɪəl ˈtaɪəz/ plural noun tyres which have wires inside them to make them strong and give a better hold on the road surface

radiance /ˈrædɪəns/ noun the quality of shining extremely brightly

radiant /ˈrædɪənt/ adj 1. shining extremely brightly ○ She came out of the church with a radiant smile. □ radiant with shining brightly with ○ He was radiant with joy as he read the results. 2. (of heat) which is sent out in the form of rays

radiant heat /ˈrædɪənt ˈhɛt/ noun the heat which is sent out by something hot, e.g. a fire

radiate /ˈrædɪeɪt/ verb 1. to send out rays or heat ○ The sun radiates heat. 2. to spread out from a central point ○ The path radiated from the tree in the centre of the garden. ○ The pain can radiate down both arms and up into the neck and jaw.

radiation /ˌrædɪˈeɪʃən/ noun the process of sending out rays or heat

radiator /ˈrædɪətər/ noun 1. a metal object, usually fixed to a wall, which is filled with hot water for heating a room ○ Turn the radiator down – it’s boiling in here. ○ When we arrived at the hotel our room was cold, so we switched the radiators on. 2. a metal container filled with cold water for preventing a car engine from becoming too hot ○ The radiator overheated causing the car to break down.

radical /ˈrædɪk(ə)l/ adj 1. thorough or complete ○ The government has had a radical rethink about press freedom. ○ He pointed out the radical difference between the two parties’ policies on education. 2. new and completely different ○ His more radical proposals were turned down by the committee. ■ noun a member of a radical party ○ Two Radicals voted against the government. Synonym extremist. Antonym conservative.

radicalism /ˈrædɪk(ə)lɪzəm/ noun the political ideas of a radical party. Synonym extremism

radically /ˈrædɪk(ə)lɪ/ adv 1. in a completely different, radical way ○ The British political scene has changed radically over the last twelve months. 2. basically ○ We are radically opposed to lowering the age of consent.

radical party /ˈrædɪk(ə)l ˈpærti/ noun a party which is in favour of making great and fast change in the way a country is governed

radio /ˈrædiəʊ/ noun 1. a method of sending out and receiving messages using air waves ○ They got the news by radio. ○ We always listen to BBC radio when we’re on holiday. 2. a machine which sends out and receives messages using air waves ○ Turn on the radio – it’s time for the weather forecast. ○ I heard the news on the car radio. ○ Please, turn the radio down – I’m on the phone. ■ verb to send a message using a radio ○ They radioed for assistance.

radioactive /ˌrædɪəˈkeɪtɪv/ adj (of a substance) which, as its nucleus breaks up, gives off energy in the form of radiation which can pass through other substances

radioactivity /ˌrædɪəˈækətɪvɪtɪ/ noun energy in the form of radiation from radioactive substances

radiography /ˌrædɪəˈgrəfi/ noun the practice or process of making X-ray photographs

radio ham /ˈrædiəʊ hæm/ noun a person who sends and receives radio messages for fun

radio telescope /ˌrædiəʊ ˈteɪlɪskɒp/ noun a telescope which uses radio waves to discover stars and other objects in the universe
radium /ˈreɪdiəm/ noun a radioactive metal, used to treat certain diseases such as cancer

radon /ˈreɪdən/ noun a natural inert radioactive gas, formed from the radioactive decay of radium

RAF abbr Royal Air Force

raffle /ˈrɑfl/ a game where you buy a ticket with a number on it, in the hope of winning a prize. ∙ She won a bottle of perfume in a raffle. ■ verb to give a prize in a lottery. ∙ They raffled a car for charity.

raft /raft/ noun 1. a structure made of pieces of wood tied together to form a flat surface. ∙ They took their raft all the way down the Amazon. ∙ Students held a raft race to raise money for charity. 2. many, a lot of ∙ They had to answer a raft of questions about government policy.

rafter /ˈrɑfər/ one of the long straight pieces of wood which hold up a roof. Synonym: beam

rag /ræg/ noun 1. a piece of torn cloth. ∙ He rushed up to the driver of the other car in a terrible rage. ■ to fly into a rage to get very angry suddenly. ∙ When he phoned her she flew into a rage. 2. road rage. ○ it’s all the rage. ○ It’s the latest rage. 3. very fashionable (informal). ∙ It’s all the rage to wear flared trousers again. ■ verb to be violent. ∙ The storm raged all night. Synonym: fume

ragged /ˈrægd/ adj 1. (of clothes) torn. ∙ The old photographs showed poor children standing in ragged clothes. 2. (of edge of paper or cloth) not straight. ∙ If you’d used scissors to cut the wrapping paper you wouldn’t have made the edge all ragged.

raging /ˈrædʒ/ adj very violent or painful

rags /rægz/ plural noun old torn clothes

ragtime /ˌrægtaɪrn/ noun a type of jazz music with a strong beat which is not regular

raid /reɪd/ noun a sudden attack; a sudden visit by the police. ∙ Robbers carried out six raids on post offices during the night. ○ Police carried out a series of raids on addresses in London. ■ verb to make a sudden attack on a place. ○ The police raided the club. ○ We caught the boys raiding the fridge.

raider /ˈreɪdər/ noun a person who takes part in a raid

rail /reɪl/ noun 1. a straight metal or wooden bar. ∙ The pictures all hang from a picture rail. ○ Hold onto the rail as you go down the stairs. ○ There is a heated towel rail in the bathroom. 2. one of two parallel metal bars on which trains run. ○ Don’t try to cross the rails – it’s dangerous. ○ In the autumn, trains can be delayed by leaves on the rails. 3. the railway, a system of travel using trains. ○ Six million commuters travel to work by rail each day. ○ We ship all our goods by rail. ○ Rail travellers are complaining about rising fares. ○ Rail travel is cheaper than air travel. ■ verb to rail off to close an area with railings. ○ Police railed off the entrance to the court.

railings /ˈreɪlnɪŋz/ plural noun metal bars used as a fence

railroad /ˈreɪlroʊd/ noun US same as railway. ■ verb to force something to happen (informal). ○ The government tried to railroad their plan through parliament.

railway /ˈreɪlweɪ/ noun 1. a system of metal rails on which trains travel. ○ The railway line crosses the river by a suspension bridge. 2. a way of travelling which uses trains to carry passengers and goods. ○ The railway station is in the centre of town. ○ The French railway system has high-speed trains to all major cities. (NOTE: [all senses] The US term is railroad.)

railway carriage /ˈreɪlweɪ kærɪdʒ/ noun a railway vehicle for passengers

railway line /ˈreɪlweɪ lайн/ noun the rails on which trains run. ○ Don’t cross the railway line when a train might be coming.

rain /reɪn/ noun drops of water which fall from the clouds. ○ The ground is very dry – we’ve had no rain for days. ○ Yesterday we had 3cm of rain; 3cm of rain fell here yesterday. ○ If you have to go out in the rain take an umbrella. ○ All this rain will help the plants grow. ○ driving rain rain which is blown straight towards you by the wind. ○ They were forced to turn back because of the driving rain. ■ verb to fall as drops of water
rainbow 689 ram

from the clouds. (As soon as we sat down and took out the sandwiches it started to rain. (Look at the clouds, it’s going to rain.)

\( \text{rain} \) to be raining cats and dogs to rain a lot (informal) \( \text{It rained cats and dogs all morning, but had cleared up by early afternoon.} \)

\( \text{rainbow} \) /ˈreɪnbəʊ/ noun a shape like half a circle which shines with many colours in the sky when it is sunny and raining at the same time.

\( \text{rain check} \) /ˈreɪn tʃek/ noun US an agreement to do something later. \( I’ll take a rain check on that I will not accept your offer right now but I may accept it later. \)

\( \text{raincoat} \) /ˈreɪnkoʊt/ noun a coat which keeps off water, which you wear when it is raining.

\( \text{raindrop} \) /ˈreɪndrɒp/ noun a drop of water which falls from a cloud.

\( \text{rainfall} \) /ˈreɪnfɔld/ noun the amount of rain which falls in a place over a certain period.

\( \text{antonym} \) sunshine.

\( \text{rain forest} \) /ˈreɪn fɔːrست/ noun a thick forest which grows in tropical regions where there is a lot of rain.

\( \text{rain off} \) /ˈreɪn əf/ verb to be rained off not to happen or to stop happening, because of rain. \( \text{The cricket match was rained off.} \)

\( \text{rain} \) rains /ˈreɪnz/ plural noun (in tropical countries) the season when it rains.

\( \text{rainstorm} \) /ˈreɪnstɔrm/ noun a storm with a lot of rain. Synonym cloudburst.

\( \text{rainwater} \) /ˈreɪnwɔtər/ noun water which has fallen as rain.

\( \text{rainy} \) /ˈreɪni/ adj when it rains \( \text{to keep something for a rainy day to keep something in case you may need it later.} \)

\( \text{rainy season} \) /ˈreɪni ˌsiːzn/ noun a period of the year when it rains a lot. Compare dry season.

\( \text{raise} \) /reɪz/ noun US an increase in salary. \( \text{She asked the boss for a raise. (NOTE: The British term is pay rise.)} \)

\( \text{verb 1.} \) to lift something, to make something higher. \( \text{He picked up the flag and raised it over his head.} \)

\( \text{verb 2.} \) to mention a subject which could be discussed. \( \text{No one raised the subject of politics.} \)

\( \text{verb 3.} \) to prevent the question of redundancies being raised. \( \text{The chairman tried to prevent the question of redundancies being raised.} \)

\( \text{to obtain money} \) \( \text{The hospital is trying to raise £2m to finance its expansion programme.} \)

\( \text{to where will he raise the money from to start up his business?} \)

\( \text{to grow plants from seed} \) \( \text{The new varieties are raised in special seedbeds.} \)

\( \text{to look after a child} \) \( \text{She was raised by her aunt in Canada. (NOTE: Do not confuse with raze.)} \)

\( \text{raisin} \) /ˈreɪzɪn/ noun a dried grape.

\( \text{rake} \) /reɪk/ noun 1. a garden tool with a long handle and metal teeth, used for smoothing earth or for pulling dead leaves together. \( \text{He raked the flowerbed before sowing her seeds.} \)

\( \text{verb 1.} \) to smooth loose soil with a rake. \( \text{He raked the leaves from under the trees.} \)

\( \text{verb 2.} \) to pull dead leaves together with a rake. \( \text{He raked the leaves from under the trees.} \)

\( \text{verb 3.} \) to move a camera or gun slowly sideways so that it covers a wide area. \( \text{From their lookout post they were able to rake the whole square with machine-gun fire.} \)

\( \text{rain in} \) /ˈreɪn ˈɪn/ verb to get something together (informal) \( \text{to rake in money to make a lot of money} \)

\( \text{rain off} \) /ˈreɪn əf/ noun an illegal payment made for doing something (informal). Synonym bribe.

\( \text{take up} \) /ˈteɪk əp/ verb 1. to pull dead leaves together with a rake. \( \text{She raked the dead leaves up into a pile.} \)

\( \text{verb 2.} \) to bring together. \( \text{We had difficulty in raking up the money to buy the house.} \)

\( \text{verb 3.} \) to bring back something unpleasant from the past. \( \text{The newspapers tried to rake up the old scandal.} \)

\( \text{rally} \) /ˈræli/ noun 1. a large meeting of members of a group or political party. \( \text{We are holding a rally to protest against the job cuts.} \)

\( \text{verb 1.} \) to gather together \( \text{to rally round to group together to support someone.} \)

\( \text{verb 2.} \) When her husband was sent to prison her friends rallied round. \( \text{to get better for a time from an illness} \)

\( \text{verb 3.} \) We was very poorly on Monday, but by the end of the week he had rallied a little. \( \text{to rise in price, after previously going downwards} \)

\( \text{verb 4.} \) Shares rallied on the news of the latest government figures.

\( \text{ram} \) /ˈræm/ noun a male sheep. \( \text{We keep the rams separate from the ewes. (NOTE: This female sheep is a ewe.)} \)

\( \text{verb 1.} \) to move or hammer something down hard. \( \text{He rammed the post into the soil with a heavy hammer.} \)

\( \text{verb 2.} \) He rammed the post into the soil with a heavy hammer.
RAM /rem/ noun random access memory, computer memory that allows access to any part of the memory in any order without having to access the rest of memory.

Raman /rəmən/ noun a Muslim religious festival, the ninth month of the Muslim year, during which believers are not allowed to eat or drink during the day. (NOTE: ramming – rammied)

ramble /rɑmbəl/ noun a walk for pleasure in the countryside ○ We’re going for a ramble through the beech woods.

rambling /rɑmblɪŋ/ adj 1. long and confused ○ He made a rambling speech of thanks. 2. full of little streets or full of rooms which connect with each other in a confusing way ○ We got lost in a maze of rambling alleys down by the harbour. ○ We stayed in a rambling old inn in Suffolk. noun the practice of walking for pleasure in the countryside ○ They had a rambling holiday in Yorkshire. ○ He lists his hobbies as reading and rambling.

ramifications /rəmɪfɪkeɪʃ(ə)n/ plural noun complicated and unexpected results ○ No one has really thought about all the ramifications of European political union.

ramp /ræmp/ noun 1. a slightly sloping surface joining two different levels ○ You drive up the ramp and tip your rubbish into a hole in the ground. ○ They have built a ramp so that wheelchairs can get into the library. 2. a small curved shape across the surface of a road ○ Drive carefully – ramps ahead!

rampage /ræmpidʒ/ noun □ to go on the rampage ○ to go on the rampage to go about breaking things or creating a lot of noise and mess ○ After their team’s defeat the fans went on the rampage around the town. □ verb ○ to rampage about to create a lot of mess and noise ○ She was rampaging about, throwing books and pictures all over the place.

rampant /ræmpənt/ adj which exists over a large area and cannot be controlled

ramparts /ræmpɑːtʃz/ plural noun tall walls which protect ○ We walked round the castle ramparts.

ramshackle /rəmʃeɪk(ə)/ adj badly damaged and falling to pieces. Synonym rickety. Antonym sturdy

rant /rán/ run

ranch /ræntʃ/ noun 1. (in North or South America) a farm where horses or cows are kept ○ The cowboys returned to the ranch each evening. ○ They left the city and bought a ranch in Colorado. 2. (in Australia) a farm where sheep are reared (NOTE: The plural is ranches.)

rancher /ræntʃə/ noun a person who owns or runs a ranch. Synonym farmer

rancid /rɑnsɪd/ adj (of food) with an unpleasant taste because it has decayed or is not fresh

rancour /rɑnˈkɔːr/ noun an angry feeling against someone or something (NOTE: The US spelling is rancor.)

R&D abbr research and development

random /rændəm/ adj done without any planning. Synonym haphazard ○ at random without choosing carefully ○ Pick any card at random.

random access memory /ræmˈdɛksɛs, mɛnˈtɔrɪ/ noun full form of RAM

random check /rændəm tʃeɪk/ noun a check on things taken from a group without choosing them in any particular order

randomly /rændəmli/ adv in a random way

random sample /rændəm ˈsæmpəl/ noun something taken for testing from among a number of similar things, without any obvious plan or pattern

randy /rændi/ adj very keen to have sex (informal) (NOTE: R&D – randiest)

range /reɪn/ □ range /reɪndʒ/ noun 1. a series of buildings or mountains in line ○ There is a range of outbuildings next to the farmhouse which can be converted into holiday cottages. ○ They looked out at the vast mountain range from the plane window. 2. especially US a wide open pasture ○ The cattle were left to feed on the range during the summer. 3. a choice or series of things which are available ○ We offer a wide range of sizes. ○ We have a range of holidays at all prices. ○ I am looking for something in the £20–£30 price range. 4. a distance which you can go; a distance over which you can see or hear ○ The missile only has a range of 100 km. ○ The police said the man had been shot at close
range. ○ The optician told her that her range of vision would be limited. 5. a large piece of kitchen equipment used for cooking food, usually with two or more ovens ○ The centrepiece of the kitchen was the magnificent new range. 6. rifle range ○ verb ○ to range from to spread from ○ The sizes range from small to extra large. ○ Holidays range in price from £150 to £350 per person. ○ The quality of this year’s examination papers ranged from excellent to very poor.

ranger /'reɪndər/ noun a person in charge of the management and protection of a forest, park or nature reserve

rank /ræŋk/ noun 1. a row of soldiers ○ The soldiers kept rank as they advanced towards the enemy. 2. a position in society or in a service such as the army or police ○ What rank does he hold in the police force? ○ After ten years he had reached the rank of corporal. ○ other ranks ordinary soldiers ○ he rose from the ranks from being an ordinary soldier he became an officer ○ General Smith rose from the ranks. 3. ○ the rank and file ordinary people ○ Rank-and-file union members voted against the proposal.

rap /ræp/ noun the offence of attacking a person and forcing them to have sex ○ There’s been a dramatic increase in the number of rapes in this area over the past year. ○ He was in court, charged with raping. 1. verb ○ to attack someone and force them to have sex ○ The girl was raped at the bus stop. ○ He was in court, charged with raping the student.

rapidity /ræ'pɪdɪtɪ/ noun speed

rare /reər/ adj unusual, not common ○ It’s very rare to meet a foreigner who speaks perfect Chinese. ○ Experienced sales staff are rare these days. ○ The woodland is the habitat of a rare species of frog. 2. (of meat) ○ Let me take the rap with the boss for having a long lunch break. 3. a form of African Caribbean music where the singer speaks words quickly over a strong beat, improvising as he or she goes along ○ The club played rap all evening. 1. verb ○ to give a sharp tap ○ Even though he rapped on the door with a stick, no one heard. ○ to rap someone over the knuckles ○ to criticise someone ○ He was rapped over the knuckles by the Prime Minister. 2. to sing rap music ○ Although he couldn’t play the guitar or the drums he was great at rapping. (NOTE: rapping – rapped)

rank grass surrounded the marsh. 3. with an unpleasant smell ○ the rank smell of stale cigarette smoke

ranking /'reɪŋkɪŋ/ noun a position in order of importance

rannake /'reɪŋk(ə)l/ verb to cause continuing bitter feelings

ransack /'reɪnsæk/ verb to cause a lot of damage and mess while searching a place to find something

ransom /'reɪnsəm/ noun money paid to get back someone who is being held prisoner ○ The daughter of the banker was held by kidnappers who asked for a ransom of £1m. ○ verb to pay money so that someone is set free ○ She was ransomed by her family. ○ to hold someone to ransom 1. to keep someone secretly until money is paid ○ The striking lorry drivers are holding the country to ransom. 2. to hold someone in such a way that they have to agree to what you ask

ransom note /'reɪnsəm əʊt/ noun a message sent by someone who is holding another person prisoner and asking for money to be paid

rant /rant/ verb to complain or shout loudly. Synonym rage

rap /ræp/ noun 1. a short sharp hit ○ There was a rap on the door. 2. ○ to take the rap to accept responsibility, to take the blame (in formal) ○ Let me take the rap with the boss for having a long lunch break. 3. a form of African Caribbean music where the singer speaks words quickly over a strong beat, improvising as he or she goes along ○ The club played rap all evening. 1. verb ○ to give a sharp tap ○ Even though he rapped on the door with a stick, no one heard. ○ to rap someone over the knuckles ○ to criticise someone ○ He was rapped over the knuckles by the Prime Minister. 2. to sing rap music ○ Although he couldn’t play the guitar or the drums he was great at rapping. (NOTE: rapping – rapped)

rapt /ræpt/ adj concentrated so much on something or someone that you do not notice what is around you ○ with rapt attention ○ The audience listened to the lecture with rapt attention.

rapture /'reɪp tʃə/ noun a state of great happiness or enthusiasm

ranger 691 rare
you like your steak? – Rare, please! (NOTE: Rare – rarer – rarest)

rarely /ˈreəli/ adv not often, almost never
  o I rarely buy a Sunday newspaper. o He is rarely in his office on Friday afternoons.

synonym seldom. Antonym often

raring /ˈreərɪŋ/ adj (informal) o raring to go very keen to go or to start doing something. o The marathon starts in five minutes, and the crowd of runners are raring to go.

rarity /ˈreərəti/ noun 1. the state of being rare. o The rarity of the species means that it must be protected. 2. a rare thing o Hot sunny days are a rarity in November. o We get so few tourists that a coachload of them is a real rarity.

rascal /ˈræskəl/ noun a person, especially a child, who is badly behaved

rash /rɑʃ/ noun 1. a mass of red spots on your skin, which stays for a time and then disappears. o He showed the rash to the doctor. o She had a rash on her arms. i to break out in a rash to suddenly get a rash. 2. a series of things that happen. o There has been a rash of burglaries lately. (NOTE: The plural is rashes.) o adj not careful; done without thinking. o It was a bit rash of him to suggest that he would pay for everyone. synonym impetuous. Antonym sensible (NOTE: rash – rashest)

rasher /ˈrɑʃər/ noun a thin piece of bacon

rashly /ˈræʃli/ adv without considering what might happen

rasp /rɑsp/ noun 1. a rough metal file o He used a steel rasp to smooth the surface of the table. 2. a harsh grinding noise o the rasp of the saw on the metal sheet o verb to make a grinding noise. o The steel bolt rasped as he slid it back. o rasping cough or voice a cough or voice which has a dry harsh sound. o The kidnapper spoke with a rasping voice. o The woman next to me in the waiting room had a rasping cough.

raspberry /ˈræspbəri/ noun 1. a common red soft fruit which grows on tall plants o They picked raspberries and ate them for tea. o Could I have some raspberries and cream, please? o We had scones with raspberry jam.

   o raspberry canes, raspberry bush plants formed of tall stems which bear this fruit. o There are two rows of raspberry canes or of raspberry bushes in the garden. 2. a rude noise made with the mouth to show that you think something is rubbish. o Instead of replying, she blew him a raspberry. (NOTE: The plural is raspberries.)

Rastafarian /ˈræstəfərəni/ noun a member of an Afro-Caribbean religious group that considers the former emperor of Ethiopia, Haile Selassie, to be God

rat /rɑt/ noun a common grey rodent, larger than a mouse, which has a long tail and can carry disease. o Rats live in the sewers in the city. o Bubonic plague is a disease which is transmitted to people by fleas from rats. o like rats leaving a sinking ship when large numbers of people leave a company or an organisation because they think it is going to fail. o Ministers are leaving the government like rats leaving a sinking ship. o verb to rat on someone to harm someone by telling their secrets (slang) o He ratted on his best friend.

ratchet /ˈrætʃit/ noun an object such as a wheel with teeth and a catch which prevents it from turning backwards. synonym notch

rate /rɑt/ noun 1. a number shown as a proportion of another. 2. how frequently something is done. o His heart was beating at a rate of only 59 per minute. 3. a level of payment. o He immediately accepted the rate offered. o Before we discuss the project further, I would like to talk about the rates of payment. o Their rate of pay is lower than ours. 4. speed. o At the rate he’s going, he’ll be there before us. o If you type at a steady rate of 70 words per minute, you’ll finish copying the text today. 5. verb to give a value to something. o She’s rated in the top 20 players. o I don’t rate his chances of winning very highly.

rather /ˈræðər/ adv 1. fairly, to a slight degree. o Their house is rather on the small side. o Her dress is a rather pretty shade of blue. 2. o rather than instead of. o Rather than wait for hours for a bus, we decided to walk home. o He tried to use his credit card rather than pay cash.

ratification /ˈrætɪfɪkaʃən/ noun official approval of something such as a rule, which then becomes official and must be obeyed. synonym consent

ratify /ˈrætɪfaɪ/ verb to approve something officially

rating /ˈrætɪŋ/ noun 1. the act or practice of giving a score or mark for something. o What rating would you give that film? 2. (in the navy) an ordinary seaman. o The new commander joined the navy 20 years ago as a rating.

ratio /ˈreɪʃəʊ/ noun an amount of something in relation to another amount. o The ratio of successes to failures. o Our athletes beat theirs by a ratio of two to one (2:1). (NOTE: The plural is ratios.)

ration /ˈræʃən/ noun an amount of food or supplies allowed. o The rations provided for the expedition were more than sufficient. o The prisoners had to survive on meagre rations. 2. o verb to allow only a certain amount of food or supplies. o Petrol may be rationed this winter. o During the war we were rationed to one ounce of cheese per person per week. synonym restriction
rational /ˈreɪʃ(ə)n(ə)l/ adj sensible, based on reason
rationale /ˈreɪʃ(ə)nəl/ noun a set of reasons for which something is done. Synonym reasoning
rationalisation /ˈreɪʃ(ə)nəlaɪzɪʃ(ə)n/ noun the act of rationalising, of making something more effective
rationalise /ˈreɪʃ(ə)nəlaɪz/ verb 1, to find a reason for actions which do not appear to be rational 2 He tried to rationalise what he had done. 2. to make something such as a system or a business work in a more effective way 2 The rail company is trying to rationalise its freight services.
rationally /ˈreɪʃ(ə)nəlɪ/ adv in a reasonable way
rationalisation /ˈreɪʃ(ə)nəlaɪzæʃ(ə)n/ noun the system of allowing people only a small amount of food or supplies in wartime
rat race /ˈreɪt rɛz/ noun the bitter competition for success in the business world (informal)
rattle /ˈræt(ə)l/ noun 1. a toy which you hold in your hand and which makes a loud repeated noise when you shake it 2 The fans stood waving rattles and blowing whistles. © The baby threw the rattle out of the cot. 2. a harsh sound 2 He heard the rattle of a snake. 2 verb 1. to make a repeated harsh noise, like the sound of pieces of wood banging together 2 The wind made the windows rattle. 2. to upset someone 2 He didn’t seem rattled by the news of the police investigation.
rattle off /ˈræt(ə)l/ ŋʌf/ verb to say something very quickly
rattlesnake /ˈræt(ə)sk,nek/ rattler /ˈræt(ə)r/ noun a poisonous American snake which makes a rattling noise with its tail
ratty /ˈreɪti/ adj behaving in an angry way
raucous /ˈreɪkəs/ adj (of a sound) rough, harsh
raunchy /ˈreɪntʃ(ə)ri/ adj sexually exciting (informal) (NOTE: raunchier – raunchiest)
ravage /ˈreɪvɪdʒ/ noun 2 the ravages of damage caused by 2 The town will have to spend millions to repair the ravages of war. © You can try to withstand the ravages of time by dyeing your hair. 2 verb to damage or to destroy a place © The countryside had been ravaged by years of civil war.
rave /ˈreɪv/ verb 1. to speak in an excited way © He ranted and raved until someone came to see what was the matter. 2. to be very enthusiastic about something © She raves about this little restaurant in the West End. 2 adj enthusiastic (informal) © The new musical had rave reviews. 2 noun a very large party for young people, with bright lights, loud music and usually drugs
raven /ˈreɪv(ə)n/ noun a big black bird like a very large crow
ravenous /ˈreɪv(ə)nəs/ adj very hungry
ravine /ˈreɪv(ə)n/ noun a deep narrow valley
raving /ˈreɪvɪŋ/ adj, adv □ raving mad extremely annoyed or angry (informal) © You must be raving mad, that’s far too expensive! ravingly /ˈreɪvɪŋli/ adv very beautiful
ravishing /ˈreɪvɪʃ(ə)ŋ/ adj very beautiful
ravage /ˈreɪvɪdʒ/ verb 1, to destroy a place © The town will have to be razed to the ground to make way for the new road. © Whole sections of the town were razed to the ground in the earthquake.
razor /ˈreɪzər/ noun an instrument with a very sharp blade for removing hair from the face or body
razor blade /ˈreɪzər ˈbleɪd/ noun a blade for a razor, which can be used several times before being thrown away
reach /rɛtʃ/ noun 1, how far you can stretch out your hand © Keep the medicine
react /ri'ækt/ verb 1. to do or to say something in response to words or an action. 2. to show opposition to something. 3. to react against something to show opposition to something. 4. to react to something to behave in a particular way as a result of something. 5. to react to the news when you read between the lines of his letter you can tell that he is deeply unhappy.

reactive /ri'æktɪv/ adj. (of a chemical substance) which reacts easily with other substances. We're reading about his handwriting is barely readable.

reader /ri'də/ noun 1. a person who reads, especially a person who reads regularly or who reads a particular newspaper or type of book. 2. a senior teacher at a university, a position between Professor and Senior Lecturer. He was a reader in English at Cambridge.
London University. 3. a school book to help children to learn to read. 4. The teacher handed out the new readers to the class. 5. I remember one of my first readers – it was about pirates. 6. a piece of electronic equipment which understands data or symbols.

readership /ˈridəʃip/ noun 1. all the people who regularly read a particular magazine or newspaper, or read the books of a particular writer. 2. the position of reader in a university. 3. He has been appointed as a readership in Chinese.

ready /ˈredi/ adj 1. easily and quickly. 2. This product is readily available in most shops. 3. Is there anyone readily available to help me this weekend? 4. She came readily when I asked her to help me.

reading /ˈriːdɪŋ/ noun 1. the act of looking at and understanding written words. 2. A reading or writing should be taught early.

realise /ˈriːzaɪz/ verb 1. to get clearly. 2. to come out tonight as I’m a bit short of ready cash. 3. You’ll never realise what he was letting himself in for.
realism /ˌriːəlɪzəm// noun 1. behaviour which faces facts, accepting things as they are and not trying to change them or fight against them. 2. an artist or writer who shows things as they really are. 3. Realist painters were popular in the 19th century. 4. Realistic, adj 1. which looks as if it is real. 2. My job is to try to bring some realism to their proposals. 3. With the arrival of the new managing director an air of realism has finally entered the company. 4. realism to their proposals.

realist /ˌriːəlist// noun 1. a person who accepts life as it really is, and does not try to change it or fight it. 2. He tried to paint the house. 3. He realises a project or plan. 4. The plan took five years to realise.

rea,m /riːəm// noun 1. a kingdom, especially the United Kingdom. 2. an area of experience. 3. It is quite within the realms of possibility. 4. realm time /ˌriːəlti// noun 1. an action of a computer which takes place at the same time as the problem it is solving. 2. realtor /ˈrɛltər// noun US a person who sells property for customers. 3. (NOTE: The British term is estate agent.)

reason /ˈriːzn// noun 1. a reason. 2. to realise a project or plan to make a project or a plan happen. 3. The plan took five years to realise.

rear /rɛər// noun 1. the part at the back. 2. The rear of the car was damaged in the accident. 3. The boss asked him for the reason.

rear-view mirror /ˈrɛər vju/ mirror /ˈrɛərvju/ mirror /ˈrɛər vju/ mirror /ˈrɛərvju// noun 1. a mirror in the centre of the front of a car, so that the driver can see what is behind him without turning round.

realm 2, an area of experience. 2. It is quite within the realms of possibility. 3. to make something become real. 4. After four years of hard work, the motor racing team realised their dream of winning the Grand Prix. 5. By buying a house by the sea he realised his greatest ambition. 6. to realise a project or plan to make a project or a plan happen. 7. The plan took five years to realise.
reasonable
2. the power of thought. 3. the ability to make sensible judgments. 4. She wouldn’t listen to reason. 5. It stands to reason that he wants to join his father’s firm. 6. to see reason to see that someone’s argument is right or reasonable. 7. She was going to report her neighbours to the police, but in the end we got her to see reason. 8. within reason to a sensible degree, in a sensible way. 9. The children get £5 pocket money each week, and we let them spend it as they like, within reason. 10. to a reason someone to try to calm someone, to try to make someone change his mind. 11. The policewoman tried to reason with the man who was holding a knife.

reasonable/ˈreɪznəb(ə)l/ adj. 1. sensible. 2. The manager of the shop was very reasonable when she tried to explain that she had left her credit cards at home. 3. not expensive. 4. The restaurant offers good food at reasonable prices.

reasonably/ˈreɪznəb(ə)li/ adv. 1. in a reasonable way. 2. The meals are very reasonably priced. 3. Very reasonably, he asked for a check on the brakes of the car before buying it.

reassess/riˈæsɛs/ verb to consider something again, to make something obvious again. 2. to reassess. 3. reassessment/ˈriːəsəmənt noun the act of reassessing someone. 4. reassuring/ˌriːəsərɪŋ/ adj which reassures, which makes you less worried. 5. reassuringly/ˌriːəsərɪŋli/ adverb to make someone less afraid or less worried.

rebate/riˈbeɪt/ noun 1. a reduction in the amount of money to be paid. 2. We are offering a 10% rebate on selected goods. 3. money returned to someone because he has paid too much. 4. He got a tax rebate at the end of the year. 5. rebel/riˈbɛl/ verb a person who fights against a government or against those who are in authority. 6. The rebels fled to the mountains after the army captured their headquarters. 7. He considers himself something of a rebel because he wears his hair in a ponytail. 8. Synonym: protester. 9. Antonym: loyalist. 10. Gabriel rebelled at the idea of doing extra homework.

rebelling/riˈbelɪŋ/ verb a fight against the government, against the people in authority. 2. fighting against authority. 3. being born again, starting again. 4. to go back onto a ship or plane or train or bus again. 5. to refuse something sharply. 6. They rebuffed all offers of help.

rebuilt/riˈbɪlt/ verb to build again (NOTE: rebuilding – rebuilt /riˈbɪlt/)

rebuke/riˈbjʊk/ noun criticising someone for doing something. 2. His attempts at forcing a vote earned him a quick rebuke from the chairman. 3. Antonym: compliment. 4. verb to criticise someone sharply. 5. On March 26, the MD for not doing enough for the shareholders. 6. Synonym: reprimand. 7. Antonym: praise.

rebuilt/riˈbɪlt/ verb to state that something such as an argument is not true (NOTE: rebutting – rebutted)

recall/riˈkɔrl/ noun the act of calling something to come back or to be brought back. 2. The recall of the faulty goods caused the manufacturers some serious problems. 3. The recall of the ambassador is expected any time now. 4. recall of Parliament bringing MPs back to Parliament when they are on
holiday, to discuss an important matter. □ beyond recall gone and will never come back.

□ Those days beyond recall when we were young.

□ verb 1. to remember something.
□ don’t recall having met her before.

□ She couldn’t recall any details of the accident.

□ (of a manufacturer) to ask for products to be returned because of possible faults.

□ They recalled 10,000 washing machines because of a faulty electrical connection.

□ They have recalled all their 2001 models as there is a fault in the steering.

□ to tell a government official to come home from a foreign country.

□ The United States recalled their ambassador after the military coup.

□ to ask Parliament to meet a holiday period.

□ In the light of the current crisis, the Prime Minister has asked for Parliament to be recalled or has recalled Parliament.

□ verb to admit that your former beliefs were wrong.

□ recap /ri’kap/ verb to state the main points of something again.

□ recapture /ri’kap/ noun the act of getting possession of something again.

□ The government forces are making the recapture of the capital from the rebels their main priority.

□ The recapture of the former Prime Minister’s seat was an important win for the opposition party.

□ verb 1. to get someone or something again and to keep them in your possession.

□ Our troops recaptured all the ground they had lost the previous day.

□ The police succeeded in recapturing all the escaped prisoners.

□ to take again a seat in an election.

□ The opposition recaptured several seats which they had lost in the election four years earlier.

□ to have the same feelings again.

□ if only one could recapture the innocence of youth.

□ recede /ri’si:d/ verb to go away or to move back.

□ receding hairstyle the condition in which a man’s hair at the top of his forehead begins to fall out.

□ receipt /ri’seɪt/ noun 1. the act of receiving.

□ Invoices are payable within 30 days of receipt.

□ We would like to confirm receipt of the goods.

□ to acknowledge receipt of a letter to write to say that you have received a letter.

□ We acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 15th.

□ on receipt of when you receive.

□ On receipt of the notification, they decided to appeal.

□ a paper showing that you have paid, that you have received something.

□ Goods cannot be exchanged unless a sales receipt is shown.

□ Would you like a receipt for that shirt?

□ receive /ri’si:v/ verb 1. to get something which has been sent.

□ We received a parcel from the supplier this morning.

□ We only received our tickets the day before we were due to leave.

□ The staff have not received any wages for six months.

□ ‘received with thanks’ words put on a bill to show that it has been paid.

□ to be on the receiving end of to have to suffer.

□ informal to be on the receiving end of a lot of criticism.

□ to meet or to welcome a visitor.

□ The group was received by the mayor.

□ to be given something.

□ He received a blood transfusion.

□ receiver /ri’si:və/ noun 1. the part of a radio which receives broadcast programmes.

□ Our radio receiver picked up your signal quite clearly.

□ an official put in charge of a bankrupt company.

□ The court appointed a receiver for the company.

□ The company is in the hands of the receiver.

□ a part of a telephone which you hold to your ear and listen through.

□ He shouted ‘get stuffed!’ and slammed down the receiver.

□ a person who accepts stolen goods.

□ The receivers of the stolen jewellery were arrested and jailed.

□ reception /ri’seʃən/ noun being under the control of a receiver.

□ Synonym bankrupcy.

□ the company went into receivership a receiver was given the job of looking after the business of the bankrupt company.

□ recent /ˈrɛs(ə)nt/ adj new, which took place not very long ago.

□ We will mail you our most recent catalogue.

□ The building is very recent – it was finished only last year.

□ recently /ˈrɛs(ə)nli/ adv only a short time ago.

□ I’ve seen him quite a lot recently.

□ They recently decided to move to Australia.

□ Synonym lately.

□ receptacle /ri’septəkl/ noun a container.

□ reception /ri’seʃən/ noun 1. a welcome.

□ The committee gave the proposal a favourable reception.

□ The critics gave the play a warm reception.

□ The minister had a rousing reception at the meeting.

□ (at a hotel) the place where guests go when they arrive or leave, e.g. to obtain the key to their room.

□ Let’s meet at reception at 9.00 am tomorrow.

□ (at an office) a place where visitors go when they arrive and say who they have come to see.

□ There’s a parcel waiting for you in reception.

□ a big party held to welcome special guests.

□ He hosted a reception for the prince.

□ the quality of the sound on a radio or the sound and picture of a TV broadcast.

□ Perhaps you’d get better reception if you moved the aerial.

□ reception desk /ri’seʃəndeks/ noun a desk where visitors check in, e.g. in a hotel.

□ receptionist /ri’seʃənˈɪst/ noun a person in a place such as a hotel or doctor’s office who meets visitors and answers the telephone.

□ receptive /ri’septɪv/ adj eager to listen.

□ to be receptive to be eager to take in.
something such as a new idea. The management was not at all receptive to the employee’s suggestions.

**recess** /rɛˈses/ noun 1. an alcove or part of the wall of a room which is set back. The large stone urn stands in the recess by the doorway. 2. an official holiday of the law courts or parliament. The decision was taken when parliament was in recess. 3. US a recreation period at school. They had a game during the recess.

**recesses** /rɛˈsesz/ plural noun hidden inside parts which are difficult to reach.

- **recession** /rɛˈsesʃən/ noun a situation when a country’s economy is doing badly.
- **recessive gene** /rɛˈsesɪv/ noun the less important of a pair of genes, where the characteristic is only passed on to the offspring if both parents have the gene.

**recharge** /rɛˈtreɪdʒ/ verb to put an electric charge into something again.

**rechargeable** /rɛˈtʃeɪdʒəb(ə)l/ adj which can be recharged.

- **recipe** /rɛˈspi/ noun 1. instructions for cooking food. I copied the recipe for leek soup from the newspaper. 2. an effective way to do something. There is no single recipe for success.

**reclive** /rɛˈklaɪv/ verb to recline something again.

- **reclaim** /rɛˈklɛm/ verb to reclaim a government which has taken power in a country.

**reclamation** /rɛˈklɛmʃən/ noun a calculation.

- **reclamation or reclaim** /rɛˈklɛm/ verb 1. to claim something which you owned before. After he stopped paying the hire purchase instalments, the finance company tried to reclaim his car. His car was towed away and he had to go to the pound to reclaim it. (Note: also claim back in this meaning). 2. to take land, such as a marsh or waste sites, and make it suitable for use. They reclaimed a whole stretch of land along the banks of the river.

**reclining** /rɛˈklɪnɪŋ/ adjective reclining on or to depend on.

**recognise** /rɛˈkəzn/ verb 1. to know someone or something because you have seen him or her or it before. He’d changed so much since I last saw him that I hardly recognised him.

- **recognise** /rɪˈkɒnɪzaɪʃ(ə)n/ noun the action of recognising something, usually from memory.

**recite** /rɛˈsaɪt/ verb to speak a poem or other piece of writing aloud in public.

**recklessly** /rɛˈkəlsli/ adv in a reckless way. Synonym cautiously

- **reckon** /rɛˈkən/ verb 1. to calculate, or to estimate. We reckon the costs to be about £25,000. We reckon we’ll be there before lunch. 2. to think. I reckon we should have stayed at home.

**reckoning** /rɛˈkənɪŋ/ noun a calculation.

- **recognition** /rɪˈkɒnɪʒ(ə)n/ noun recognition.

- **recognised** /rɪˈkɒnɪzaɪd/ past participle of recognise. Synonym familiar.

**recognisers** /rɪˈkɒnɪzəsəz/ plural noun people who live all alone and does not see anyone else.

**recogniser** /rɪˈkɒnɪzər/ noun a person who lives on reclines a government to say that a new government which has taken power in a country is the legal government of that country. Germany was one of the first countries to recognise Croatia as a new independent country.

- **recognise or acknowledging** /rɪˈkɒnɪziŋ/ verb 1. to agree that a trade union can officially represent workers in a factory. 2. to show praise for something which has been done. They recognised her years of service.

**recognised** /rɪˈkɒnɪzaɪd/ past participle of recognise. Synonym familiar.
of his services he was given a watch.  

recollect /rekəˈlekt/ verb to remember something from the past

recollecting /rekəˈlektɪŋ/ noun remembering something from the past

recommend /rekəˈmend/ verb 1. to suggest that someone should do something. 

recommending /rekəˈmendɪŋ/ noun recommending something from the past

reconciliation /rekənsˈliʃən/ noun 1. the bringing together of two people to become friends again. 2. making two accounts agree.  

reconciliation /rekənsˈliʃən/ noun 1, the bringing together of two people to become friends again. 2. making two accounts agree.  

reconcile /rekənˈsaɪl/ verb 1. to reconcile oneself to to accept. 2. to make two accounts agree.  

reconciliation /rekənsˈliʃən/ noun 1. the bringing together of two people to become friends again. 2. making two accounts agree.  

reconnaissance /rɪˈkɒnəsəns/ noun a survey of enemy territory to get military information. Synonym investigation

reconnoitre /rɪˈkɒnənt/ verb to make a survey of enemy territory to get military information, to make a reconnaissance (NOTE: The US spelling is reconnoiter.)

reconsider /rɪˈkɑːnsəd/ verb to think something over again. Synonym reassess

reconstruct /rɪˈkɒnstrʌkt/ verb 1. to construct something again. 2. The centre of the town was reconstructed using old photographs. 3. to work out how a crime must have been committed by taking all the known facts and using actors to play the parts of the people involved. 4. The police are trying to reconstruct the crime, in the hope that it will produce new evidence.

reconnaissance /rɪˈkɒnəsəns/ noun 1. the act of reconnoitring, of building again. 2. They're planning the reconstruction of the old fortress as a tourist attraction. 3. the economic reconstruction of the area after the earthquake. 4. This is not the original building, it's a modern reconstruction. 5. working out how a crime must have been committed by examining all known facts and using an actor to play the part of the victim, etc. 6. The police are hoping that the reconstruction of the crime will jog people's memories.

reconnect /rɪˈkɒnˈnekt/ verb to meet again

reconstruction /rɪˈkɒnstrʌkʃən/ noun 1. the act of reconstructing, of building again. 2. They're planning the reconstruction of the old fortress as a tourist attraction. 3. the economic reconstruction of the area after the earthquake. 4. This is not the original building, it's a modern reconstruction. 5. working out how a crime must have been committed by examining all known facts and using an actor to play the part of the victim, etc. 6. The police are hoping that the reconstruction of the crime will jog people's memories.

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The British economy staged a rapid recovery.

The vote was very close, so the loser asked for a recount.

All the votes had to be recounted.

The club needs new recruits.

They have sent teams to universities to recruit new graduates.

We expect to recoup our initial outlay within six months.

verb 1. to recover your losses to get back money which you thought you had lost ○ He’s still trying to recoup his losses on something very expensive.

○ We expect to recoup our initial outlay within six months.

noun 1. a truck that goes to find vehicles which have broken down and brings them back to the garage for repair

noun 1. a pleasant activity for your spare time ○ What is your favourite recreation?

○ Does she have any recreations other than going to bars in the evening?

noun 3. a public area with playgrounds for children and sports fields for adults

noun 1. blaming someone else for something. Synonym accusation. Antonym appeasement

noun 3. a new soldier or a new member of staff or member of a club ○ Recruits are not allowed in the officers’ mess.

noun 1. ○ The club needs new recruits.

noun 1. ○ We are recruiting new staff for our new store.

noun 2. ○ to recruit new staff to get new staff to join a company ○ We are recruiting new staff for our new store.

noun 1. ○ to recover from something to get well again after an illness ○ She is still recovering from flu.

○ You must work much harder if you want to recover the money you invested in your business.

○ She’s trying to recover damages from the driver of the car.

noun 3. to put a new cover on a piece of furniture ○ Instead of buying a new chair, I had the old one recovered.

noun 1. getting well again ○ She made a quick recovery and is now back at work.

○ The TV programme led to the recovery of all the stolen goods.

○ We are aiming for the complete recovery of the money invested.

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recuperate /rɪˈkjuːpərət/ verb to get better after an illness
recuperation /rɪˈkjuːpərəʃən/ noun getting better
recurr /rɪˈkɜːr/ verb to happen again. Antonym cease (NOTE: recurring – recurred)
recurrence /rɪˈkɜːrəns/ noun the action of happening again. Antonym cessation
recycle /rɪˈsɜːkl/ verb to process waste material so that it can be used again. Synonym reprocess. Antonym throw away
recycled paper /rɪˈsɜːklɪd/ paper made from waste paper
red /red/ adj 1. coloured like the colour of blood ○ She turned bright red when we asked her what had happened to the money. ○ Don’t start yet – the traffic lights are still red. 2. □ red hair hair which is a red, dish-orange colour ○ All their children have red hair and freckles. ○ Red-haired girls often wear green clothes. ■ noun 1. a colour like the colour of blood ○ I would like a darker red for the door. ○ Don’t start yet – the traffic lights are still on red. 2. □ in the red showing a loss ○ My bank account is in the red. ○ The company went into the red. 3. a red ball in billiards or snooker ○ He’s potted a red. 4. a red wine ○ A glass of house red, please. 5. a communist or socialist
red card /redˈkaːd/ noun a card displayed by the referee when dismissing a player for doing something against the rules
red carpet /redˈkɑːrpɪt/ noun a carpet put down when an important visitor comes
red channel /redˈʃænəl/ noun a way through customs for people with something to declare
Red Crescent /redˈkreɪ(ə)zn/ noun an organisation which provides medical help, the equivalent of the Red Cross in Muslim countries
red cross /redˈkruːs/ noun an international organisation which provides emergency medical help, and also relief to victims of disasters such as earthquakes and floods
redcurrant /redˈkærənt/ noun 1. a garden fruit in the form of little red berries ○ a jar of redcurrant jelly ○ The redcurrants need more sugar – they’re very sour. 2. the small bush this fruit grows on ○ I planted six redcurrants in the garden.
red deer /redˈdɪr/ noun the largest deer found in Britain
redden /rɪˈdən/ verb 1. to become red ○ The trees stood out dark against the reddening evening sky. ○ His eyes were reddened from lack of sleep. 2. to go red in the face because you are ashamed or embarrassed ○ She reddened slightly as he gave her a kiss. Synonym blush
reddish /ˈredəʃ/ adj rather red
redecorate /rɪˈdekəreɪt/ verb to decorate something again. Synonym revamp
redeem /rɪˈdiːm/ verb 1. to make something better than it seemed to be at first ○ The playing by the orchestra was redeemed by the singing of the soprano and tenor. 2. to get back something which you have pledged in order to borrow money ○ After we were paid I redeemed the ring from the pawnbroker. 3. to get in exchange ○ You can redeem this gift coupon for a free lunch. 4. to sell something for a cash payment ○ Bondholders with mature bonds must redeem them within three months. 5. □ to redeem a promise to do what you promised (formal) ○ We are still hoping that the government will redeem all its election promises. 6. to save from sin ○ Christians believe that they will be redeemed by Jesus Christ.
redeeming feature /rɪˈdiːmɪŋ/ noun something which makes something appear better than it seemed at first
reden /ˈrɪdɪn/ verb to define something again
redemption /rɪˈdempʃən/ noun 1. the action of redeeming a debt ○ The bond is due for redemption. 2. being saved from sin ○ to be beyond or past redemption to be so bad that it cannot be made better ○ I’m afraid those two boys are beyond redemption – they will have to be expelled from school. ○ My old jumper is beyond redemption, we’ll just have to throw it away.
reded /ˈrɪdɪd/ verb to use people or equipment in a different area or for a different activity
redesign /rɪˈdɛzn/ verb to design something again
reded /ˈrɪdɪd/ verb to improve a run down area by renovating old buildings and building new ones
red development /rɪˈdɛvəlmənt/ noun building new buildings in an area
red-handed /redˈhændɪd/ adj in the act of committing a crime
redhead /redˈhed/ noun a person with red hair
red herring /redˈhɛrɪŋ/ noun a piece of information which is not important, and is given to someone to distract attention from what is really important. Synonym decoy
red hot /redˈhɒt/ adj 1. (of metal) so hot that it is red ○ The bar of steel is red hot when it comes out of the furnace. 2. very hot ○ Watch out – that pan is red hot!
redial /rɪˈdɪəl/ verb to dial a number on a telephone again
redraw /ri/ˈdrɔ/ verb to draw something again (NOTE: redrawing – redraw – has redone) redouble /ri/ˈdubl/ verb to redouble your efforts to try even harder than before
red pepper /red ˈpepər/ noun 1. a ripe red fruit of a capsicum or pimento plant 2. a hot red spice made from powdered pimento peppers 3. Don't put too much red pepper into the soup.
red tape /red ˈteɪp/ noun compensation done to make up for something wrong 1. There is not much hope of getting any redress from his financial advisers. 2. verb to correct something or to compensate 3. They plan to redress the wrongs of society by taxing the rich. 4. to redress the balance to make something fair again 5. Last year I gave my daughter some money, so this year I'll give the same amount to my son to redress the balance.
red tape /red ˈteɪp/ noun official paperwork which takes a long time to complete (informal)
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red tape /red ˈte
re-enter

re-enter /’riːentər/ verb to enter something again.

re-entry /’riːentrɪ/ noun 1. the act of entering or joining an activity again 2. the entry into the Earth’s atmosphere by a spacecraft or missile returning from space.

re-establish /’rɛsɛstablɪʃ/ verb to set something up again.

re-examine /’rɛksɪmən/ verb to examine something again. Synonym reconsider

re-fit /’rɛfɪt/ verb 1. same as referee 2. same as reference. □ your ref: a way of referring to the number on the letter which you have received, when replying to it or our ref: giving a reference number to a letter you are writing.

refectory /’rɛfɛktɔri/ noun an eating hall in an institution like a monastery or a school.

Synonym cafeteria

referee /’rɛfɛri/ noun 1. (in sports) a person who supervises a game, making sure that it is played according to the rules. When fighting broke out between the players, the referee stopped the match. ○ The referee sent several players off. 2. a person who gives a report on your character and ability. She gave the name of her former boss as a referee. ○ When applying please give the names of three referees. □ verb to act as a referee in a sports match. ○ There’s no one to referee the match this afternoon.

reference /’rɛfɛrəns/ noun 1. an act of mentioning something or someone. She made a reference to her brother-in-law. ○ The report made no reference to the bank.

Synonym mention □ with reference to concerning, about. ○ With reference to your letter of May 25th, 2. a direction for further information. ○ There are bibliographic references at the back of the book. 3. a report on someone’s character and ability. ○ We ask all applicants to supply references. □ to take up references to get in touch with referees to see what they think of the person applying for a job. When she applied for the job we took up her references and found they were not as good as we had hoped.

piece of writing or speaking. ◊ to give a reference. ◊ He gave my name as a reference.

Please use me as a reference if you wish.

reference book /’rɛfɛrəns bʊk/ noun a book, such as a dictionary or an encyclopedia, where you can look for information.

reference library /’rɛfɛrəns ’laɪbrəri/ noun a library with reference books, where readers can search for information but not take the books away from the library.

referendum /’rɛfɛrəndʌm/ noun a vote where all the people of a country are asked to vote on a single question. (NOTE: The plural is referenda or referendums.)

referral /’rɛfɛrəl/ noun passing a problem on to someone else for a decision.

refill /’rɛfɪl/ 1. a container with a fresh quantity of liquid. ◊ I must get a refill for my cigarette lighter. ○ Liquid soap is sold in handy refill packs. 2. another drink. ○ Your glass is empty – can I get you a refill? □ verb /’rɛfɪl/ to fill something again. ○ The waiter refilled our glasses. ○ We stopped twice to refill the car on the way to Scotland.

Synonym replenish. Antonym empty.

refinance /’rɛfɪnɑːns/ verb to extend a loan by replacing it with a new one.

refine /’rɛfnaɪn/ verb 1. to make something more pure. Juice from sugar cane is refined by boiling. 2. to make something better. ○ The process needs to be further refined before we can introduce it nationally.

The company needs to refine its sales techniques.

□ to refine upon to make something even better. ○ We hope to refine upon our existing production methods.

refined /’rɛfnd/ adj 1. which has been made pure. ○ white refined sugar. 2. very elegant and polite. ○ In refined society, you don’t slurp your soup.

refinement /’rɛfnaɪmənt/ noun 1. elegance. ○ The drawing room of the old house gives an idea of the refinement of life in the 18th century. 2. improvement. ○ The latest model has various refinements which the earlier models lacked. ○ This is a refinement of our previous word-processing program.

refinery /’rɛfənərɪ/ noun a plant where raw material, such as ore, oil or sugar is processed to remove impurities. (NOTE: The plural is refineries.)

refill /’rɛfɪl/ 1. complete repairs. ○ The liner has gone into dock for a refit. Synonym

overhaul □ verb /’rɛfɪl/ to fit out a shop, a factory, an office or a ship again. ○ The shop is closed for refitting. ○ The MD has had his office refitted with dark blue furniture. (NOTE: refitting – refitted)

reflate /’rɛflɛt/ verb to refl ate the economy to stimulate the economy by increasing the money supply or by reducing taxes. ○ The government’s attempts to refl ate the economy have so far proved singularly unsuccessful.
reflaction /riˈfleʃ(ə)n/ noun the act of stimulating the economy by increasing the money supply or by reducing taxes. Synonym expansion. Antonym deflation

reflect /ˈreflikt/ verb 1. to send back light, heat or an image of something ○ The light reflected on the top of the car. ○ White surfaces reflect light better than dark ones. ○ A picture of snow-capped mountains reflected in a clear blue lake. 2. to show something ○ Her expression reflected her feeling of happiness. 3. to reflect on something to think carefully about something ○ He reflected that this was the sixth time he had been arrested for speeding. ○ When you reflect on the events of the past few days, you realise the truth of the saying that ‘pride goes before a fall’. 4. to reflect badly on someone to show someone in a bad way ○ The news reflects badly on the way the manager runs his department.

reflective /ˈrefliktɪv/ adj 1. thoughtful ○ The poem was written when the poet was in a reflective mood. 2. which reflects ○ Cyclists should wear reflective armbands when cycling in the dark.

reflex /ˈrefliks/ noun an automatic reaction to something ○ The doctor tested his reflexes by tapping on his knee with a little hammer. ○ By stopping the car when the little girl ran into the road she showed how good her reflexes were. (NOTE: The plural is reflexes.)

reflex action /ˈrefliks əkˈʃən/ noun an automatic reaction to a stimulus, such as a sneeze after sniffing pepper

reflex angle /ˈrefliks ˈæŋɡəl/ noun an angle of more than 180°

reflex camera /ˈrefliks ˈkæmərə/ noun a camera where the picture is reflected from the lens to the viewfinder exactly as it will appear on the photograph

reflexive /ˈrefliksəv/ adj (in grammar) a verb or pronoun which refers back to the subject

reflexive verb /ˈrefliksəv vərβ/ noun (in grammar) a transitive verb whose subject and object both refer to the same person or thing

reflexology /ˈrefliksəlɒdʒi/ noun a treatment to relieve tension by massaging the soles of the feet and toes to stimulate the nerves and increase the blood supply

reform /ˈrefərm/ noun the act of changing something to make it better ○ The government is planning a series of reforms to benefit systems. ○ verb 1. to change something; to make something better ○ They want to reform the educational system. 2. to stop committing crimes or to change your habits to become good ○ After her time in prison she became a reformed character. ○ He used to drink a lot, but since he got married he has reformed.

reforestation /ˌrefərˈmeʃən/ noun a great change for the better ○ the reformation of the prison system

reformation /ˌrefərˈmeʃən/ noun a religious movement in 16th-century Europe which led to the setting up of the Protestant Church

reformer /ˌrefərˈmər/ noun a person who tries to make something better. Antonym conservative

reformist /ˈrefərmɪst/ adj in favour of making reforms ○ the reformist Prime Minister

refrigerate /ˈrefrɪdʒərət/ verb to keep food cold so that it will not go bad. Antonym heat

refrigerator /ˈrefrɪdʒərətər/ noun an electrical kitchen apparatus which is for keeping food and drink cold ○ There’s some cold orange juice in the refrigerator. ○ Milk will keep for several days in a refrigerator.
refuel /riːˈfjuːl/ verb to put more fuel into a ship, plane, car or other vehicle. Synonym refill (NOTE: refueling – refuelled. The US spelling is refueling – refueled.)

refuge /rɛˈfjʊɡ/ noun a place of safety or shelter □ to seek refuge to try to find shelter □ During the fighting, they sought refuge in the British embassy. □ to take refuge to shelter □ When the tornado approached, they took refuge in the cellar. □ We took refuge from the rain under a covered bus shelter.

refugee /rɛˈfjʊɡi/ noun a person who has left his country because of war or religious or political persecution

refund /rɪˈfənd/ noun /ˈrɛfn/ verb to make something like new. Synonym renovate

refurbish /rɪˈfɜ:bʃ/ verb to make something like new. Synonym renovate

refurbishment /rɪˈfɜ:bmənt/ noun the act of making like new.

refusals /rɪˈfjuːzəlz/ noun 1. saying that you do not accept something □ His refusal to help was unexpected. □ Did you accept? – No! I sent a letter of refusal. □ to meet with a flat refusal to be refused completely □ His request met with a flat refusal. 2. □ to give someone first refusal of something □ to let someone have first choice of buying something when it is being sold □ I asked him if I could have first refusal of his flat if ever he decided to sell it.

refuse verb /rɪˈfjuːz/ 1. to say that you will not do something □ His father refused to lend him any more money. □ the car refused to start the car would not start 2. not to allow something to happen □ He asked for permission to see his family, but it was refused. □ noun refusals/ rubbish and things which are not wanted □ Please put all refuse in the bin. □ Refuse collection on our road is on Thursdays. (NOTE: no plural)

refutation /rɪˈfjuːʃən/ noun a proof that something is wrong. Synonym repudiation

refute /rɪˈfjʊt/ verb 1. to prove that something is wrong. □ He has tried to refute Einstein’s theory. 2. to show that something is untrue □ He refuted her allegations completely.

regain /riˈɡɛn/ verb to get something back which was lost □ to regain consciousness to become conscious again □ She went into a coma and never regained consciousness.

regal /rɪˈgæl/ adj 1. referring to a king or queen □ the regal splendour of the state opening of parliament 2. suitable for a king or queen □ They offered us a truly regal banquet.

regard /rɪˈgɑːrd/ noun 1. concern for someone or something □ with regard to relating to □ With regard to your request for extra funds. 2. an opinion of someone □ He is held in high regard by his staff. □ regards best wishes □ She sends her (kind) regards. □ Please give my regards to your mother. □ to regard someone or something as to consider someone or something to be □ The police are regarding the case as attempted murder. 2. to have an opinion about someone □ She is highly regarded by the manager. 3. as regards relating to, concerning □ As regards the cost of the trip, I’ll let you know soon what the final figure is.

regarding /rɪˈgɑːrdɪŋ/ prep relating to, concerning □ He left instructions regarding his possessions. □ Regarding your offer, I think we will have to say no.

regardless /rɪˈɡɑːdəls/ adv without paying any attention to. Synonym anyway □ to carry on regardless to continue in spite of everything □ Although the temperature was well over 40°C, they carried on working regardless. □ regardless of in spite of □ They drove through the war zone regardless of the danger. □ regardless of expense without thinking of how much it would cost.

regatta /rɪˈɡætə/ noun a sporting event where rowing boats or sailing boats race

regency /rɪˈdʒensi/ noun a period of government by a regent □ During the regency the power was in the hands of the regent and his family. Regency /rɪˈdʒensi/ noun (in British history) the period from 1810 to 1820 when the Prince of Wales was Prince Regent.

regenerate /rɪˈdʒenrət/ verb 1. to start something up again □ The TV programme has regenerated interest in South America. 2. to make something grow strong again □ We hope to regenerate the area by offering grants to new industries. □ After a fire a forest will regenerate itself very quickly. Synonym revive

regent /rɪˈdʒɛnt/ noun a person who governs in place of a king or queen who is a child or is ill

reggae /rɪˈɡeɪ/ noun a type of West Indian music

regiment /rɪˈdʒɪmənt/ noun a group of soldiers, usually commanded by a colonel or lieutenant-colonel
registration /red'ʒɪstrə/ noun the act of registering
registration number /red'ʒɪstrə'nʌmbə/ noun the official number of a car
registration plate /red'ʒɪstrə'pleɪt/ noun same as number plate (Note: The US term is license plate.)
registrar /red'ʒɪstrəri/ noun a place where official records are kept
registrar office /red'ʒɪstrərəʊs/ noun an office where records of births, marriages and deaths are kept and where you can be married in a civil ceremony
regress /ri'gres/ verb to return to an earlier stage or condition
regression /ri'gres(ə)n/ noun going back to an earlier stage
regret /rɪ'ɡreɪt/ noun being sorry. I have absolutely no regrets about what we did.
regrettful /rɪ'ɡretf(ə)l/ adjective sorry or sad
regrettable /rɪ'ɡretəbl/ adjective which must be regretted. Antonym fortunate
regroup /rɪ'grʊp/ verb to form groups again
regular /'redʒʊlər/ adjective 1. done at the same time each day. His regular train is the 12,45. 2. The regular flight to Athens leaves at 06.00. 3. A regular customer is one who always buys from the same shop. He's a regular customer, you don't need to ask for proof of identity. 2. The regular price is £1.25, but we are offering them at 99p. 3. Regular size is the ordinary size of goods, smaller than sizes like economy size or family size. Just buy a regular size packet, it will be enough for the two of us.
regular army /'redʒɪlər/ adjective permanent professional army
regular officer /'redʒɪlər/ noun professional officer
regular soldier /'redʒɪlər/ adjective professional soldier, as opposed to a conscript. 1. A customer who always goes to the same shop or who drinks in the same pub. 2. The regulars were very sorry when the old landlord retired.

regimental
regimental /redʒɪ'ment(ə)l/ adjective belonging to a regiment
regimented /redʒɪ'mentɪd/ adjective strictly or strictly kept under strict discipline
region /redʒɪ'n/ noun 1. a large administrative area. The South-West region is well known for its apples. 2. the London region the area around London. 3. in the region of about or approximately. He is earning a salary in the region of £25,000. 4. The house was sold for a price in the region of £200,000.
regional /redʒɪ'nəl/ adjective referring to a region. The recession has not affected the whole country – it is only regional. 2. After the national news, here is the regional news for the South-West. Synonym local Antonym national
register /redʒɪstreɪ/ noun 1. a list of names. I can't find your name in the register. 2. A book in which you sign your name. She registered the letter. 3. (in printing) making sure that two images are printed correctly. The red is out of register.
registered /redʒɪstəd/ adjective which has been noted on an official list. 2. a registered trademark. 3. a registered office which same as registry office
registrar /redʒɪstrə/ noun 1. a person who keeps official records. 2. The registrar of births, marriages and deaths. 3. The registrar of a university. 4. A qualified doctor or surgeon in a hospital who supervises house doctors. She's a registrar at our local hospital.

Temperatures of over 50° were registered. He didn't seem to register. His face registered anger and pain.

We regret to inform you that the tour has been cancelled. (Note: regretting – regretted)
regular income

professional soldier ○ The base is manned by regulars from the Paratroop Regiment.

regular income /ˈrɛɡjələr ɪnmən/ noun income which comes in every week or month

regularise /ˈrɛɡjʊlərɪzaɪz/, regularize verb to make an existing situation official. Synonym standardise

regularity /ˈrɛɡjʊlərɪti/ noun being regular

regularly /ˈrɛɡjʊlərli/ adv in a regular way ○ She is regularly the first person to arrive at the office each morning.

regular noun /ˈrɛɡjʊlər nəʊn/ noun (in grammar) a noun with a regular pattern of inflections

regular verb /ˈrɛɡjʊlər vərbi/ noun (in grammar) a verb with a regular pattern of inflections

regulate /ˈrɛɡjʊleɪt/ verb 1. to adjust a machine so that it works in a certain way ○ The heater needs to be regulated to keep the temperature steady. ○ Turn this knob to regulate the volume. ○ Her heartbeat is regulated by the pacemaker. 2. to maintain something by law ○ Speed on the motorway is strictly regulated.

regulation /ˌrɛɡjʊleɪʃən/ noun the act of regulating ○ The greenhouse is fitted with an automatic heat regulation system. ○ the regulation of the body’s temperature by sweating

regulation uniform /ˌrɛɡjʊleɪʃən juːnɪˈfɔrm/ noun a uniform worn according to regulations

regulator /ˈrɛɡjʊleɪtər/ noun 1. a person whose job it is to see that regulations are followed in an industry ○ The industry regulator makes sure that the rules are followed to the letter. 2. an instrument which regulates a machine ○ This lorry is fitted with a speed regulator.

rehab /rɪːˈheɪb/ noun the process of curing someone of an addiction to drugs or alcohol

rehabilitate /rɪˈheɪbəlɪteɪt/ verb 1. to train a disabled person or an ex-prisoner to lead a normal life and fit into society ○ Prisoners need special training in order to be rehabilitated. 2. to cure someone of an addiction to drugs or alcohol

rehabilitation /rɪˈheɪbəlɪteɪʃən/ noun the act of rehabilitating

rehash noun /rɪˈheɪʃən/ a book, article, or other work which is more or less the same as something written or made earlier ○ His speech was just a rehash of some old arguments and had nothing new in it. ■ verb /rɪˈheɪʃ/ to bring out an old story, book, idea, or other work in more or less the same form as before ○ Her recent article just rehashed the same themes as her book. Synonym rework

rehearsal /ˈrɛhərsəl/ noun a practice of a play or concert before the first public performance. ■ dress rehearsal

rehearse /rɪˈhɛərɪz/ verb to practise a play or a concert before a public performance

reheat /rɪˈhiːt/ verb to heat something again

rehouse /rɪˈhauz/ verb to move somebody to other, often better, housing

reign /reɪn/ noun a period when a king, queen or emperor rules ○ during the reign of Elizabeth I ■ verb 1. to rule ○ Queen Victoria reigned between 1837 and 1901. ○ She reigned during a period of great prosperity. 2. to be in existence ○ Chaos reigned when the town’s electricity supply broke down. (NOTE: Do not confuse with rain, rein.)

reigning /rɪˈrɛɪnɪŋ/ adj 1. who is on the throne ○ the reigning monarch 2. ○ reigning champion a person who is champion until someone beats him ○ I don’t think he has any chance of winning, as his opponent is the reigning heavyweight champion.

reign of terror /rɪˈrɛɪn ov ˈtɛrər/ noun a period when law and order have broken down and people live in a continual state of fear

reimburse /rɪˈrɪmbɜːs/ verb 1. to reimburse someone for his or her expenses to pay someone back for money he or she has spent (formal) ○ You will be reimbursed for your expenses or your expenses will be reimbursed.

reimbursement /rɪˈrɪmbɜːsmənt/ noun paying back money. Synonym repayment

rein /rɛɪn/ noun 1. a strap which the rider holds to control a horse ○ She walked beside the horse holding the reins. ○ The rider pulled hard on the reins to try to make the horse stop. 2. □ to keep something on a tight rein to control something strictly ○ Unless you keep your expenses on a tight rein, you’ll have problems. ■ verb □ to rein back or in to keep under control ○ The leader of the opposition tried to rein his supporters who wanted to attack the President’s palace.

reincarnation /ˌrɪnɪkərˈneɪʃən/ noun 1. a person’s soul born again in another body or animal after death ○ The ancient Egyptians believed that the soul was the reincarnation of the god Horus. 2. the reappearance of someone in another form ○ His latest reincarnation was as an insurance salesman.

reindeer /rɪˈrɪndər/ noun a type of deer which lives in the Arctic (NOTE: The plural is reindeer.)

reinforce /rɪˈrɪnfərs/ verb to make something stronger or more solid

reinforced concrete /rɪˈrɪnfɔːstən kəŋkrɪt/ noun concrete strengthened with metal rods
...been thrown away as not satisfactory.


3. To throw something away as not satisfactory.

4. The reissue of the book in paperback.

5. He had a relapse and had to put something back into a job from which he or she was dismissed.

6. To make someone young again.

7. To give something new vigour and strength.

8. To make some- thing happen again. Antonym kill.

9. Becoming worse after seeming to be better.

10. To give or with the wealth someone used to have or with the wealth someone used to have.

11. To understand someone and be related to someone; a member of a family.

12. To relate to someone.

13. Is there any relation between his appointment as MD and the fact that his uncle owns the business?

14. To relate to or connected with.

15. In relation to referring to or connected with.

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206. To relate to something.

207. To relate to or connected with.
relativity /rel'tayviti/ noun (in physics) the relationship between objects, time, distance, and speed. 1. Einstein’s Theory of Relativity the theory that time, movement, and space are relative and not absolute. 2. a shift is usually composed of groups of workers who work in relays. 3. All messages are relayed through this office. 4. The sales manager is completely reliable. Antonym unreliable reliably /ra'lebl/ adverb in a way which can be trusted. 1. an object which has something left over from the past. 2. parts of the body or possessions of a holy person, such as the bones of a saint. 3. hormone into the bloodstream. 4. the release of prisoners from jail. 5. The customs released the goods after we paid a fine. 6. Cross is organising relief for the flood victims. 7. The Red Cross is organising relief for the flood victims.
relief map 711

remark mark

relief map /rɪˈliːf məp/ noun a map where height is shown by colour, so mountains are brown and plains are green

relief road /rɪˈliːf rʊd/ noun a road built to help reduce traffic congestion

relieve /rɪˈliːv/ verb 1. to make a pain or illness better ○ He took aspirins to relieve the pain.
2. Symptoms of hayfever can be relieved by taking antihistamines.
3. to relieve yourself to urinate or defecate (formal) ○ He stopped by the roadside to relieve himself.
4. People complained about drunken football fans relieving themselves in the street.
5. to make a bad situation better ○ It’s an agency which tries to relieve famine.
6. to take over from someone ○ You can go and have something to eat – I’m here to relieve you.
7. to move a difficult job from someone ○ Let me relieve you of some of this work.

relocated /rɪˈləʊktid/ verb glad to be rid of a problem. Antonym worried

religion /rɪˈlɪdʒən/ noun 1. a belief in gods or in God ○ Does their religion help them to lead a good life?
2. It is against my religion to eat meat on Fridays.
3. a particular faith ○ the Greek Orthodox religion
4. religious /rɪˈlɪdʒəs/ adjective ○ referring to religion ○ There is a period of religious study every morning.
5. having a strong belief in God ○ She’s very religious – she goes to church every day.

religiously /rɪˈlɪdʒəli/ adverb regularly and carefully, like a religious ritual

relinquish /rɪˈlɪnkwɪʃ/ verb to leave or to let go of something. Synonym give up

relish /rɪˈlɪʃ/ noun 1. spicy pickles or spicy sauce ○ Eat your sausages with mustard or relish.
2. enjoyment ○ She argued with him with great relish.

relish /rɪˈlɪʃ/ verb to enjoy something ○ I don’t relish having to take my exam again.

relive /rɪˈlɪv/ verb to go through something again, especially in your mind

relocate /rɪˈləʊkeɪt/ verb to move an office, factory or staff to a different place

reluctant /rɪˈlʌktənt/ adjective ○ reluctant to not eager to, not willing to ○ He was reluctant to go into the water because it looked cold.

reluctantly /rɪˈlʌktəntli/ adverb not willingly ○ rely on ○ to rely on

remain /rɪˈmɛn/ verb 1. to stay ○ We expect it will remain fine for the rest of the week.
2. She remained behind at the office to finish her work.
3. to be left ○ Half the food remained uneaten and had to be thrown away.
4. ○ After the accident not much remained of the car.
5. It remains to be seen whether she’s ever going to be able to walk again.

remainder /rɪˈməʊndər/ noun what is left ○ after everything or everyone else has gone ○ What shall we do for the remainder of the holidays?
2. ○ After the bride and groom left, the remainder of the party stayed in the hotel to have supper.

remake /rɪˈmeɪk/ verb ○ to have something remade to get someone to make something again ○ The kitchen units didn’t fit, so we had to have them remade.

remains /rɪˈmeɪnz/ plural noun 1. things left over or left behind ○ The remains of the evening meal were left on the table until the next morning.
2. ○ We’re trying to save the Roman remains from total obliteration by the construction company.
3. ○ the body of a dead person ○ The emperor’s remains were buried in the cathedral.

remake /rɪˈmeɪk/ verb ○ to have something remade to get someone to make something again ○ The kitchen units didn’t fit, so we had to have them remade.

remind /rɪˈmænd/ verb sending a prisoner away for a time when a case is adjourned to be heard at a later date ○ prisoner on remand, remand prisoner prisoner who has been told to come back to the court at a later date ○ The court ordered the prisoner to be kept on remand.
2. ○ A large proportion of the prisoners in this jail are remand prisoners.
3. ○ verb, to send a prisoner away to reappear later to answer a case which has been adjourned ○ he was remanded in custody or remanded on bail for two weeks was sent to prison or allowed to go free on payment of bail while waiting to return to court two weeks later, US to send a case back to a lower court

remand centre /rɪˈmænd ˌsentə/ noun a prison where prisoners on remand are held

remark /rɪˈmɑrk/ noun a comment ○ I heard his remark even if he spoke in a low voice.
2. ○ to make or pass remarks about to make sharp or rude comments about ○ She made some remarks about the dirty tablecloth.

remainders /rɪˈməʊndəz/ plural noun new books which are sold off cheaply because they are not selling well

remaining /rɪˈmɛnɪŋ/ adjective which is left ○ remains ○ rɪˈmɛnz plural noun 1. things left over or left behind ○ The remains of the evening meal were left on the table until the next morning.
2. ○ We’re trying to save the Roman remains from total obliteration by the construction company.
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remake /rɪˈmeɪk/ verb ○ to have something remade to get someone to make something again ○ The kitchen units didn’t fit, so we had to have them remade.

remodelling /rɪˈmɑrdʒɪlɪŋ/ noun a new film with the same story as an old film ○ They’re planning yet another remake of ‘David Copperfield’

removal /rɪˈmɑrvəl/ noun a comment ○ I heard his remark even if he spoke in a low voice.
2. ○ to make or pass remarks about to make sharp or rude comments about ○ She made some remarks about the dirty tablecloth.

remained of the car.
remarkable /'remærkəbl/ adj very unusual. She’s a remarkable woman. It’s remarkable that the bank has not asked us to pay back the money. Synonym extraordinary. Antonym ordinary

remarkably /'remærkəbli/ adv unusually

remarry /ri:'məri/ verb to marry again

remedial /ri:'miːdiəl/ adj which cures or which makes something better. Synonym corrective.

remedy /'remiːdi/ noun 1. a thing which may cure. It’s an old remedy for hay fever. 2. a solution to a problem. There’s no easy remedy for their financial problems. (NOTE: The plural is remedies.) verb to correct something, to make something better. Tell me what’s wrong and I’ll try to remedy it right away.

remember /'remembre/ verb 1. to bring back into your mind something which you have seen or heard before. Do you remember when we lost the fog? My grandmother can remember seeing the first television programmes. She remembered seeing it on the dining-room table. She can’t remember where she put her umbrella. Don’t remember having been in this hotel before. She remembers my grandmother very well. It’s strange that I can never remember my father’s birthday. Did you remember to switch off the kitchen light? (NOTE: You remember doing something which you did in the past, you remember to do something in the future.) 2. to ask someone to pass your good wishes to someone. Please remember me to your father when you see him next.

remembrance /'remembrəns/ noun memory

Remembrance Day /ri:'membrənsdʒi:/ noun November 11th, or the nearest Sunday, celebrating the end of the First World War and remembering the dead of both World Wars. Also called Armistice Day, Poppy Day.

remind /ri:'mænd/ verb 1. to make someone remember something. Now that you’ve reminded me, I do remember seeing him last week. Remind me to book the tickets for New York. She reminded him that the meeting had to finish at 6.30. 2. to remind someone of to make someone think of something or someone. Do you know what this reminds me of? She reminds me of her mother.

reminder /ri:'mændər/ noun 1. a thing which reminds you of something. He tied a knot in his handkerchief as a reminder of what he had to do. Keep this picture as a reminder of happier days. 2. a letter to remind a customer to do something. We had a reminder from the gas company that we hadn’t paid the bill.

reminisce /'remənsaɪl/ verb to talk about memories of the past.

reminiscence /'remənsəns/ noun a memory of something from the past (formal).

reminiscent /'remənasnt/ adj which reminds you of the past. Synonym suggestive.

remission /'remɪʃn/ noun 1. a reduction of a prison sentence. He was sentenced to five years, but should only serve three with remission. He earned remission for good behaviour. 2. a period when an illness is less severe. The cancer is in remission.

remittance /'remɪˈtənt/ noun money which is sent to someone.

remnant /'remnænt/ noun a quantity or piece left over. Synonym remainder.

remain /ri:'men/ verb (formal) to remain with someone. to reason with someone to reason with someone about something they have done.

remonstrate /ri'mənˈstreɪt/ verb (formal) to remonstrate with someone. to reason.

remote /ri:'mɔt/ adj. far away. The hotel is situated in a remote mountain village.

remote control /ri:'mɔt kənˈtrəʊl/ noun a device which controls a model plane or a TV by radio signals.
rent /rɛnt/ noun 1. taking something or someone away ◦ the removal of the ban on importing computers ◦ Refuse collectors are responsible for the removal of household waste. ◦ The opposition called for the removal of the Foreign Secretary. 2. moving to a new house, new office, etc.

removal van /rɛmuːvəl/ van/ noun a van which takes your furniture from one house to another

render /rɛndə/ verb 1. distant from or different from 2. not closely related render van /rɛmuːvəl/ van/ noun a van which takes your furniture from one house to another ◦ remove /rɪˈmjuːv/ verb to take something away ◦ You can remove his name from the mailing list. ◦ The waitress removed the dirty plates and brought us some tea.

render /rɛndə/ verb to pay someone for their work

render /rɛndə/ verb to tear something to pieces (NOTE: rend)

renamed /rɪˈneɪmd/ adj 1. very famous ◦ the renowned Italian conductor ◦ Rome is renowned as the centre of Catholicism. 2. renowned for famous for something ◦ She's renowned for her rendering of the popular wartime song. ◦ The choir's rendering of the Beethoven Mass was criticised. 2. a mixture of cement and fine sand used to cover the outside of a house ◦ The rendering is beginning to flake off and needs redoing.

rendezvous /rɛndəvjuː/ noun an appointment or meeting; a place where a meeting takes place ◦ He arranged a rendezvous with her. ◦ verb to arrange to meet, or to meet someone ◦ You go north, and we'll go west and we'll all rendezvous at the camp at 16.00. (NOTE: rendezvous /rɛndəvjuː/)

rendition /rɛndɪˈʃən/ noun a performance of a song, etc.

renegade /rɛnɪˈɡeɪd/ noun a person who leaves a religion, group or party and joins another. Antonym loyalist

reneged /rɪˈnɛg/ verb to renege on not to do something which you had promised to do (formal) ◦ He reneged on his promise to pay half the costs. ◦ I was furious when he reneged on the deal.

renew /rɪˈnjuː/ verb 1. to start something again ◦ Renew your efforts and don't lose hope. 2. to replace something old with something new ◦ We need to renew the wiring in the kitchen. 3. to continue something for a further period of time ◦ Don't forget to renew your insurance policy. ◦ to renew a subscription to pay a subscription for another year ◦ I don't think I'll renew my subscription to the magazine.

renewed /rɪˈnjuːd/ adj 1. which can be renewed ◦ The season ticket is renewable for a further year. 2. which can be replaced, which can renew itself ◦ renewable sources of energy such as solar power, and power from wind or water renewable /rɪˈnjuːəb(ə)l/ adj 1. which can be replaced, which can renew itself ◦ renewable sources of energy such as solar power, and power from wind or water renewable /rɪˈnjuːəb(ə)l/ adj 1. which can be replaced, which can renew itself ◦ renewable sources of energy such as solar power, and power from wind or water renewal /rɪˈnjuːəl/ noun the act of renewing ◦ the subscription is up for renewal the subscription needs to be renewed renewed /rɪˈnjuːd/ adj continuing with new energy, strength or enthusiasm renounced /rɪˈnɔːnd/ verb to give up a right or a claim ◦ She renounced her claim to the property. 2. to state publicly that you are going to stop believing in something or are not going to behave in a certain way ◦ The government has renounced the use of force in dealing with international terrorists. ◦ They called on the extremists to renounce violence.

renovate /rɛnəˈveɪt/ verb to make a building like new again. Antonym wear out renovation /rɛnəˈveɪʃən/ noun making a building like new again

renown /rɪˈnɔːn/ noun being famous. Antonym obscurity

renewal /rɪˈnjuːəl/ noun 1. very famous ◦ the renowned Italian conductor ◦ Rome is renowned as the centre of Catholicism. 2. renowned for famous for something ◦ She's...
rent

renowned for being late. □ a shop renowned for the quality of its products
□ rent /rɛnt/ noun 1. money paid to live in a flat or house or to use an office or car □ Rents are high in the centre of the town. □ The landlord asked me to pay three months’ rent in advance. 2. a tear or hole in material. □ verb 1. to pay money to use a house, flat, office or car □ He rents an office in the centre of town. □ He rented a villa by the beach for three weeks. 2. □ to rent out to let someone use a house, office, flat, etc., for money □ We rented (out) one floor of our building to an American company.

rental /rɛntəl/ noun rent, money paid to use a room, flat, office, car, etc.

renunciation /renʌŋʃən/ noun the giving up, especially of a claim (formal)

reopen /rɪˈɔpen/ verb 1. to open again □ The shop will reopen next week after a refit. 2. (of the police) to start to investigate a case again □ The case has been reopened because a new witness has come forward.

reorganisation /rɪˈɔɡənaɪʃən/ noun the act of reorganising.

Synonym reform

reorganise /rɪˈɔɡənaɪzə/ reorganize verb to organise something in a new way.

Synonym regroup

rep /rɛp/ noun 1. a salesman who visits clients, trying to sell them something □ They have vacancies for reps in the north of the country. □ We have a reps’ meeting every three months. Also called representative 2. a theatre with a permanent group of actors who play a series of plays, changing them at regular intervals □ The local rep is doing ‘Henry V’ this week. Also called repertory theatre.

rep /rɛp/ verb 1. mending something which is broken or has been damaged □ His car is in the garage for repair. □ The hotel is closed while they are carrying out repairs to the air-conditioning system. 2. □ to be in a good state of repair or in good repair to be in good condition □ This car is still in a very good state of repair, I won’t change it yet. □ verb to mend something, to make something work which is broken or damaged □ I dropped my watch on the pavement, and I don’t think it can be repaired. □ She’s trying to repair the washing machine.

□ The photocopier is being repaired. Synonym mend. Antonym damage

repairer /rɪˈpɛrər/ noun a person who mends things

repair shop /rɪˈpɛr/ noun a small factory where machines are repaired

reparation /ˌreɪpərəˈʃən/ noun something which makes up for a wrong

repairs /ˌreɪpərɪz/ plural noun money paid by a defeated enemy after a war to make up for destruction caused and wrongs committed

repast /rɪˈpæst/ noun a meal (literary)

repatriate /rɪˈpætriət/ verb to bring or to send someone back to their home country

repatriation /rɪˈpætriəʃən/ noun the action of repatriating

repay /rɪˈpeɪ/ verb 1. to pay back □ I’ll try to repay what I owe you next month. □ Thank you for your help – I hope to be able to repay you one day. □ He repaid me in full he paid me back all the money he owed me. □ to be worth □ it will repay close scrutiny it would be worth looking at it carefully

repayment /rɪˈpeɪmənt/ noun paying back □ mortgage repayments the instalments paid back on a mortgage □ He fell behind with his mortgage repayments. □ My mortgage repayments have increased this month.

repeat /rɪˈpiːt/ verb officially ending a law, so that it is no longer valid □ MPs are pressing for the repeal of the Immigration Act.

repel /rɛpəl/ verb to drive back an attack □ The army easily repelled the invaders. 2. to drive something away □ The paint has an ingredient that repels water. □ She sprayed the kitchen with a spray to repel flies. 3. to be so unpleasant that it drives people away □ The noise repelled me so much that I could not finish my meal. (NOTE: repelling – repelled)

repellent /rɛpələnt/ adjective which drives people away, which repels (formal) □ The colour of the bathroom is really repellent. □ the repellent smell coming from the drains. Synonym disgusting. Antonym delightful

repent /rɪˈpent/ verb to be very sorry for what you have done, or for what you have not done. Synonym regret

repentance /rɪˈpentəns/ noun a great regret for something you have done
repentant /re'pentənt/ adj full of regret for what you have done. Synonym regretful. Antonym unrepentant

repercussions /ri'pərəspənəs/ plural noun a result or effect, usually unpleasant ○ The government decision on pensions will have widespread repercussions. ○ The BBC is trying to deal with the repercussions of the critical programme on India.

repertoire /rep'ətəri/ noun 1. the plays, songs or pieces of music which someone has learned ○ She has an extensive repertoire, covering most of the important soprano roles. 2. the works, such as plays or operas, which a theatre company has ready for performance ○ We have added two plays by Noel Coward to our repertoire.

repetition /ri'petəʃən/ noun 1. the act of repeating, of saying the same thing again ○ The constant repetition of the song made sure we all knew it by heart. 2. a thing which is repeated ○ She simply gave a repetition of the arguments she had used at the previous meeting. ○ The police will try to prevent a repetition of the ugly scenes at the football ground.

repetitive /ri'petətiv/ adj which is repeated very frequently and is boring

repetitive strain injury /ri'petətiv strain injəri/ noun a pain in the arm felt by someone who performs the same movement many times, such as when operating a computer terminal or playing a musical instrument. Abbr RSI

rephrase /ri'frepəz/ verb to say something again, but in a different way. Synonym restate

replace /ri'pleis/ verb 1. to put something back where it was before ○ Please replace the books correctly on the shelves. 2. to replace something with something else ○ to replace something ○ to replace something with something else ○ are We are replacing all our permanent staff with freelancers. ○ The washing machine needs replacing.

replaceable /ri'pleisəbl/ adj which can be replaced (NOTE: not replaceable means the same as irreplaceable)

replacement /ri'pleisment/ noun 1. replacing something with something else ○ The mechanics recommended the replacement of the hand pump with an electric model. ○ The republican movement would like to see the replacement of the king by a president. 2. a thing which is used to replace something ○ An electric motor was bought as a replacement for the old one.

replacement parts spare parts of an engine used to replace parts which have worn out ○ a person who replaces someone ○ My assistant leaves us next week, so we are advertising for a replacement.

replay noun /ri'plei/ a match which is played again because the first match was a draw ○ They drew 2–2 so there will be a replay next week.

deplete /di'pli:t/ verb to fill something up again. Synonym replace. Antonym deplete

replicate /ri'pləkit/ verb to copy something exactly. Synonym duplicate

report /ri'pɔrt/ noun 1. an answer ○ I asked him what he was doing but got no reply. ○ We wrote last week, but he hasn’t replied yet. ○ He refused to reply to questions until his lawyer arrived.

report /ri'pɔrt/ noun 1. a description of what has happened or what will happen ○ We read the reports of the accident in the newspaper. ○ Can you confirm the report that the council is planning to sell the old town hall? 2. a loud noise made by a gun, etc. ○ He reported seeing the missing man in her shop. ○ to report someone ○ to report something ○ to report back to send a report back to the office or to someone in charge on what has happened ○ You must report back as soon as you find out what happened. ○ Go and visit our suppliers and report back to me on the situation.

report /ri'pɔrt/ verb officially ○ to report to someone to be responsible to someone, to be under someone ○ She reports directly to the managing director himself.
represents someone, who speaks on behalf of management. The workforce have asked to meet the man —

2. a travelling salesman

3. to indicate or to be a symbol of

4. Synonym
to print more copies of a book again after a first printing

reprint /'repri:/ noun a very old book, now out of print

reprint /'repri:/ noun a sharp criticism for doing something wrong

reprieve /'repri:v/ noun temporarily stopping a sentence or order by a court

reprimand /'reprɪmænd/ noun the act of selling goods for a company

repose /'reپəʊz/ noun a calm and relaxed state (formal) or a state of repose

repose /'reپəʊz/ adj suppressed reparation /'repærəʃən/ noun the use of force to keep people under control.

repression /'repərəʃən/ noun the use of force to keep people under control.

repress /'repəs/ verb to take back an item which someone is buying under a hire-purchase agreement, or a house which someone is buying under a mortgage agreement, because the purchaser cannot continue the payments

repossession /'rɛpə'zɛʃən/ noun the action of repossessioning

replicates /'reprɪleɪ̆ts/ plural noun copies or prints

representative /'reprɪrɪzentətɪv/ adj typical The sample isn’t representative of the whole batch.

representative /'reprɪrɪzentətɪv/ noun 1. a person who represents someone who speaks on behalf of someone else

representative /'reprɪrɪzentətɪv/ noun 2. a travelling salesman

report /'rɛpərt/ verb to speak or act on behalf of someone or of a group of people

report /'rɛpərt/ verb 1. to speak or act on behalf of someone or of a group of people

report /'rɛpərt/ verb 2. to believe that you can depend on someone or something (formal)

report /'rɛpərt/ verb 3. to indicate or to be a symbol of

report /'rɛpərt/ verb 4. to show something or services to possible buyers

report /'rɛpərt/ verb 5. to print more copies of a book again after a first printing

report /'rɛpərt/ verb 6. to take back an item which someone is buying under a hire-purchase agreement, or a house which someone is buying under a mortgage agreement, because the purchaser cannot continue the payments

report /'rɛpərt/ verb 7. to believe that you can depend on someone or something (formal)

report /'rɛpərt/ verb 8. to indicate or to be a symbol of

report /'rɛpərt/ verb 9. to show something or services to possible buyers

report /'rɛpərt/ verb 10. to print more copies of a book again after a first printing

report /'rɛpərt/ verb 11. to believe that you can depend on someone or something (formal)

report /'rɛpərt/ verb 12. to indicate or to be a symbol of

report /'rɛpərt/ verb 13. to show something or services to possible buyers
reprocess 717  re-release

with spending too much time on the telephone ○ to reproach yourself with something to criticise yourself for having done something ○ You behaved perfectly, you have absolutely nothing to reproach yourself with.

reprocess  /rɪˈpræsəs/ verb to process something again

reprocessing  /rɪˈpræsəsɪŋ/ noun the action of processing again

reproduce  /rɪˈprɔːdjuːs/ verb 1. to copy something ○ His letters have been reproduced in the biography. ○ It is very difficult to reproduce the sound of an owl accurately. 2. to produce ○ Some animals will not reproduce when in captivity.

reproduction  /rɪˈprɔːdʌkʃn/ noun 1. a copy of a painting or other work of art. 2. the action of reproducing ○ the reproduction is bad on this CD the quality of the sound is bad on this CD 3. the production of young ○ The rate of reproduction of mice is incredible.

reproductive  /rɪˈprɔːdʌktɪv/ adj referring to reproduction

reproof  /rɪˈprɔːf/ noun blame or criticism. Antonym compliment

reprove  /rɪˈprɔːv/ verb to criticise someone for doing something wrong. Synonym criticise. Antonym praise

reptile  /rɪˈpɔɪtl/ noun a cold-blooded animal with a skin covered with scales, which lays eggs

reptilian  /rɪˈpɔɪtlɪən/ adj like a reptile. Synonym cold-blooded

republic  /rɪˈpʌblɪk/ noun a system of government by elected representatives headed by an elected or nominated president ○ France is a republic while Spain is a monarchy. republican  /rɪˈpʌblɪkən/ adj referring to a republic ○ The republican movement would like to see the abolition of the monarchy. ○ noun a person who believes that a republic is the best form of government ○ Some republicans made speeches against the emperor.

Republican  /rɪˈpʌblɪkən/ US adj referring to the Republican Party, one of the two main political parties in the USA ○ noun a member of the Republican Party, one of the two main political parties in the USA

repudiate  /rɪˈpjuːdiət/ verb to reject or to refuse to accept something

repudiation  /rɪˈpjuːdiəʃn/ noun the action of repudiating

repugnant  /rɪˈpʊgnənt/ adj very unpleasant, offensive or unacceptable. Synonym repellant, revolting

repulse  /rɪˈpɔls/ verb to push back someone who is attacking

repulsion  /rɪˈpɔlsʃn/ noun 1. a feeling of dislike ○ He looked at the plate of snails with repulsion. 2. (in physics) the act of pushing something away ○ Magnetic repulsion can be demonstrated by trying to join the negative ends of two magnets. Antonym attraction

repulsive  /rɪˈpʌlsɪv/ adj unpleasant, which makes you disgusted. Synonym disgusting

reputable  /rɪˈpʊteɪbl/ adj well thought of, with a good reputation. Antonym disreputable

reputation  /rɪˈpjuːteɪʃn/ noun an opinion that people have of someone ○ He has a reputation for being difficult to deal with. ○ The cook has a reputation for often losing his temper. ○ His bad reputation won’t help him find a suitable job.

repute  /rɪˈpjuːt/ noun a reputation or general opinion (formal) ○ I only know her by repute I have never met her, but I have heard or read about her

reputed  /rɪˈpjuːtɪd/ adj supposed, said to be. Antonym actual

request  /rɪˈkwest/ noun asking for something ○ Your request will be dealt with as soon as possible. ○ on request if asked for ○ ‘Catalogue available on request’ ○ verb to ask for something politely ○ I am enclosing the leaflets you requested. ○ Guests are requested to leave their keys at reception. Antonym demand

request stop  /rɪˈkwest strɒp/ noun a bus stop where buses stop only if you signal to them

requiem  /rɪˈkwɪəm/ verb music written for a requiem mass ○ They played Verdi’s Requiem at the concert.

Requiem Mass  /rɪˈkwɪəmˈmæs/ noun a mass for all dead people, or for someone who has died recently ○ require /rɪˈkwɛr/ verb 1. to demand that someone should do something ○ We were required to go to the local police station. ○ You are required to fill in the forms in triplicate. 2. to need something ○ The disease requires careful nursing. ○ Writing the program requires a computer specialist.

requirement  /rɪˈkwɛrəmənt/ noun what is necessary ○ It is a requirement of the job that you should be able to drive.

requirements  /rɪˈkwɛrəmənts/ plural noun things which are needed

requisite  /rɪˈkwɪrɪst/ adj necessary (formal) ○ Does he have the requisite government permits? ○ We need someone with the requisite skills to run the bar. Antonym optional ○ noun a thing which is necessary ○ Patience is a requisite for a happy marriage.

re-release  /rɪˈreɪls/ verb to make a music recording or a film available again some time after it first came out
re-route /ɪˈrəʊt/ verb to send people or vehicles along a route which is different from the usual one

rerun noun /ˈrɪ.tən/ 1. the second showing of a programme or film on TV  ○ During the summer all the TV channels show reruns of old sitcoms. 2. a thing which happens again ○ We want to avoid a rerun of the trouble we had at the last meeting.  verb /ˈrɪ.tən/ to show a TV programme again ○ They seem to fill in their schedules by rerunning old Westerns. Synonym replay (NOTE: rerunning – reran – rerun)

reschedule /ˈrɛskədʒuːl/ verb 1. to arrange an appointment again for a later time ○ My plane was delayed by fog, so I had to reschedule all my meetings. 2. to reschedule debts to arrange new repayment terms for debts ○ Some Third World countries have asked for their debts to be rescheduled.

rescind /ˈrɛs.kɪnd/ verb □ to rescind a contract or an agreement to annul or to cancel a contract or agreement ○ The committee rescinded its earlier resolution on the use of council premises. ○ Both parties agreed that the contract should not be rescinded without the agreement of the tenants.

rescue /ˈrɛs.kjuː/ noun the action of saving ○ Mountain rescue requires well-trained people ○ No one could swim well enough to go to her rescue. Antonym capture ○ rescue party, rescue team or squad a group of people who are going to save someone ○ Rescue parties were sent out immediately after the avalanche.  verb □ to save someone from a dangerous situation ○ The lifeboat rescued the crew of the sinking ship. ○ The company nearly collapsed, but was rescued by the bank. ○ When the river flooded, the party of tourists had to be rescued by helicopter.

rescuer /ˈrɛs.kjuːr/ noun a person who rescues or tries to rescue someone. Antonym captor

research /rɪˈseɪtʃ/ noun scientific study, which tries to find out facts ○ The company is carrying out research to find a cure for colds. ○ The research laboratory has come up with encouraging results. ○ Our researches proved that the letter was a forgery.  verb to study something, to try to find out facts ○ Research your subject thoroughly before you start writing about it. Synonym investigate

researcher /rɪˈseɪtʃər/ noun a person who carries out research. Synonym investigator

resemblance /rɪˈzembləns/ noun the fact of looking like someone. Synonym similarity. Antonym difference

resemble /rɪˈzembl/ verb to look like someone or something. Antonym differ

resent /rɪˈzent/ verb to feel annoyed because of a real or imaginary hurt. Synonym begrudge

resentful /rɪˈzentʃəl/ adj feeling anger or bitterness about something someone has done. Synonym angry

resentment /rɪˈzentmənt/ noun anger or bitterness felt about something someone has done

reservation /ˌrez-ərˈveɪʃən/ noun 1. the act of booking something, e.g. a seat or table ○ I want to make a reservation on the train to Plymouth tomorrow evening. 2. (room) reservations the department in a hotel which deals with bookings for rooms ○ Can you put me through to reservations? 3. doubt ○ I have no reservations whatsoever that I have made the right decision. ○ If you have any reservations about the contract, please let me know as soon as possible. 3. an area kept separate from other areas

reserve /rɪˈzɜːrv/ noun 1. an amount kept back in case it is needed in the future ○ Our reserves of coal were used up during the winter. ○ in reserve waiting to be used ○ We’re keeping the can of petrol in reserve. 2. (in sport) an extra player who can play if someone drops out of the team ○ One of the players was hurt so a reserve was called up. 3. the fact of being shy or of not being open about your feelings ○ He had to break down her reserve before he could get her to talk about her illness.  verb 1. to book a seat or a table ○ I want to reserve a table for four people. ○ Have you reserved? – If not, we have only two tables free. ○ Can you reserve two seats for me for the evening performance? 2. to keep something back for a special use, or to use later ○ Don’t read this book now, reserve it for your holidays. ○ I’m reserving my right to change my mind. 3. to reserve judgment not to make up your mind about something until later ○ I’ll reserve judgment until I’ve heard all the facts.

reserved /rɪˈzɜːrd/ adj 1. booked ○ There are two reserved tables and one free one. ○ Is this seat reserved? 2. who does not reveal his or her thoughts and feelings ○ Clare is very reserved and doesn’t talk much. ○ He’s a very reserved man and does not mix with other members of staff.

reserves /rɪˈzɜːvz/ plural noun 1. (in sport) a second football team made up of reserve players ○ He’s playing in the reserves today. 2. soldiers who can be called on to go to war if they are needed.

reservist /rɪˈzɜːrvɪst/ noun a part-time soldier who is a member of the army reserves

reservoir /ˌrezərˈvɔːr/ noun 1. a large, usually artificial, lake where drinking water is
kept for pumping to a city. There has been very little rain this year and the reservoirs are only half full. 2. A large collection of something kept ready. There is a huge reserve of skilled labour waiting to be tapped.  
reset /ˈriːzɛt/ verb to set something again. The local time is 12.15; please reset your watches. His broken leg was set badly, and the doctors had to reset it.  
resettle /ˈrɛzəlt/ verb to settle someone in another place. Synonym relocate  
resettlement /ˈrɛzəntl/ noun an arrangement to settle someone in a new place. Synonym relocation  
reshape /ˈrɛʃeɪp/ verb to shape something again, to give something a different shape. Synonym redesign  
reshuffle /ˈrɛʃəfl/ noun the act of changing positions, especially those of cabinet ministers. In the reshuffle, he was appointed Secretary of State for Education. Synonym reorganisation  
residue /ˈrɛzɪdʒu/ noun 1. A large collection of something kept ready. 2. What is left of an estate after debts and bequests have been made. After paying various bequests the residue of his estate was split between his children. 2. What is left after a process has taken place. After the sugar has been refined the residue is used for cattle feed.  
resign /ˈrɛzɪn/ verb to give up a job. He resigned with effect from July 1st. She has resigned (her position) as finance director.  
resignation /ˈrɛzɪneɪʃn/ noun 1. The act of giving up a job. His resignation was accepted by the Prime Minister. Have you written your letter of resignation? 2. to tender or hand in your resignation to resign, 2. accepting an unpleasant or unwanted situation. He looked at his exam results with resignation.  
resigned /ˈrɛznid/ adjective accepting something unpleasant. Antonym resistant  
resisted /ˈrɛzɪstɪd/ acceptable to something unpleasant without complaining  
resilient /ˈrɛzɪlɪ_nt/ adjective 1. Which easily returns to its original shape after being squashed. Cork is a surprisingly resilient material. 2. Of (a person) who is strong or able to recover easily from a shock. She is a very resilient person, in spite of her age, and has gone back home from hospital to look after herself.  
resin /ˈrɛzn/ noun 1. A sticky oil which comes from some types of pine tree. Amber is a yellow stone which is fossilised resin. 2. A solid or liquid organic compound, a polymer used in the making of plastic. He made some interesting table decorations with gold coins in blocks of transparent resin.  
resinous /ˈrɛznəs/ adjective referring to resin  
resist /ˈrɛzɪst/ verb to fight against something, not to give in to something. He resisted all attempts to make him sell the house. Bands of guerrillas resisted doggedly in the mountains. They resisted the enemy attacks for two weeks.  
resistance /ˈrɛzɪstəns/ noun 1. Opposition to or fighting against something. Bands of guerrillas put up a dogged resistance in the mountains. The refugees had no resistance to disease. Skiers crouch down low to minimise wind resistance. There was a lot of resistance to the new plan from the local residents. 2. To take the line of least resistance to do the easiest thing. In physics, a measure of the fall in voltage across a component with a current flowing through it. An electronic component that provides a known resistance is called a resistor.  
resistant /ˈrɛzɪstənt/ adjective which resists something  
resistor /ˈrɛzɪstər/ noun an electronic component that provides a known resistance  
resit /ˈrɛzɪt/ verb to take an examination again after having failed
defeated by ten votes to twenty.

or

ried

irresolute

onym

on a proposal

olution to a meeting

t a meeting to vote on a proposal or The meeting passed or carried or adopted the resolution. The meeting rejected the resolution or the resolution was defeated by ten votes to twenty. 2. the fact of being determined to do something Her resolution to succeed is so strong that I am sure she will get through. 3. (of a TV or computer image) the clearness of a picture on a screen, calculated as the number of pixels per unit of area

a resolution noun determination, what you have firmly decided to do The head teacher encouraged him in his resolve to go to university. Antonym indecision verb to firmly decide to do something We all resolved to work harder.

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response 721

responsibility 724

responsibilities /rɪˈspɒnsɪˌbɪlitiːz/ plural noun duties
1. the fact of being in a position in which you look after or deal with something. The management accepts no responsibility for customers’ property. 2. There is no responsibility on his part for the poor results. 3. Who should take responsibility for the students’ welfare? 4. to take on a lot of responsibility to agree to be responsible for many things. 5. to have a position of responsibility to have a job in which important decisions have to be taken. 6. a thing which you are responsible for. 7. an answer. 8. a series of prayers with repeated responses.

rest /rɛst/ noun
1. a period of being quiet and peaceful, being asleep or doing nothing. All you need is a good night’s rest and you’ll be fine again tomorrow. 2. We took a few minutes’ rest and started running again. 3. I’m having a well-earned rest after working hard all week. 4. to set someone’s mind at rest to calm someone who is worried. 5. not moving. The ball finally came to rest two inches from the hole. 6. what is left. 7. Here are the twins, but where are the rest of the children? 8. I drank most of the milk and the cat drank the rest. 9. Throw the rest of the food away – it will go bad. (NOTE: Rest takes a singular verb when it refers to a singular. Here’s the rest of the milk, Where’s the rest of the string? The rest of the money has been lost. It takes a plural verb when it refers to a plural: Here are the rest of the children, Where are the rest of the chairs? The rest of the books have been lost.)

restart /rɪˈstɑːt/ verb to start something again

restore /rɪˈstɔːr/ verb to state something again. Synonym repeat
1. restaurant /rɛstəˈrɒnt/ noun a place where you can buy and eat a meal. You can buy and eat a meal at the Italian restaurant in the High Street. 2. a thing which supports something. Don’t put a thing on the wall. 3. to let something rest to stop discussing something (formal). She was the respondent in the divorce case. 4. to remain looking for a time. She rested her gaze briefly on the castle. 5. to say something again. After advice from our solicitor, we decided to let the matter rest.

restitution /rɪˈstriʃən/ noun compensation, paying someone back

respraying /rɪˈsprɛɪŋ/ noun the process of respraying something.

respond /rɪˈspɒnd/ verb
1. to agree to be responsible for many things. 2. to react to something. The fog was responsible for the accident. 3. to react to something that makes you feel calm and relaxed. Synonym soothing

response /rɪˈspɒns/ noun
1. an answer. She was the respondent in the divorce case. 2. as an answer to something. In response to the United Nations’ request for aid, the government has sent blankets and tents.

responsibly /rɪˈspɒnsəbli/ adv in a responsible way

responsive /rɪˈspɒnsɪv/ adj 1. showing sympathy or reacting favourably to something. The management was not very responsive to the demands of the staff. 2. reacting to something. The cat is very responsive to being stroked. 3. to stop discussing something (formal). The restoration of stolen goods to their rightful owners is essential. 4. to remain looking for a time. She was waiting for me at the restaurant.

restaurant car /rɛstəˈrɒnt kær/ noun the part of a train where you can eat full meals as opposed to snacks. Compare buffet car

restful /rɪˈstɑːfl/ adj which makes you feel calm and relaxed. Synonym soothing

resting /rɪˈstɪŋ/ noun a period of being quiet and peaceful, being asleep or doing nothing. All you need is a good night’s rest and you’ll be fine again tomorrow.

restlessness /rɪˈstɜːlsnəs/ noun the fact of being restless. Antonym calmness

rest on /rɪˈstɑːn/ verb to be dependent on something

restoration /rɪˈstɔːrəʃən/ noun
1. the act of repairing something or making something look like new again. The old castle is in need of extensive restoration. 2. giving back. The restoration of stolen goods to their rightful owners is essential.
retail /ˈretɪl/ noun the business of selling small quantities of goods direct to the public
  ○ We specialise in the retail of ordinary household goods.
  ○ The goods in stock have a retail value of £10,000.
  ○ retail outlet or shop a shop which sells goods direct to the customer
  ○ He buys wholesale and then sells to various retail outlets.
  ○ verb 1. to sell goods direct to customers who do not sell them again
  ○ to retail at or for a certain price to sell for a certain price
  ○ These glasses retail at £5.95 for two.
  ○ to pass on information something
  ○ She reluctantly retailed the story to her friends.
  ○ adv to buy wholesale and sell retail to buy goods in bulk at a wholesale discount and sell them in small quantities to the public.
  ○ Compare wholesale
retailer /ˈretɪlər/ noun a shopkeeper who sells goods directly to the public.
  ○ Compare wholesaler
retailing /ˈretɪlɪŋ/ noun the business of selling goods at full price to the public
retail park /ˈretɪl pɑːrk/ noun a specially built area of shops outside a town
retail price /ˈretɪl prɑːs/ noun a price at which the retailer sells to the final customer
Retail Price Index /ˈretɪl prɪˈɛks, Retail Prices Index /ˈretɪl prɪˈɛksz, /ˈretɪl prɪˈɛksz/ noun an index which shows how prices of consumer goods have increased or decreased over a period of time.
  ○ Abbr RPI
  ○ to retain /ˈretɪn/ verb 1. to keep something
  ○ Please retain this invoice for tax purposes.
  ○ One book especially retained my attention — so I bought it.
  ○ He managed to retain his composure in spite of being constantly heckled.
  ○ 2. to retain a lawyer to act for you to agree with a lawyer that he will act for you, and to pay him or her a fee in advance
retainer /retɪˈenər/ noun 1. money paid in advance to someone so that he or she will work for you, and not for someone else
  ○ We pay him a retainer of £1,000.
  ○ 2. an old servant
  ○ The old duke and duchess ate in their dining hall, surrounded by elderly retainers.
retaining wall /retˈɪnɪŋ wɔːl/ noun a wall which holds back earth or the water in a reservoir
retake noun /ˈretək/ the act of shooting a scene of a film again
  ○ After four retakes the director decided that it was good enough to be screened.
  ○ verb /ˈretək/ 1. to capture something again
  ○ The fighting lasted all day, and in the evening we retook the positions we had lost that morning.
  ○ 2. to shoot a scene of a film again
  ○ The director wasn’t pleased and we had to retake the whole scene.
  ○ (NOTE: retaking – retook – has retaken)
retaliating /ˈretəliətɪŋ/ verb to attack someone in revenge. Synonym hit back.
  ○ Antonym forgive
retaliation /ˌrɛtəliˈeɪʃən/ noun the act of attacking someone for something he or she has done to you.
  ○ Synonym reprisal.
  ○ Antonym forgiveness
  ○ in retaliation for something as a punishment in revenge for something
  ○ The pub was bombed in retaliation for attacks by the other side.
  ○ Prices were lowered in retaliation for their competitor’s new low prices.
  ○ He cancelled his subscription in retaliation for the newspaper’s racist attitude.
retard /ˈrɛtərd/ verb to make things slow or keep something back. Synonym delay
retarded /ˈrɛtərd/ adj not having developed mentally as far as others of the same age (informal)
retch /ˈrɛtʃ/ verb to try to vomit without bringing up anything from the stomach
rethink /ˈrɛθɪŋk/ noun to have a rethink to think again about a problem (informal)
  ○ We had a rethink and have decided to accept their offer.
  ○ verb to think again about or reconsider something
  ○ We should rethink the whole plan now that the council has refused planning permission.
  ○ (NOTE: rethinking – rethought /ˈrɛθətɪŋk/)
reticence /ˈrɛtɪsəns/ noun the fact of being unwilling to talk about something
reticent /ˈrɛtɪsənt/ adj not willing to talk about something
retina /ˈrɛtɪnə/ noun an inside layer of the eye, which is sensitive to light
retinue /ˈrɛtɪnijʊə/ noun a group of people following an important person. Synonym entourage
retire /ˈrɛtɪr/ verb 1. to stop work and take a pension
  ○ He will retire from his job during April. When he retired, the firm presented him with a watch.
  ○ She’s retiring this year.
  ○ 2. to make an employee stop work and take a pension
  ○ They decided to retire all staff over 50.
  ○ to come to the end of an elected term of office
  ○ The treasurer retires from the committee after six years.
  ○ to retire for the night to go to bed (literary)
  ○ It was two o’clock in the morning and all the hotel guests had retired to their bedrooms for the night.
retraced 724

 return

retraced /rɪˈtreɪt/ adj who has stopped working and drawn a pension. Antonym working.
retirement /rɪˈtɑːrment/ noun 1. the act of retiring from work. 2. He claims that the pension he’ll get on his retirement won’t be sufficient. □ to take early retirement to leave work before the usual age. □ He enjoys my work and I don’t want to take early retirement. 2. a period of life when you are retired. He spent his retirement in his house in France. □ Most people look forward to their retirement.
retirement age /rɪˈtɑːrment ədʒ/ noun the age at which people stop working.
retraining /rɪˈtreɪtnɪŋ/ adj shy, quiet and reserved. Synonym reticent.
retrit /rɪˈtrɪt/ noun 1. a sharp reply. □ I can look after myself perfectly well. She retorted that she had plenty of money and didn’t want any gifts from him.
retrace /rɪˈtreɪs/ verb to go back to the origins of something. □ to retrace your steps to go back over the same path again. She thought she had lost her watch while shopping, so she retraced her steps from shop to shop.
retract /rɪˈtrækt/ verb 1. to pull back. The landing gear retracted after take-off. 2. to withdraw something which has been said. He refuses to retract a single word of his statement.
retrain /rɪˈtreɪn/ verb 1. to train someone for a new job, or to do the same job in a more modern way. He has been sent to retrain on the new model 747s. □ The staff are sent to be retrained in selling skills. 2. to learn new skills. He retrained as a house decorator.
retraining /rɪˈtreɪnɪŋ/ noun the process of giving new training to someone.
retread /rɪˈtrɛd/ noun a tyre which has had its surface renewed.
retreat /rɪˈtreɪt/ noun 1. the act of pulling back an army from a battle. □ The army’s retreat was swift and unexpected. 2. in retreat going back from a battle in full retreat going back fast. □ The army is in full retreat. □ to beat a retreat to go backwards (informal). □ He went into the ladies’ toilet by mistake and had to beat a hasty retreat. 2. a quiet place. □ They spent the weekend at their retreat in the Scottish hills. 3. a time spent in rest and religious thought in a monastery. □ He went on a retreat. □ verb 1. to pull back from a battle. Napoleon retreated from Moscow in 1812. 2. to go to a quiet place.

Monks retreat from the outside world. □ Our dog retreats to his basket if we shout at him.
retrial /rɪˈtrɪzl/ noun a second trial of a case when the first trial was not conducted properly or no verdict was reached.
retribution /rɪˌtrɪbjuˈʃən/ noun a well-deserved punishment. □ to exact retribution for something to carry out punishment for something. □ They are planning to exact retribution for the attacks on their villages.
retrievable /rɪˈtrɪvəbl/ adj which can be retrieved.
retrieval /rɪˈtrɪvl/ noun the act of getting something back.
retrieval system /rɪˈtrɪvl ə sɪstəm/ noun a system which allows information to be retrieved.
retrieved /rɪˈtrɪvɪd/ verb 1. to get back something which was lost. □ He retrieved his umbrella from the lost property office. 2. to bring back something which has been stored in a computer. She retrieved the address files which she thought had been deleted.
retriever /rɪˈtrɪvər/ noun a type of dog trained to fetch dead birds which have been shot.
retroactive /rɪˈtrəuktɪv/ adj which takes effect from a time in the past. □ active to last April which takes effect from last April. □ She had a pay increase retroactive to January 1st.
retrograde /rɪˌtrəɡrəd/ adj backward (formal). □ a retrograde step an action which makes things worse than they were before.
retrospect /rɪˌtrəspɛkt/ noun □ in retrospect when you look back. In retrospect, our decision to make him finance director was quite wrong.
retrospective /rɪˌtrəsˈpektɪv/ adj which goes back to a time in the past. □ She was awarded a retrospective pay increase. □ The management offered an increase, retrospective to last January. □ an exhibition of works of art covering the whole career of an artist. □ This has been the first Henry Moore retrospective for some years.
retry /rɪˈtrɪzl/ verb to have a retrial of a case which has already been tried once.
return /rɪˈtɜːrn/ noun 1. the act of going or coming back to a place. □ It snowed on the day of her return from Canada. □ I’ll come and see you on my return. 2. the action of going back to a former state. □ The government wants to encourage a return to old family traditions. 3. the act of giving or sending something back. □ He asked for the immediate return of the borrowed tools. □ to reply by return of post to reply by the next postal service back. □ to sell something on sale or
return to sell something and give the purchaser the right to return it if he or she does not sell or use it. □ in return for something in exchange for something. □ He gave me the letter of introduction and I gave him a lunch in return. 4. the key on a keyboard which you press when you have finished keying something, or when you want to start a new line. □ To change directory, type C: and press return. 5. □ many happy returns of the day greetings said to someone on his or her birthday. 6. an income from money invested. □ This account should bring in a quick return on your investment. 7. □ to make an income tax return to send a statement of income to tax return to the tax office. □ Your income tax return should be sent no later than 1st July. □ to fill in a VAT return to complete the form showing VAT receipts and expenditure. □ to ring out loudly and repeatedly. □ reverberation to ring out loudly and repeatedly. □ revolve to show or mention something which was hidden. □ He revealed his ignorance about cars. □ An unexpected fault was revealed during the test. □ The X-ray revealed a brain tumour.

reveal to take delight in something. □ They revelled in the clean air of the Scottish Highlands. □ She’s revelling in her new-found fame.

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reverent
usually shortened to Rev: the Rev John Spencer
reverent /ˈrevərənt/ adjective showing respect
reverie /ˈrevəri/ noun a dream which you have during the day when you are not asleep. Synonym: daydream
reversal /rɪˈvɜːsal/ noun a change to the opposite side of a coin which does not show the heads ortails 4. The opposite side of the carpet is made of foam rubber. 4 The conditions are printed on the reverse side of the invoice. Antonym same side 4 in reverse order backwards They called out the names of the prizewinners in reverse order. 2 noun 1 the opposite 4 You’re mistaken, the reverse is true. 2 The opposite side 4 Didn’t you read what was on the reverse of the label? 3 A side of a coin which does not bear the head of a king, a queen, etc. 4 There is a thistle on the reverse of this coin. Also called tails 4 a car gear which makes you go backwards. 4 Put the car into reverse and back very slowly into the garage. 4 The car’s stuck in reverse! 5 A defeat in battle or in an election 4 The army suffered a catastrophic reverse. 4 The Conservatives suffered a series of reverses. 1 verb to make something do the opposite 4 The page order was reversed by mistake. 2 Don’t try to reverse the trend, go along with it. 2 to make a car go backwards 4 Reverse as far as you can, then go forwards. 4 Be careful not to reverse into that lamp post. 3 to reverse the charges (on the phone) to ask the person you are calling to pay for the call: My father told me to reverse the charges when I call him. 4 to change a legal decision to another, opposite, one. 4 The judge’s decision was reversed by the appeal court.
reversible /rɪˈvɜːsəbl/ adjective which can be worn with either side out
reversing light /rɪˈvɜːsing lət/ noun a light on the back of a car which lights up when the car is put into reverse gear
3 revert /rɪˈvɜːrt/ verb 1. to go back or come back to an earlier state 4 to revert to type or form to go back to an original state 4 We thought he was becoming a quiet intellectual, then he reverted to form and went out drinking every night. 2. to revert to a subject to start talking about the subject again (formal) 4 I’d like to revert to the subject of overdue payments. 4 The conversation reverted to the question of planning permission.
2 review /rɪˈvjuː/ noun 1. written comments on something, e.g. a book, play or film, published in a newspaper or magazine 4 Did you read the review of her latest film in today’s paper? 4 His book got some very good reviews. 2. a monthly or weekly magazine which contains articles of general interest 4 His first short story appeared in a Scottish literary review. 3. an examination of several things together 4 the company’s annual review of each department’s performance 4. a general inspection of the army, navy, etc. 4 A naval review will be held on the king’s birthday. (NOTE: Do not confuse with review.) 1 verb to read a book, see a film, etc., and write comments about it in a newspaper or magazine. 4 Her exhibition was reviewed in today’s paper. 4 Whoever reviewed her latest book, obviously didn’t like it. 2. to inspect someone or something, e.g. soldiers, sailors or ships 4 The general rode on horseback to review the troops. 3. to examine something in a general way 4 The bank will review our overdraft position at the end of the month. 4 Let’s review the situation in the light of the new developments. 4 US to study a lesson again 4 You must review your geography before the exam. (NOTE: The British term is to revise.)
revolver /rɪˈvʌlər/ noun a person who writes comments on something, e.g. books, plays or films. Synonym critic
revile /rɪˈvɪl/ verb to criticise someone or something harshly
3 revise /rɪˈvɑːz/ verb 1. to study a lesson again 4 There isn’t enough time to revise before the exam. 4 I’m revising for my history test. (NOTE: The US term is to review.) 2. to change something or make something correct 4 He is revising the speech he is due to give this evening. 4 These figures will have to be revised, there seems to be a mistake.
3 revision /rɪˈvɪʒən/ noun the action of revising something
reviseit /rɪˈvɜːzɪt/ verb to visit a place again
revitalise /rɪˈvæltəlaɪz/, revitalize verb to make something more lively. Antonym wear out
a revival /rɪˈvælə(ɹ)/ noun the act of bringing something back into existence 4 revival of interest in something a new interest in something 4 We’ve noticed a revival of interest in sports cars. 4 revival of trade an increase in trade after a recession
revive /rɪˈvɑːv/ verb 1. to recover, to get well again 4 After drinking some water he had revived enough to go on with the marathon. 2. to bring someone back to life again 4 The paramedics managed to revive her on the way to the hospital. 3. to make something popular again 4 It won’t be easy to revive people’s interest in old country crafts.
revolve /rɪˈvɔlv/ verb to cancel something, e.g. a right, agreement or promise, 4. to cause something to move in a circle around a central point 4 revolt /rɪˈvɔlt/ noun a mass protest against authority. (NOTE: The government faces a revolt from its main supporters. Synonym: rebellion)
revolting

lion /noun/ 1. to rise up against authority ○ The prisoners revolted against the harsh treatment they were receiving. 2. to disgust someone ○ It revolted me to see all that food being thrown away. (NOTE: In this meaning the noun is revolutionary.)

revolting /verb/ adj disgusting, which makes you feel ill. Antonym appealling.

revolution /noun/ 1. an armed rising against a government ○ The government soldiers shot the leaders of the revolution. ○ He led an unsuccessful revolution against the last president. ○ During the French Revolution many aristocrats were executed. 2. the act of turning around a central point ○ The engine turns at 5,000 revolutions a minute. 3. a change in the way things are done ○ a revolution in data processing

revolutionary /noun/ adj. 1. aiming to change things completely; very new ○ There is a revolutionary new treatment for cancer. 2. referring to a political revolution ○ His revolutionary ideas upset the voters. ○ noun a person who takes part in an uprising against a government ○ The captured revolutionaries were shot when the army took control. Synonym rebel

revolutionise /verb/ to change something completely. Antonym transform

revolve /verb/ to turn round a fixed point. Synonym rotate

revolver /noun/ a small hand gun in which the chamber for cartridges turns after each shot is fired, so that another shot can be fired quickly

revolving /verb/ adj which turns round

revolving doors /noun/ plural doors which turn round a central pillar

revue /noun/ a stage show with satirical sketches, songs, etc. (NOTE: Do not confuse with review.)

revisit /verb/ noun disgust

reward /verb/ noun money given to someone for work done or as a prize for finding something, or for information about something ○ When she took the purse she had found to the police station she got a £25 reward. ○ He is not interested in money — the Olympic gold medal will be reward enough.

rewarding /adjective/ which gives satisfaction. Antonym disappointing

rewind /noun/ the action of winding something back ○ (fast) rewind a mechanism which makes something wind back very fast ○ My new camera has an automatic fast rewind.

rewire /verb/ to wind something back ○ After playing the cassette he rewound it. ○ The flex will rewind automatically when you press the red button. (NOTE: rewinding — rewound /verb/)

rewrite /verb/ to say or write something again using different words. Synonym rephrase

rework /verb/ to work on something again. Synonym amend

rhetorical question /noun/ a question which makes a statement, rather than expecting an answer

rheumatism /noun/ plural noun rheumatism (informal)
rheumatism 728

rheumatism /ˈrɪməˈtɪz(ə)m/ noun a disease which gives painful or stiff joints or muscles

rhinoceros /raɪˈnɒsərəs/ noun a large Asian or African animal with a thick skin and one or two horns on its head. Also called rhino (NOTE: The plural is rhinoceroses.)

rhizome /raɪˈzaʊm/ noun a thick plant stem which lies on the surface or under the ground like a root and produces shoots

rhododendron /ˌrɒdəˈdendrən/ noun a large evergreen shrub with clusters of huge pink, red or purple flowers

rhomboid /ˈrɒmboɪd/ adj shaped like a rhombus or diamond

rhombus /ˈrɒmbəs/ noun a shape with four equal sides but with no right angles

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rhombus /ˈrɒmbəs/ noun a shape with four equal sides but with no right angles. Synonym diamond (NOTE: The plural is rhombuses.)

rhubarb /ˈrʊbɜːb/ noun a plant of which the thick red leaf stalks are cooked and eaten as a dessert

rhythm /ˈrɪðəm/ noun 1. the way in which some words end in the same sound ○ Can you think of a rhyme for ‘taught’? ○ without rhythm or reason with no explanation ○ He changes his mind all the time without rhyme or reason. 3. a little piece of poetry ○ The children tried to learn the rhyme by heart. ■ verb ○ to rhyme with something to end with the same sound as another word ○ ‘Mr Rhymes with sister’.

rhyming slang /ˌrɪmɪŋ ˈslæg/ noun London slang where words are replaced by words or phrases which rhyme with them

COMMENT: In London rhyming slang, common words are replaced by other words which rhyme with them. So ‘apples and pears’ takes the place of ‘stairs’: ‘he fell down the apples and pears’. To make things more complicated, many of the rhymes are abbreviated, thus losing the part which actually rhymes. So ‘butcher’s hook’ meant ‘look’, but is now abbreviated to simply ‘butcher’s’. ‘Til for tat’ meant ‘hat’, but now is reduced simply to ‘titter’: ‘where’s my titter?’

rhythm /ˈrɪðəm/ noun a strong regular beat in music or poetry ○ They stomped their feet to the rhythm of the music.

rhythmic /ˌrɪðəˈmɪk/ adj with a regular beat

rhythmically /ˌrɪðəˈmɪkli/ adv in time to a rhythm

rib /rɪb/ noun 1. one of 24 curved bones which protect your chest ○ He fell down while skiing and broke two ribs. 2. one of these same bones of an animal, cooked and eaten 3. a curved thick stone arch which helps to strengthen a vault

ribbon /ˈrɪbən/ noun a long thin strip of material for tying things or used as decoration

ribcage /ˈrɪbkeɪdʒ/ noun the ribs and the space enclosed by them

ribonucleic acid /ˈrɪboʊˌnjuːklɪk/ noun a very common food, the seeds of a tropical plant ○ She only had a bowl of rice for her evening meal. ○ Cook the rice with some saffron to make it yellow. 2. a common food plant, grown mainly in Asian countries ○ Women were planting rice in the paddy fields. (NOTE: no plural: some rice, a bowl of rice, a spoonful of rice)

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rich /rɪtʃ/ adj 1. who has a lot of money ○ If only we were rich, then we could buy a bigger house. ○ He never spends anything, and so he gets richer and richer. 2. (of a colour) pleasantly strong and dark ○ She painted the kitchen door a rich red. 3. with many treasures ○ Our local museum has an unusually rich collection of watercolours. ○ rich in something containing a lot of something ○ The area is rich in old churches. ○ The south of the country is rich in coal. ○ Yeast tablets are rich in vitamin B. 4. made with a lot of cream, butter or eggs ○ This cream cake is too rich for me. 5. fertile ○ The flat area near Cambridge has rich black soil. (NOTE: richer – richest) ■ plural noun ○ the rich rich peo-

riches /ˈrɪtʃɪz/ plural noun wealth ○ In spite of all their riches they are not a happy family.

richly /ˈrɪtʃli/ adv splendidly ○ to richly deserve something to deserve something very much ○ He richly deserved his prison sentence. ○ She richly deserved her award as best actress.

Richer scale /ˌrɪkaʊt̯ skeli/ noun a scale of measurement of the force of an earthquake, with values rising from 0 to 10

rickety /ˈrɪkəti/ adj wobbly, likely to fall down

rickshaw /ˈrɪkʃə/ noun a vehicle which people sit in and which is pulled by a person

ricochet /ˈrɪkoʊt/ verb to bounce off a surface at an angle (NOTE: ricocheted /ˈrɪkoʊtɪd/)

rid /rɪd/ verb ○ to get rid of something to dispose of something or throw something away ○ Do you want to get rid of that old bookcase? ○ We have been told to get rid of twenty staff. ○ She doesn’t seem able to get rid of her cold.
riddance /ˈrɪd(ə)ns/ noun 1. good riddance! I am glad to get rid of it! 2. Our neighbours finally moved with all their screaming children—good riddance, I say!
ridden /ˈrɪdsn/ - ridden adj. full of something 1. The car was riddled with bullets. 2. full of holes 3. The car was riddled with bullets.
riddle /ˈrɪdl/ noun a puzzling question to which you have to find the answer 1. Here's a riddle for you: what's black and white and red all over? (NOTE: The answer is 'a book' if you say 'read' instead of 'red'). 2. verb to make a lot of holes in something 3. They riddled the car with bullets.
riddled with /ˈrɪdlɪd/ - riddled with adj. full of something 1. Most of the animals on the farm are riddled with disease. 2. full of holes
riding /ˈrɪdn/ - riding - rode /ˈraʊd/ - has ridden /ˈrɪdən/ 1. a pleasant trip, e.g., on a horse or a bike or in a car 2. Does anyone want to come for a bike ride? 3. Can I have a ride on your motorbike? 4. He took us all for a ride in his new car. 5. The station is only a short bus ride from the college. 6. to take someone for a ride to trick someone 7. Free beer—there's no free beer, someone's been taking you for a ride! 8. The young recruit was really taken for a ride when the others told him that there was a party at the colonel's house and he believed them. 9. the act of travelling 10. You will enjoy the smoothness of the ride in the new four-wheel-drive model. 11. verb to go on horse, on a bike, etc. 12. He rode his bike across the road without looking. 13. She's never ridden (on) an elephant. 14. My little sister is learning to ride, but she's frightened of big horses. (NOTE: rides — riding — rode)
rider /ˈraʊdər/ noun 1. a person who rides 2. The rider of the black horse fell at the first fence. 3. Motorcycle riders must wear helmets 4. an additional clause to a contract
ridge /ˈrɪdʒ/ noun a long narrow raised part 1. The chair is riddled with woodworm. 2. of the smoothness of the ride in the new four-wheel-drive model.
ridicule /ˈrɪdɪkjuːl/ - ridiculing /ˈrɪdɪkjuːlɪŋ/ noun mocking, laughing at someone 1. She was afraid of the ridicule of her colleagues. 2. to hold someone up to ridicule to laugh at someone 3. The press held the minister up to ridicule after he had been found lying on the pavement outside a bar. 4. verb to laugh at someone or something 5. She ridiculed his attempts at speaking Italian. Synonym belittle 6. ridiculous /ˈrɪdɪkjuːləs/ - ridiculously /ˈrɪdɪkjuːləsl/ adj silly, which everyone should laugh at. Synonym ludicrous. Antonym sensible
right /rɪt/ adj 1. common 2. Crime is rife in some parts of the town. 3. rifle with something full of something 4. The office is rife with rumour about the managing director.
right of centre /ˈraɪt əv ˈsɜːntə/ noun ordinary people with bad habits (informal) (NOTE: no plural)
fright /ˈrɪfrʌt/ noun ordinary people with bad habits (informal) (NOTE: no plural)
right up /rɪt/ adj. right up correct, which should not be criticised
right wing /rɪt ˈwaɪŋ/ - right-winger /rɪt ˈwɛŋər/ noun a political group supporting traditional values and rights 1. We...
right angle

support the right by campaigning for our local Conservative candidate. a swing to the right a movement of votes towards the right-wing candidates adv 1. straight ○ Instead of stopping at the crossroads, he drove right on across the main road. ○ To get to the police station, keep right on to the end of the road, and then turn left. ○ Go right along to the end of the corridor, you’ll see my office in front of you. 2. right (away) immediately ○ They called the ambulance right after the accident. ○ The ambulance came right away. ○ right now at this particular point in time ○ Right now, it is not possible for me to answer reporters’ questions. 3. exactly ○ The pub is right at the end of the road. ○ The phone rang right in the middle of the TV programme. ○ She stood right in front of the TV and no one could see the screen. 4. correctly ○ She guessed the answer right. ○ Everything is going right for her. ○ It serves you right you deserve what has happened to you (informal) 5. towards the right-hand side ○ To get to the station, turn right at the traffic lights. ○ Children should be taught to look right and left before crossing the road. verb ○ to right a wrong to correct something which is wrong ○ She campaigned to right the wrongs done to single mothers. interj ○ Right, so we all meet again at 7 o’clock?

right angle /ˈrʌtʃ ,rɛŋɡəd/ noun an angle of 90°

right-angled /ˈrʌtʃ ,rɛŋɡəd/ adj with an angle of 90°

righteous /ˈrʌtʃ ,rɛʃus/ adj seeing things from a moral point of view. Antonym sinful

rightful /ˈrʌtʃ(ə)l/ adj legally correct. Antonym unlawful ○ the rightful owner of something the legal owner of something ○ She is the rightful owner of the property.

drive a right-hand-drive car a car in which the driver sits on the right side of the car

right-handed /ˈrʌtʃ ,rɛn(t)d/ adj using the right hand more often than the left for things like writing and eating. Antonym left-handed

right-hand /ˈrʌtʃ ,rɛn(t)d/ noun 1. a blow with the right hand ○ He was knocked out with a powerful right-hander to the chin. 2. a person who is right-handed ○ Both bowlers are right-handers.

drive a right-hand-drive car a car in which the driver sits on the right side of the car

right-hand man /ˈrʌtʃ ,rɛn(t)d ,mæn/ noun the main assistant

right Honourable /ˈrʌtʃ ,rɛn(t)əˈheərəbl/ noun the title given to Privy Councillors (now written before the name, often abbreviated to Rt Hon: the Rt Hon William Gladstone, MP)

rightly /ˈrʌtʃli/ adv correctly
ring back 731 rise

6. □ to run rings around someone to do things better than someone (informal) ○ In the debate he ran rings round his opponent. ■ verb 1. to make a sound with a bell ○ The postman rang the doorbell. ○ At Easter, all the church bells were ringing. ○ If you ring your bicycle bell people will get out of the way. ○ Is that your phone ringing? 2. □ to ring a bell to remind someone of something ○ The name rings a bell. ○ Does the name Arabnott ring any bells? 3. □ to telephone someone ○ He rang me to say he would be late. ○ When ringing tomorrow afternoon – the office will be closed. ○ Don’t ring me, I’ll ring you. (NOTE: ringing – rang (ræŋ) – has rung (rɔŋ) to draw a ring round something ○ I have ringed the mistakes in red. 5. □ to surround a place ○ Rebel troops ringed the president’s palace. (NOTE: ringing – ringed)

ring back /rɪŋ 'baːk/ verb to telephone someone after they have already telephoned you (informal)

ring binder /rɪŋ _bændə/ noun a cover with rings in it which fit into special holes made in sheets of paper

ringfence /rɪŋfɛns/ verb to separate something from other things, so that it is not affected by them

ringing /rɪŋɪŋ/ noun a sound like that of bells

ringleader /rɪŋ'liːdə/ noun a person who organises a revolt or some crime

ringmaster /'rɪŋmɑːstə/ noun a person in charge of a circus performance

ring off /rɪŋ 'ɒf/ verb to put down the phone. Synonym hang up

ring road /rɪŋ rɔːd/ noun a road which goes right round a town

ring up /rɪŋ 'ʌp/ verb to speak to someone using a telephone. Synonym call

rink /rɪŋk/ noun a large enclosed area, e.g. for ice skating, playing ice hockey or roller skating

rinse /rɪns/ noun 1. the act of washing something in clean water to get rid of soap ○ Give your shirt a good rinse. 2. a coloured liquid for rinsing hair ○ She used a black rinse in her hair. ■ verb to put things covered with soap or dirty things into clean water to remove the soap or the dirt ○ Rinse the dishes before putting them on the draining board to dry.

riot /rɪət/ noun 1. wild disorder by a crowd of people ○ The riot was started by some university students. □ to run riot to get out of control ○ After the match, the supporters ran riot and the police had to intervene. ○ In her stories for children she lets her imagination run riot. □ to read someone the riot act to warn someone to stop doing something ○ I read her the riot act when I found she had been using the office telephone to call her mother in Australia. 2. a mixture of different colours ○ The place was decorated in a riot of colours. ○ The colour scheme is a riot of reds and greens. 3. something which is very amusing, e.g. a film or a play ○ The whole show was a riot, we never laughed so much. ■ verb to take part in a riot, or get out of control ○ Furious farmers rioted when they heard the decision of the Minister of Agriculture. Synonym mutiny

rioter /rɪətər/ noun a person who takes part in a riot

rioting /rɪətɪŋ/ noun riots, outbreaks of civil disorder

riotous /rɪətəʊs/ adj disorderly, as in a riot

riot police /rɪət pəliː/ noun police specially trained and equipped to deal with rioters

rip /rɪp/ noun a tear in cloth ○ He lost the race because of a rip in his sail. ■ verb 1. to tear something ○ I ripped my sleeve on a nail. ○ She ripped open the parcel to see what he had given her. ○ The old bathroom is been ripped out and new units put in. 2. to go through something violently ○ The tornado ripped through the town. 3. □ to let rip to start to complain or protest without any restraint (informal) ○ When he saw the bill for the meal he really let rip. □ to let something go as fast as possible ○ As he came into the last lap he opened up the throttle and let rip. • rip off

RIP a Latin phrase meaning ‘Rest in Peace’, often written on tombstones ○ Thomas Hood RIP. Full form Requeescat in Pace

ripe /rɪp/ adj 1. ready to eat or to be harvested ○ Don’t eat that apple – it isn’t ripe yet. 2. □ the time is ripe to do something it is the right time to do something ○ The time is ripe to take steps to stop imports of the drug

ripen /rɪpən/ verb to become ripe

rip off /rɪp ˈɒf/ verb 1. to tear something off something else ○ It’s the last day of the month so you can rip the page off the calendar. ○ Someone has ripped off the book’s cover. 2. □ to rip someone off to cheat someone or to make someone pay too much (slang) ○ They were ripped off in the market.

rip-off /rɪp ˈɒf/ noun a bad deal (informal)

ripple /rɪˈpɔːl/ noun a little wave ○ Even a little stone thrown into the water will make ripples. ○ In the desert, the wind creates ripples in the sand. ■ verb to make little waves ○ The lake is like a mirror, there is no wind to ripple the water. Synonym undulate

rise /rɪz/ noun 1. a movement or slope upwards ○ There is a gentle rise until you get to the top of the hill. ○ Salaries are increasing to keep up with the rise in the cost of living. ○ The recent rise in interest rates has
made mortgages more expensive. 2. to give rise to something to make something happen (past tense): The news gave rise to rumours about a coup. 1. to go up The sun always rises in the east. 2. Prices have been rising steadily all year. 3. If you open the oven door, the cake won’t rise properly. 4. to rise to the occasion to perform well because of a special occasion. 5. My mother really rose to the occasion and provided a splendid meal. 6. to get up, to get out of bed or out of a chair. 7. He always rises early. 8. to stop being in session. 9. The court rose at one o’clock. (NOTE: rising – rose – has risen)

rising /’risɪŋ/ adj which is moving upwards, which is increasing. 1. The gliders took advantage of the rising currents of hot air. 2. The magazine is all about the new young rising film stars. 3. Rising interest rates will hurt young families. 4. the rising generation the next generation which will follow the present one. 5. pre to be rising fifty to be nearly fifty years old. 6. a damp noun a rebellion or revolt. 7. The government sent troops to put down the rising in the north.

Synonym: uprising

rising damp /’risɪŋ ’dæmp/ noun damp which enters the walls of houses and damages them. (NOTE: no plural)

risk /rɪsk/ n 1. a possible bad result. 2. There is not much risk of rain in August. 3. The risk of going blind is very remote. 4. There is a financial risk attached to this deal. 5. At the risk of looking foolish, I’m going to ask her to come out with me. 6. to run the risk of something to be in danger of something. 7. They run the risk of being caught by the customs. 8. If you ask for a pay rise now, you run the risk of losing your job. 9. to take a risk to do something which may make you lose money or suffer harm. 10. He’s so careful, he never takes any risks. 11. Drive slowly, we’re in no hurry and there’s no need to take any risks on the icy road. 12. verb to do something which may possibly harm you. 13. The fireman risked his life to save her. 14. He risked all his savings on buying the bookshop.

Synonym: riskier – riskiest

risotto /’rɪsətəʊ/ n an Italian dish of cooked rice with meat, fish or vegetables in it

rissole /’rɪsəl/ n a fried ball of minced food, e.g. meat or fish

rite /rɪt/ n a religious ceremony.

ritual /’riːtʃuːl/ n 1. a religious ceremony. 2. the ritual of the mass. 3. something which you do regularly in the same way. 4. Every evening it’s the same ritual: he puts the cat out and locks the door. 5. We don’t follow any particular ritual on Christmas Day, we take the day as it comes.

rival /’rɪvəl/ adj who competes. 1. Two rival companies are trying to win the contract. 2. Is this the rival product you were talking about? 3. Simon and I are friends but we play for rival teams. Synonym: competing. 4. noun a person or a company that competes. 5. Do you know if he has any rivals? 6. We keep our prices low to undercut our biggest rival.

verb to compete with someone or something. 7. It will not be easy to rival such a good product. (NOTE: rivaling – rivaled)

Synonym: rivalry

river /’rɪvə/ n a large mass of fresh water which runs across the land and goes into the sea or into a large lake. 1. London is on the River Thames. 2. The river is very deep here, so it’s dangerous to swim in it. (NOTE: With names of rivers, you usually say the River: the River Thames; the River Amazon; the River Nile.)

riverside /’rɪvəsɜːd/ adj on the banks of a river. 1. Some riverside houses were flooded.

2. We took our friends to a riverside pub on the Thames.

rivet /’rɪvət/ n a large metal pin which fastens metal plates together. 1. The workers were driving rivets into the metal sheets with huge hammers. 2. verb to fasten metal plates together. 3. Workmen riveted the sheets of metal together. 4. to attract the attention of someone. 5. The audience was riveted by his stories. 6. He sat riveted to the TV set. 7. Her eyes were riveted on the door, as if she expected someone to come in.

riveting /’rɪvɪtɪŋ/ adj which holds everyone’s attention. (informal) Synonym: fascinating

Antonym: boring

RNA /rɪnˈeɪn/ n one of the acids in the nucleus of all living cells, which takes information from DNA and translates it into proteins. Full form: ribonucleic acid. 1. DNA 2. road /rɔːd/ n 1. a hard pathway used by vehicles, e.g. cars and lorries, to travel along. 2. The road to York goes directly north from London. 3. Drivers must be careful because roads are icy. 4. Children are taught to look both ways before crossing the road. 5. Our office address is: 26 London Road. (NOTE: often used in names: London Road; York Road; etc., and usually written Rd: London Rd, etc.) 6. on the road travelling.

As a salesman, he’s on the road thirty weeks a year. 2. We were on the road for thirteen hours before we finally reached the hotel.
to be driven on a road

road haulage /ˈroʊd hɔlədʒ/ noun the moving of goods by road

road hog /ˈroʊd hɔɡ/ noun a person who drives fast and dangerously (informal)

road map /ˈroʊd mæp/ noun a map which shows the roads in a certain area

road rage /ˈroʊd ræj/ noun a violent attack by a driver on another car or its driver, caused by anger at the way the other driver has been driving

road safety /ˈroʊd seɪfəti/ noun care taken by drivers on the roads to make sure that accidents do not happen

roadshow /ˈroʊd ʃəʊ/ noun 1. a broadcast from a place away from the studio ◇ the BBC holiday roadshow, 2. an exhibition or performing group which goes from place to place ◇ They took their roadshow round the Highlands of Scotland.

roadside /ˈroʊd saɪd/ noun the side of a road ◇ We couldn't find a picnic area, so in the end we picnicked on the roadside. ◇ They had a puncture so they stopped by the roadside to change the wheel. ◇ adj by the side of a road ◇ We had some coffee at a roadside café.

road sign /ˈroʊd saɪn/ noun a panel by the side of a road, giving instructions or warnings

road tax /ˈroʊd tæks/ noun a tax paid by owners of vehicles, e.g. cars and lorries, to the government for permission to drive their vehicles on the road

road user /ˈroʊd juˈzɜːr/ noun a person who uses a road

roadway /ˈroʊdweɪ/ noun a main surface of a road (NOTE: The US term is pavement.)

roadworks /ˈroʊdəʊrkz/ plural noun repairs to a road ◇ It took longer than normal to get to Birmingham because of all the roadworks.

roadworthy /ˈroʊdərwi/ adj in a fit state to be driven on a road

roam (ˈroʊm) verb to wander about a place without any particular destination

roar /rɔːr/ noun a loud noise, e.g. of shouting or of an engine ◇ The roar of the jet engines made it impossible for me to hear what she said. ◇ You could hear the roar of the crowd at the football match several miles away.

verb to make a loud noise ◇ He roared with laughter at the film. ◇ The lion roared and then attacked.

roaring /ˈrɔʊrɪŋ/ adj noisy and fierce ◇ a roaring fire a big fire, with flames going up the chimney ◇ We sat in front of a roaring fire and ate roasted chestnuts.

success something that is extremely successful ◇ Thousands of people came to the show, it was a roaring success.

rob /rəub/ verb to do a robbing trade in something to sell something rapidly

◇ The stand was doing a robbing trade selling home-made cakes and jam. ◇ noun the sound of loud loud calls ◇ The roaring of lions near the camp kept us awake.

rove /rəʊv/ verb to cook food over a fire or in an oven ◇ If you want the meat thoroughly cooked, roast it for a longer period at a lower temperature. ◇ You can either roast pigeons or cook them in a casserole. Synonym: bake ◇ to roast chestnuts to cook chestnuts over red-hot charcoal ◇ which has been roasted ◇ What a lovely smell of roast meat! ◇ We had roast chicken for dinner. ◇ noun meat cooked in an oven ◇ We always have a roast on Sundays.

roast potatoes /ˈroʊst pəˈteɪtəʊz/ plural noun potatoes baked in fat in an oven (NOTE: Although the verb has the forms roasting – roasted, when referring to meat, the adjective roast is used: roast meat, roast turkey, but roasted potatoes, roasted chestnuts.)

robbery /ˈrɒbəri/ noun the act of attacking and stealing from someone (NOTE: The plural is robberies.)

rob /rəb/ noun a long loose garment for men or women ◇ The professors came onto the platform in their academic robes. ◇ The Arab sheikh rode up on a camel in his flowing robes. ◇ verb ◇ to be robbed in something to be dressed in a robe (formal) ◇ The priests stood robed in white by the altar.

robe /rəb/ noun a common small brown bird with a red breast

Robin Hood /ˈrəbɪn hʊd/ noun a legendary medieval bandit, who fought against the power of the nobility and gave what he stole from them to poor people

robot /ˈrəʊbot/ noun a machine which is programmed to work like a person automatically

robust /ˈroʊbʌst/ adj 1. strong or vigorous ◇ This young tree is very robust and should survive the winter. ◇ My grandmother is not very robust but she still manages to look after herself. 2. vigorous and determined ◇ He gave some robust answers to the journalists’ questions. ◇ Our troops will give a robust response to any enemy attack.
robustly  /ˈrɒbstli/adv in a vigorous way

rock /rɒk/ noun 1. a large stone or a large piece of stone ○ The ship was breaking up on the rocks. 2. a hard pink sweet shaped like a stick, often with the name of a town printed in it, bought mainly by tourists  ○ a stick of Brighton rock  3. loud popular music with a strong rhythm  ○ Rock (music) is the only music he listens to.  ○ verb 1. to sway from side to side or make something sway from side to side  ○ The little boat rocked in the wake of the ferry.  ○ The explosion rocked the town.  ○ don’t rock the boat don’t do anything to disturb what has been arranged (informal)  ○ Everything has been organised, so please don’t rock the boat with any new suggestions. 2. to move from side to side, holding something  ○ The baby is crying, I’ll try to rock her to sleep.

rock bottom /ˈrɒk ˈbɒtəm/ noun the lowest point  ○ to sell at rock bottom prices to sell at the lowest prices possible  ○ We can’t give you a bigger discount – the prices quoted are rock bottom prices.

rocker /ˈrɒkər/ noun 1. a semicircular wooden piece which a rocking chair stands on  ○ an old cradle with rockers  ○ She tripped over the rocker and hurt her ankle. 2. ○ to be off your rocker to be mad  ○ He must be off his rocker to do something like that. 3. a type of electric switch which rocks  ○ Use the rocker switch to switch off the motor.

rockery /ˈrɒkəri/ noun same as rock garden

rocket /ˈrɒkt/ noun 1. a type of firework which flies up into the sky  ○ We stood in the square and watched the rockets lighting up the sky. 2. a type of bomb which is shot through space at an enemy  ○ They fired a homemade rocket into the police station. 3. ○ to give someone a rocket to criticise someone sharply (slang)  ○ The manager gave him a rocket when he was late back from lunch.  ○ She’ll get a rocket from the boss if she comes in late again. 4. a type of green vegetable eaten in salads  ○ verb to shoot upwards very fast  ○ Prices have rocketed this summer.

rock garden /ˈrɒk ˈɡɑːrdən/ noun a small garden made of very large stones with plants growing between them or over them

rocking chair /ˈrɒkɪŋ ˈʃeə/ noun a chair which rocks backwards and forwards on rockers

rocking horse /ˈrɒkɪŋ ˈhɔs/ noun a child’s toy, a large wooden horse on rockers, which you sit on and rock backwards and forwards

rock music /ˈrɒk ˈmʌzɪk/ noun loud popular music with a strong rhythm

rocky /ˈrɒki/ adj 1. full of rocks and large stones  ○ They followed a rocky path up the mountain. 2. difficult  ○ The company has had a rocky year.  ○ My brother and sister-in-law are going through a rocky patch at the moment. 3. not steady  ○ My chair is a bit rocky. 4. the Rocky Mountains, the Rockies a range of high snow-capped mountains, running south from Canada into the western United States  ○ The pictures of the Rocky Mountains covered in snow are a typical postcard scene.  ○ We picked up two backpackers who were hitching a lift into the Rockies.

rod /rəʊd/ noun 1. a long stick  ○ You need something rigid like a metal rod to hold the tent upright. 2. ○ with an iron rod or rod of iron very strictly, without allowing any weakness (informal)  ○ The Secretary of State rules his department with an iron rod.  ○ She’s a tiny little woman but she rules the office with a rod of iron.

rode /rəʊd/ verb 1. an activity in which you sit on and rock backwards and forwards, which is believed to be dangerous to others  ○ That car dealer is a bit of a rogue – you really shouldn’t trust him.

rogue /ˈrəʊɡ/ noun an animal which chews and gnaws, such as a mouse or a rat

rodeo /ˈrəʊdəʊ, ˈrəʊdəʊ/ noun a type of rural town, running south from Canada into the Rocky Mountains, most of which has been turned over and over on itself

rodeo /ˈrəʊdəʊ/ noun a type of electric switch which

role /rəʊl/ noun 1. a part played by someone in a play or film  ○ He plays the role of the king. 2. a part played by someone in real life  ○ He played an important role in getting the project off the ground. (NOTE: Do not confuse with roll.)  ○ role model /ˈrəʊl ˈmɒdl/ noun a person who should be taken as an example which others can copy

roll /rəʊl/ noun 1. a tube of something which has been turned over and over on itself

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roll /rəʊl/ noun 1. a tube of something which has been turned over and over on itself
rollcall /əˈkaʊlc/ noun the act of reading a list of names
rolled-up /ˈrəuld ap/ adjective which has been rolled tightly

roller /ˈrəʊlə/ noun 1. a heavy round object which rolls, e.g. one used for making lawns or cricket pitches flat 2. the ground is so bumpy, you’ll need a roller to flatten it. 3. They used the roller just before the match started. 4. a plastic tube used for rolling hair into curls 5. She came to the door in her dressing gown and rollers. 6. a Rolls Royce car (slang) 7. Hey, come on for a ride in my new Roller! 8. a long large wave 9. The Atlantic rollers in Cornwall are ideal for surfers.

rollerblade /ˈrəʊlbled/ noun a person who goes on rollerblades
rollerblading /ˈrəʊlbledəd/ noun the sport of going on rollerblades. Also called in-line skating
roller coaster /ˈrəʊlə kəʊsta/ noun 1. a fairground railway which goes up and down steep slopes 2. We all went for a ride on the roller coaster, a dangerous or risky series of events that cannot be controlled

romance language /rəʊˈmæns/ noun a European language, e.g. Romansh, Standard Italian, French, etc.
The plane flew low over the rooftops of the village.

room (ruːm) noun 1. a part of a building, divided from other parts by walls. 2. (of a literary or artistic style) which is very imaginative or is based on personal emotions. 3. a single or double room a room for one person or two people I would like to book a single room for tomorrow night. 3. a space for something The table is too big – it takes up a lot of room. 4. There isn’t enough room in the car for six people. 5. We can’t have a piano in our flat – there just isn’t enough room. 6. to make room for someone or something to squeeze up to give space for someone or something. 7. There is no way we can make room for another passenger. 8. there’s room for improvement things could be improved. 9. The system is better than it was, but there is still room for improvement.

room-mate /ˈruːrmət/ noun a person who shares a room with you, especially at college.

room service /ˈruːmsɜːvɪs/ noun an arrangement in a hotel where food or drink can be served in a guest’s bedroom.

roomy /ˈruːmi/ adj with plenty of space inside. Synonym spacious. Antonym cramped (NOTE: roomier – roomiest)

root (ruːt) noun 1. a part of a plant which goes down into the ground, and which takes nourishment from the soil. 2. I’m not surprised the plant died, it has hardly any roots. 3. to take root (of a cutting) to make roots. 4. The cuttings died – none of them took root. 5. the part of a hair or a tooth which goes down into the skin. He pulled her hair out by the roots.

rook (ruːk) noun 1. a large black bird. 2. What is the difference between a rook and a crow? – Crows usually live in pairs, while rooks live in colonies. 3. (in chess) one of two pieces used in chess, shaped like a little castle tower. She took my last rook. Also called castle.

base for other words • Many words are formed from Latin roots.

root about /ˈrʌt̬ əbət/ verb to look for something under a lot of other things

root crops /ˈrʌt̬ kropz/ plural noun vegetables which are grown for their roots which are eaten, e.g. carrots and turnips

rooted /ˈrʌt̬ ɪd/ adj 1. as if with roots • rooted to the spot unable to move • She stood rooted to the spot as the forry came towards her. 2. strongly felt • No one knows why she has a deeply rooted fear of dogs.

root up /ˈrʌt̬ ʌp/, root out /ˈrʌt̬ ˈaʊt/ verb 1. to pull up a plant with its roots • I spent the morning rooting up weeds in the garden. 2. to remove something completely • The police are trying to root out corruption.

root vegetable /ˈrʌt̬ ˈvɛdʒtəb(ə)/ noun a vegetable such as a carrot, of which you eat the root

rope /rɒp/ noun 1. a very thick cord • You’ll need a rope to pull the car out of the ditch. □ The burglar climbed down from the balcony on a rope. 2. □ to learn the ropes to learn how to do something • We send new salespeople out with an experienced rep to learn the ropes. □ it’s money for old rope it’s money which is easy to make (informal) □ verb 1. to tie someone or something together with a rope • The climbers roped themselves together. □ We roped the sofa onto the roof of the car. 2. □ to rope someone in to get someone to help or to join in □ Rope in as many people as you can, we need all the help we can get. • She was roped in to deal with the children’s tea.

ropy /ˈrɒpi/ adj of bad quality; not healthy (informal) (NOTE: ropey – ropiest)

rosary /rəʊərəɪ/ noun a string of beads which Catholics use to count out a set of prayers

rose /rəʊz/ noun 1. a common garden flower with a strong scent • He gave her a bunch of red roses. • These roses have a beautiful scent. 2. a common shrub with these strongly scented flowers • Wild roses were growing along the path. 3. a piece of metal or plastic with little holes in it, which is attached to the spout of a watering can, so that the water comes out in a spray • adj pink • She wore a pale rose dress. □ to see through rose-coloured spectacles to see things as being very good when they are not (informal) □ verb • rise rosé /ˈrəʊz/ noun a pink wine which gets its colour from the black grape skins being left only for a short time in the fermenting mixture

rosemary /ˈrəʊzməri/ noun a bush herb with spicy green leaves, used in cooking

rosette /ˈrəʊzət/ noun a ribbon bunched to look like a flower, used as a decoration or as a badge

roster /ˈrɒstrə/ noun a list of duties which have to be done and the people who have to do them.

rostrum /ˈrɒstrəm/ noun a raised stand for a speaker

rosy /ˈrəʊzi/ adj 1. bright pink and healthy • The children had rosy cheeks when they came in from their walk. 2. very favourable • Our future is looking rosier than it has done for years. (NOTE: rosier –rosiest)

rot /rɒt/ noun decay • Once rot infects the roots, it will kill the plant quickly. □ the rot has set in things have begun to go badly wrong (informal) □ We thought things were going well, but then the rot set in and the shop had to close. □ verb to decay, to go bad • The wooden fence is not very old but it has already started to rot. □ rotten. Synonym decompose (NOTE: rotting – rotten)

rota /ˈrɒtə/ noun a roster, a list of duties which have to be done and the people who have to do them. Synonym roster

rotary /ˈrəʊtəri/ adj which turns round

rotate /rəʊˈteɪt/ verb to turn round or turn something round an axis like a wheel

rotation /rəʊˈtəʃən/ noun 1. the act of turning something • the rotation of the Earth round the Sun 2. the act of taking turns • rotation of crops, crop rotation a system of cultivation in which different crops are planted in consecutive growing seasons • Crop rotation reduces the effect of pests and diseases.

rote /rəʊt/ noun learning something by heart, often without understanding it

rotor /ˈrəʊtur/ noun machinery which rotates, such as the motor that drives the blades of a helicopter

rotten /ˈrəʊtn/ adj 1. decayed • The apple looked nice on the outside, but inside it was rotten. • Don’t walk on that plank, I think it is rotten. 2. miserable • I had a rotten time at the party – no one would dance with me. • We had rotten weather on holiday. □ to feel rotten 1. to feel ill • Yesterday I felt slightly unwell, but today I feel really rotten. 2. to feel ashamed • I feel so rotten for having spoiled your party.

rottweiler /rəʊtˌwɛlər/ noun a large powerful dog with a black smooth coat

rotund /rəʊtənd/ adj round and fat. Synonym overweight

rouge /rʌʒ/ noun a pink cream or powder which you put on your face to give yourself a more colourful (dated)

rough /rʌf/ adj 1. not smooth, uneven • Rub down any rough edges with sandpaper. 2. with a sharp unpleasant taste • This wine’s...
roughage 738  round brackets

a bit rough – but what you can expect for £2.99? 3. approximate, not very accurate  ○ I made some rough calculations on the back of an envelope. 4. not finished  ○ He made a rough draft of the new design. 5. not gentle  ○ Don’t be rough when you’re playing with the puppy. (NOTE: rougher – roughest)  ■ noun 1. a design which has not been finished  ○ She showed me some roughs for the new gardening magazine. 2. to take the rough with the smooth to accept that there are bad times as well as good times (informal) 3. a part of a golf course where the grass is not cut, along the sides of the long part that you hit the ball down  ○ His ball went into the rough.  ■ verb 1. rough up 2. to rough down the sides of the long part that you hit the ball. (NOTE: roughed – roughing)  ■ noun 1. a round ball 2. a red ball used in the game of roulette 3. the ball that is used in some games of chance 4. a game of chance 5. a heavy wheel which turns, and which children ride on 6. an amusement machine, which turns round and plays music, usually with horses to sit on which move up and down. (NOTE: The US term is carousel.)  • noun 1. a place where several roads meet, and traffic has to move in a circle  ○ When you get to the next roundabout, turn right. (NOTE: The US term is traffic circle.) 2. (in a children’s playground) a heavy wheel which turns, and which children ride on  ○ The children all ran to get on the roundabout.  ○ A small child fell from the roundabout and hurt his leg badly. 3. (in a fairground) a large mechanical amusement machine, which turns round and plays music, usually with horses to sit on which move up and down. Also called merry-go-round  (NOTE: The US term is carousel.)  • adj not direct  ○ The taxi took a very roundabout route to get to Trafalgar Square. Synonym indirect

round brackets (round 'brackets/ plural noun the printing symbols ( ) which enclose words or characters and separate them from the rest of the text. Also called parentheses
round down /raʊnd ˈdaʊn/ verb to decrease something to the nearest full figure.

rounded /ˈraʊndd/ adj with a smooth or round shape. Synonym curved.

rounders /ˈraʊndəz/ noun a team game played with a bat and ball, where the batsman has to run round the pitch to score (NOTE: The game is similar to baseball.)

Roundhead /ˈraʊndhɛd/ noun a nickname for a follower of the parliamentary side in the English Civil War (NOTE: The followers of the King (Charles I) were called Cavaliers.)

roundly /ˈraʊndli/ adv strongly and clearly.

round on /ˈraʊnd ɒn/ verb to start to criticise someone suddenly.

rounds /ˈraʊndz/ plural noun regular visits.

round table conference /ˈraʊnd ,tɛb(ə)l/ˈkɒnfərəns/ noun a discussion or conference where all the delegates are on equal terms.

round-the-clock /ˈraʊnd əˈklaʊk/ adj throughout the day and night.

round-the-world /ˈraʊnd əˈwɜːld/ adj which goes round the world, returning to the original departure point.

round trip /ˈraʊnd trɪp/ noun a journey from one place to another and back again.

how much is the round trip fare? how much is the fare for a journey from one place to another and back again?

round up /ˈraʊnd əˈpʌp/ verb 1. to gather people or animals together (The secret police rounded up about fifty suspects and took them off in vans.) 2. She rounded up the children and took them into the museum. 3. The farmer is out in the fields rounding up his sheep.

roundup /ˈraʊndʌp/ noun a summary.

rouse /ˌraʊz/ verb 1. to wake someone who is sleeping (The shouts of the firemen roused the sleeping patients.) 2. to get someone to act (The difficulty will be to rouse the sleeping patients.)

rousing /ˌraʊzɪŋ/ adj loud and noisy. Synonym stirring.

stirring. Antonym soothing.

rout /rəʊt/ noun the complete defeat of an army or a team (The final match of the series ended in a rout for the home side.)

1. to defeat someone completely (The enemy army was routed.) 2. to rout someone or something out to pull someone or something out from where it was hidden (We are trying to rout out any enemy snipers left hiding in the ruins.)

route /rʊt/ noun a way to be followed to get to a destination (We still have to decide which route we will take.)

royal blue /ˈrəʊl ˈblaʊ/ noun a deep blue colour.

royal blue /ˈraʊl ˈblaʊ/ noun a deep blue colour.

royal blue /ˈraʊl ˈblaʊ/ noun a training march for soldiers.

routine /ˈraʊtʃən/ noun 1. the normal regular way of doing things (Children don’t like their routine to be changed.) 2. a change of routine might do you good. 3. Having a cup of coffee while reading the newspaper is part of his morning routine.

routinely /ˈraʊtʃənli/ adv in a routine way, done as a routine.

row /rəʊ/ verb to wander about in a place.

robing /ˈrəʊvɪŋ/ adj going from place to place.

row /rəʊ/ verb to make a boat go forwards by using oars (She rowed across the lake.) 2. to argue (They were rowing about who would pay the bill.)

rowboat /ˈrəʊubɔt/ noun US same as rowing boat.

rowing boat /ˈrəʊvɪŋ bəʊt/ noun a boat for rowing.

rowing /ˈrəʊvɪŋ/ noun making a boat move by the use of oars.

rowing boat /ˈrəʊvɪŋ bəʊt/ noun a small boat for rowing (NOTE: The US term is rowboat.)

royal /ˈraʊəl/ adj referring to a king or queen (the royal we).
Royal Family

Royal Family /ˈrɔːfl/ noun the family of a king or queen
royalist /ˈrɔːlɪst/ noun a person supporting rule by a king or queen. Antonym republican
royalty /ˈrɔːləti/ noun 1. members of a king’s or queen’s family. Please dress formally, there will be royalty present. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 2. money paid to the author of a book or an actor in a film as a percentage of sales. Do you receive royalties on the sales of your book? All royalty cheques are paid direct to my account in Switzerland. (NOTE: The plural is royalties.)
rpm abbr revolutions per minute
RSI abbr repetitive strain injury
RSVP abbr letters printed on an invitation asking the person invited to reply. Full form répondez s’il vous plaît
RTF /rɔː tiː/ noun a format for a computer file that will make it look the same on any computer screen. Full form rich text format
RT Hon abbr Right Honourable (NOTE: written before a name: the Rt Hon William Gladstone, MP)
rub /rʌb/ verb to move something across the surface of something else. He rubbed his hands together to get them warm. These new shoes have rubbed against my heel and given me a blister. The cat rubbed herself against my legs. (NOTE: rubbing – rubbed) noun the action of rubbing. She gave her shoes a quick rub to remove the dust. He hit his head on the low ceiling, and gave it a rub.
rubber /rʌbər/ noun 1. elastic material made from the sap of a tropical tree. Car tyres are made of rubber. Many years ago, we visited a rubber plantation in Malaysia. 2. a piece of rubber used for removing pencil marks. He used a rubber to try to rub out what he had written. (NOTE: The US term is eraser.) 3. especially US a condom, a rubber contraceptive sheath. Did he wear a rubber?
rubber band /rʌbər bænd/ noun a band used for steering
rubber stamp /rʌbər ˈstæmp/ noun a stamp made of rubber, with words or figures cut on it, which is used for stamping documents. We use this rubber stamp for marking letters as they are received. verb to agree to something automatically without examining it. The committee simply rubber-stamped the proposal. (NOTE: written with a hyphen when used as a verb)
rubberly /rʌbrəli/ adj with the texture of rubber
rubbing /rʌbɪŋ/ noun a copy made by placing paper on something and rubbing the paper with a coloured pencil or wax crayon
rubbish /rʌbʃ/ noun 1. waste, things which are of no use and are thrown away. We had to step over heaps of rubbish to get to the restaurant. 2. worthless nonsense. Have you read his new book? It’s rubbish. He’s talking rubbish, don’t listen to him. (NOTE: no plural. The US term is garbage or trash.)
rubbish bin /rʌbʃ bɪn/ noun a container for putting rubbish in. Synonym dustbin
rubble /rʌbəl/ noun small stones or broken bricks from damaged buildings, also used in making such things as paths. Synonym debris (NOTE: no plural)
rubella /rʊˈbɛlə/ noun a usually mild disease which gives a red rash but which can affect an unborn child if caught by a pregnant woman. Also called German measles.
rub in /rʌbˈɪn/ verb 1. to make an ointment or cream enter the skin by rubbing. She rubbed the ointment into her skin. 2. don’t rub it in. don’t go on talking about something I regret. Yes, I know I made a mistake, but please, don’t rub it in.
rub out /rʌb ˈaut/ verb to remove a pencil mark with a rubber. Synonym erase
rub up /rʌb ˈʌp/ verb to rub someone up the wrong way to annoy someone. She’s in a bad mood, someone must have rubbed her up the wrong way.
ruby /ˈrʌbɪ/ noun a red precious stone. A necklace of rubies and pearls. (NOTE: The plural is rubies.) adj dark red or a glass of ruby red wine
ruck /rʌk/ noun 1. an ordinary crowd of people. He wants to get out of the ruck and become a manager. 2. (in rugby) a group of players who fight for the ball when it is on the ground. The big forward broke into the ruck. A crease in a fabric
rucksack /rʌksæk/ noun a large bag carried on the back when walking. Synonym backpack
rudder /ˈrʌdər/ noun a flat vertical plate at the back of a boat or on the tail of an aircraft, used for steering
rudely /ˈrʌdli/ adv. 1. red, fire-coloured the little boys with their ruddy cheeks. A ruddy glow hung over the burning city. (NOTE: ruddy – ruddiest) 2. awful. That ruddy dog—he’s got dirty paw marks all over the kitchen floor.
rude /rjuːd/ adj not polite, likely to offend, trying to offend. Don’t point at people—it’s rude. The teacher asked who had written rude words on the board. He was rude to the teacher. (NOTE: rude – rudest) rudely /ˈrʌdli/ adv in a rude way
rude

rude /ruːd/ adj 1. rough, rocky, uneven; the rugged landscape of the Moon; 2. tough and sturdy; At school, he rapidly developed a rugged independence.

rugby /ˈrʌɡbi/ noun □ rugby football a type of football played with an oval ball which is thrown as well as kicked; When and where is the next rugby match?

rugby ball /ˈrʌɡbi bɔːl/ noun a type of oval ball used in the game of rugby

ruddy /ˈruːdi/ adj, in power, governing 2. in operation at the moment; We will invoice at ruling prices.

ruin /ˈruːn/ noun 1. the complete loss of all your money; He faces complete ruin. 2. the remains of an old building with no roof and fallen walls; The house was a total ruin when I bought it; 3. verb to spoil something completely; Our holiday was ruined by the weather. 2. to bring a person or organisation to financial collapse; The bank failure ruined a lot of businesses.

ruined /ˈruːnd/ adj 1. in ruins; Smoke rose from the ruined houses. 2. bankrupt, not able to pay your debts; a ruined company director.

ruinous /ˈruːnəs/ adj extremely expensive

ruble /ˈrʊbəl/ noun a low rolling noise 2. We were woken by the rumble of trains passing over the bridge. There was a rumble of thunder in the distance.

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ruinous /ˈruːnəs/ adj extremely expensive

ruffian /ˈrʌfiən/ noun a violent man, usually a criminal (dated); Synonym thug

ruin /ˈruːn/ noun 1. a strict order of the way to behave; There are no rules that forbid parking here at night. 2. against the rules not as the rules say; You can’t hold the football in your hands – it’s against the rules.

ruin /ˈruːn/ verb 1. to bring a person or organisation to financial collapse; The bank failure ruined a lot of businesses. 2. to make a low rolling noise; Wooden carts full of stone rumbled past. 3. Thunder rumbled in the distance.

rumbled /ˈrʌmbld/ verb 1. to make a low rolling noise; Wooden carts full of stone rumbled past. 3. Thunder rumbled in the distance.

ruling /ˈrʌlɪŋ/ adj 1. in power, governing 2. in operation at the moment; We will invoice at ruling prices.

rural /ˈrʊrəl/ adj 1. not fully developed; Synonym rudimentary

ruin /ˈruːn/ noun 1. the remains of old buildings with no roofs and fallen walls; in ruins destroyed; The town was in ruins after the war. 2. ruined 2. after the war; 3. ruined 2. after the war.

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rumble /ˈrʌmbəl/ noun a low rolling noise 2. We were woken by the rumble of trains passing over the bridge. There was a rumble of thunder in the distance.
rumbling /ˈrʌmblɪŋ/ noun a low rolling noise  ◦ the rumbling of the thunder in the distance
rumblings /ˈrʌmblɪŋz/ plural noun murmuring by people showing that they are not happy
ruminate /ˈrʌmɪnət/ verb 1. (of a cow) to chew over food which has already been swallowed once 2. to think over a problem  ◦ He spent the weekend ruminating on what to do next.
rummage /ˈrʌmɪdʒ/ noun a session of searching about for something  ◦ We had a good rummage in the loft but couldn’t find the book  ◦ verb to search about for something  ◦ She rummaged in her drawer until she found the pair of gloves.
rumour /ˈrʊmər/ a story spread from one person to another but which may not be true  ◦ There’s a rumour going around that John’s getting married  ◦ verb to spread a story  ◦ It was rumoured in the press that they were about to get divorced. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is rumor.)
rumoured /ˈrʊməd/ adj spread by rumour (NOTE: The US spelling is rumored.)
rump /raʊmp/ noun the back part of an animal 1. 2. a small number of members of a party left after an election defeat  ◦ The rump of the party met after the election to decide what to do.
rumped /raʊmpid/ adj creased or untidy
rumpus /ˈrʌmpəs/ noun a noisy disorder. Synonym disturbance (NOTE: The plural is rumpuses.)
run /rʌn/ noun 1. the act of going quickly on foot, usually as a sport  ◦ I always go for a run before breakfast  ◦ You must be tired out after that long run  ◦ She entered for the 10-mile run  ◦ on the run escaping from prison or hiding from the police  ◦ He was three weeks on the run before he was caught 2. a short trip in a car  ◦ Let’s go for a run down to the coast 3. the act of making a machine work 4. a rush to buy something  ◦ The Post Office reported a run on the new stamps 5. a regular route of a plane or bus, etc.  ◦ On this run, the bus does not go as far as the Post Office  ◦ She’s a stewardess on the London to New York run 6. a score of 1 in cricket  ◦ He made 45 runs before he was out 7. US a series of little holes in stockings or tights  ◦ I can’t wear these stockings because there’s a run in them. (NOTE: The British term is ladder.) 8. a period ◦ for three days on the run for three days one after another  ◦ She had a nosebleed for two days on the run  ◦ in the long run, it will be cheaper to buy the tickets in bulk  ◦ verb 1. to go quickly on foot  ◦ When she heard the telephone, she ran upstairs  ◦ Children must be taught not to run across the road  ◦ She’s running in the 200-metre race 2. (of buses, trains, etc.) to be operating  ◦ All underground trains are running late because of the accident. 3. (of vehicles) to work  ◦ He left his car in the street with the engine running  ◦ My car’s not running very well at the moment 4. (of trains) to go, to last  ◦ The main street of the town runs north and south  ◦ The film runs for three hours 5. to direct or organise an organisation  ◦ He runs a chain of shoe shops  ◦ I want someone to run the sales department for me when I’m away on holiday 6. He runs the local youth club  ◦ The country is run by the army  7. to use a car regularly  ◦ We can’t afford to run two cars 8. to drive someone by car  ◦ Let me run you to the station 9. to be in force  ◦ The lease has only six months more to run 10. to amount to something  ◦ The costs run into thousands of pounds 10. to run on Sundays. 
run across /rʌn əˈkrɒs/ verb 1. to cross something quickly on foot  ◦ The little boy ran across the road after his ball 2. to find or to meet someone by accident  ◦ I ran across it in a secondhand bookshop.
run after /ˈrʌn əˈfəʊr/ verb to follow someone fast
run away /rʌn əˈweɪ/ verb 1. to escape, to go away fast  ◦ They were running away from the police  ◦ She ran away from school when she was 16  ◦ The young runners run away to Paris 2. to run away with someone to go away from your family to live with someone or to marry someone  ◦ She ran away with her German teacher. 
runaway /ˈrʌnəweɪ/ noun a person who has run away from home  ◦ The police are looking for the runaways  ◦ adj which is out of control (informal)  ◦ The runaway train stopped at the bottom of the hill.  ◦ it was a runaway success it was a great success  ◦ Her first exhibition was a runaway success 1. run down /rʌn ˌdʌn/ verb 1. to go down something quickly on foot  ◦ She ran down the stairs two at a time  ◦ Can you run down to the village and buy me some bread? 2. (of clock, machine) to stop working or go slower because of lack of power  ◦ The clock has run down – it needs a new battery 3.
criticise someone ○ It’s not fair to run him down when he’s not there to defend himself.
4. to reduce the quantity of something ○ We’re running down our stocks of coal before the summer.
5. to knock down with a vehicle ○ She was run down by a car which did not stop.

run down /ˈrʌn daʊn/ adj. 1. unwell or tired ○ If you feel run down, ask the chemist for vitamins. 2. dilapidated, not looked after ○ He drives a run-down old car.

run down /ˈrʌndaʊn/ noun a summary ○ Give me a quick rundown on what happened at the meeting.

run for /ˈrʌnf ɜːr/ verb 1. to go fast to try to catch someone or something ○ He ran for the bus but it left before he got to the stop. 2. to be a candidate for an office ○ He’s running for president.

run rings /rʌn rɪŋz/ noun one of the bars on a ladder ○ If you stand on the top rung you can climb onto the roof ○ Put your foot on the bottom rung to hold the ladder steady.

run into /ˈrʌn ɪntə/ noun an argument (informal)

run into /ˈrʌn ɪntə/ verb 1. to go into a place fast ○ She ran into the street, shouting ‘Fire!’.
2. to go fast and hit something, usually in a vehicle ○ He didn’t look where he was going and ran into an old lady ○ The bus turned the corner too fast and ran into a parked van.
3. to amount to something ○ Costs have run into thousands of pounds. ○ Her income runs into five figures.

run off /ˈrʌn əf/ verb 1. to go away fast ○ He grabbed the watch and ran off down the street.
2. to print something using a machine ○ She ran off a few photocopies of the leaflet.

run over /ˈrʌn əv/ verb 1. to knock someone down by hitting them with a vehicle ○ She was run over by a taxi. ○ The car ran over a dog.
2. to continue ○ The description of the accident runs over two pages.

runny /ˈrʌnri/ adj. in liquid form ○ He’s got a runny nose his nose is dripping, perhaps because he has a cold

run through /ˈrʌn θruː/ verb 1. to go through something quickly ○ I must go to the supermarket – we’re running out of butter.

run through /ˈrʌn θruː/ verb 1. to read a list rapidly ○ Let’s run through the agenda before the meeting starts to see if there are any problem areas ○ She ran through the paragraph again to make sure she under-
run up /rʌn ap/ noun 1. a period leading up to some event ○ in the run-up to the election 2. (informal) the run of an athlete before jumping or throwing ○ A long jumper uses his run-up to gather speed before jumping.

run up against /rʌn ap ə gɛnst/ verb to find your way blocked by something

runway /ˈrʌnweɪ/ noun a track on which planes land and take off at an airport

rupture /rɛptʃə/ noun 1. a hernia, a condition where an organ bulges through a hole or weakness in the wall which surrounds it ○ You'll give yourself a rupture, lifting that box! 2. a sudden disagreement which ends something such as a discussion ○ The rupture of the negotiations has ruined any chance of peace. 3. a break or burst ○ We are losing pressure – there must be a rupture in the pipeline. ■ verb to break or burst ○ A water main ruptured and the centre of town was flooded. ○ to rupture yourself to give yourself a hernia ○ He ruptured himself lifting a heavy box.

rural /ˈrʊrəl/ adj referring to the countryside ○ Rural roads are usually fairly narrow ○ We live quite close to a town but the country round us still looks very rural.

ruse /raʊz/ noun a clever trick

rush /rʌʃ/ noun 1. a fast movement ○ There was a rush of hot air when they opened the door. ○ There has been a rush to change pounds to euros. ○ When the film ended there was a rush for the toilets. 2. a type of wild grass growing in water ○ Rushes grow along the shores of lakes and rivers. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is rushes.) ■ verb 1. to hurry, to go forward fast ○ The ambulance rushed to the accident. ○ Crowds of shoppers rushed to the shops on the first day of the sales. □ don’t rush me don’t make me hurry ○ I need time to do this work, please don’t rush me. 2. to attack someone suddenly ○ The army decided to rush the guerrillas’ headquarters.

rushed /rʌʃt/ adj done very quickly. Synonym hurried. Antonym leisurely ○ rushed off your feet 3. very busy ○ The café was full and the waitresses were rushed off their feet. rushes /rʌʃz/ plural noun the first prints of a film which are shown before being edited

rush hour /rʌʃ aʊ/ noun a time of day when traffic is bad and when trains are full

rush into /ˈrʌʃ ɪntu/ verb 1. to go into a place quickly ○ He rushed into the room waving a piece of paper. 2. to get into a situation too quickly, without really thinking ○ They rushed into an alliance with the socialists and regretted it immediately. ○ Don’t rush into marriage if you’re doubtful about your partner.

rush job /rʌʃ dʒəb/ noun a job which has to be done fast (NOTE: no plural)

rusk /rʌsk/ noun a hard sweet biscuit given to babies to chew on

Russian roulette /ˌrʌʃən rʊˈlet/ noun a game played with a revolver containing a single bullet: when the gun is fired, players do not know if they will be killed

rust /rʌst/ noun a reddish-brown substance formed on iron and steel when left in damp air ○ There is a bit of rust on the bonnet of the car. Synonym corrosion ■ verb to form rust ○ Don’t leave the hammer and screwdriver in the rain – they’ll rust. Synonym corrode

rustic /ˈrʌstɪk/ adj 1. of country style ○ They live in a little rustic cottage on the edge of a lake. 2. rough, not elegant ○ We bought a rustic bench and table for eating in the garden. ■ noun someone who lives in the countryside and is regarded as simple and not well educated (dated) ○ Three rustics sat on a bench outside the village pub.

rustle /ˈrʌstəl/ verb 1. to make dry leaves or pieces of paper rubbing together ○ Listen to the rustle of the dry leaves in the hedge. ■ verb to make a soft dry cracking noise ○ Her long skirt rustled as she sat down. ○ Don’t rustle the newspaper when the radio is on. I can’t hear it properly.

rustle up /ˈrʌstəl ap/ verb to get something ready quickly (informal)

rusty /ˈrʌstɪ/ adj 1. covered with rust ○ She tried to cut the string with a pair of rusty old scissors. ○ He has a rusty old fridget in his front garden. 2. out of practice ○ My German used to be good, but it is very rusty now. (NOTE: rustier – rustiest)

rut /rʌt/ noun 1. a deep track made in soft earth by the wheels of vehicles ○ The front wheel of the car was stuck in a deep rut. 2. to get into a rut to start to lead a dull life with no excitement (informal) ○ Go out, see friends, travel – don’t allow yourself to get into a rut.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ruthless</td>
<td>adj, with no pity for anyone. Antonym: merciful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ruthlessly</td>
<td>adv, in a ruthless way, acting without pity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ruthlessness</td>
<td>noun, cruelty, acting without pity</td>
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<tr>
<td>RV</td>
<td>abbr recreational vehicle</td>
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<tr>
<td>rye</td>
<td>noun 1. a type of dark brown cereal, used to make bread and American whiskey 2. rye whiskey or American whiskey; a glass of this whiskey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*NOTE: Do not confuse with wry.*
s /s/, S noun the nineteenth letter of the alphabet, between R and T

S abbr. south

sabbatical /'sæbatik/ noun leave granted to people such as teachers for study and travel after a period of work

sabotage /'səbotæʒ/ noun malicious or deliberate destruction ○ Acts of sabotage were committed against the company’s oil installations. Synonym disruption (NOTE: no plural) ■ verb to destroy something, to render something useless deliberately ○ He sabotaged the whole plan by passing the details to the police. Synonym disrupt

saboteur /'səbatœr/ noun a person who commits sabotage. Synonym vandal

sabre /'səbə/ noun a sword with a curved blade (NOTE: The US spelling is saber.)

sabre-rattling /'səbər'ætling/ noun an aggressive display or threat of force or military action (NOTE: The US spelling is saber-rattling.)

sack /sæk/ noun a large plastic or paper bag, containing something. Synonym envelope

sack /sæk/ noun 1. a large bag made of strong cloth or paper, used for carrying heavy things ○ He hurt his back lifting up the sack of potatoes.
2. □ to get or to be given the sack to be dismissed from a job (informal) ○ You’ll get the sack if you talk to people like that.
3. □ the complete destruction of a town ○ the sack of Rome by the barbarians
4. a bed □ to hit the sack to go to bed ○ Come on— it’s time to hit the sack. ■ verb 1. to dismiss someone from a job ○ He was sacked because he was always late for work.
2. to destroy a town completely ○ The town was captured and sacked by the barbarians.

sacking /'sækɪŋ/ noun 1. dismissal from a job ○ The union protested against the sackings. (NOTE: The plural is sackings.)
2. coarse material from which sacks are made ○ Hemp is used to make ropes and sacking. (NOTE: no plural)
3. old sacks ○ There’s a heap of sacking over there in the corner of the warehouse. (NOTE: no plural)

sacrament /'sækrəmənt/ noun 1. a Christian religious ceremony ○ the sacrament of marriage
2. the consecrated bread and wine taken at Communion

sacramental /'sækrə'ment(əl)/ adj referring to the sacrament

sacred /'səkrɪd/ adj 1. associated with religion ○ The sacred texts were kept locked away.
2. sacred to the memory of (on a gravestone) remembering someone who has died
3. respected ○ Nothing is sacred to a reporter chasing a good story.
4. sacred to the memory of ○ She believed it was her sacred duty to look after her garden while he was away.

sacred cow /'səkrɪd 'kɔ/ noun a belief or idea which is not to be criticised

sacrifice /'səkrɪf/ noun 1. a thing which you give up to achieve something more important ○ He finally won the competition, but at great personal sacrifice.
2. making an offering to a god by killing an animal or person ○ He ordered the sacrifice of two lambs to please the gods.
3. an animal offered to a god ○ Cockerels, lambs and goats were all offered as sacrifices to their gods.
4. to give something up ○ I have sacrificed my career to be able to stay at home and bring up my children.
5. She has sacrificed herself for the cause of animal welfare.

sacrifice /'səkrɪf/ verb 1. to give something up ○ I have sacrificed my career to be able to stay at home and bring up my children.

sacrificial /'səkrɪfɪəl/ adj as a sacrifice

sacrilegious /'səkrɪlɪdʒəs/ adj referring to sacrilege. Antonym pious

sacrasmant /'səkrəsəment/ adj not to be criticised or changed

sad /'sæd/ adj 1. not happy, miserable ○ It’s sad that he can’t come to see us.
2. sad /'sæd/ adj 1. not happy, miserable ○ He’s sad because the holidays have come to an
sadren 

safety curtain

end. ☺ A What a sad film – everyone was crying. ☻ Reading his poems makes me sad. ◎ It was sad to leave the house for the last time. ◎ He felt sad watching the boat sail away. 2. boring, unfashionable ☻ Only sad people collect stamps. (Note: sadder – saddest)
sadden /sæd(ə)n/ verb to make someone unhappy. Synonym depress. Antonym cheer.
saddle /ˈsæd(ə)l/ noun 1. a rider’s seat on a bicycle or motorcycle. She threw her leg across the saddle and settled herself behind him. 2. a rider’s seat on a horse. He leapt into the saddle and rode away. ☺ in the saddle in command. She’s in the saddle now – you have to do what she says. 3. a cut of meat from the back of an animal. ☺ saddle of lamb verb 1. to put a saddle on a horse. She quickly saddled her pony and rode off. 2. to saddle someone with something to give someone a difficult job or heavy responsibility. He got saddled with the job of sorting out the rubbish in the loft. ☻ Don’t saddle me with all your problems!
sadhu /ˈsædhuː/ noun in Hinduism, a holy man.
sadism /ˈsædzɪz(ə)m/ noun getting pleasure from being cruel. Compare masochism sadist /ˈsædɪst/ noun a person who gets pleasure from being cruel. Compare masochist

Antonym kind.
sadly /ˈsædlɪ/ adverb unhappily.
sadness /ˈsædnəs/ noun a feeling of being very unhappy. Synonym unhappiness. Antonym happiness.
s.a.e. abbr self-addressed envelope, stamped addressed envelope.
safari /ˈsæfəri/ noun an expedition to photograph or kill wild animals in Africa. Synonym trek.
safari park /ˈsæfəri park/ noun a park where large wild animals are free to run about, and visitors drive through in their cars to look at them.
∞ safe /ˈseɪf/ adjective 1. not in danger, not likely to be hurt. ☺ In this cave, we should be safe from the thunderstorm. 2. safe for women to go into the centre of town alone at night. 2. in safe hands in no danger. 2. The guide is very experienced, so we are in safe hands. ☺ safe and sound without being hurt or damaged. ☺ We all arrived at our destination, safe and sound. ☺ The present reached me safe and sound, thanks to the efficiency of the post office. 3. certain, which you can rely on. You will be fairly safe if you allow half an hour to get to Oxford Circus. ☺ to be on the safe side just in case, to be certain. It should only take an hour to get to the airport, but let’s give ourselves an hour and a half, just to be on the safe side. ☺ a noun a strong box for keeping things such as documents, money or jewels in. ☺ Put your valuables in the hotel safe. ☺ The burglars managed to open the safe.
safe area /ˈseɪf əˈrɪə/ noun a place which is specially protected, e.g. by the armed forces.
safe deposit box /ˈseɪf ˈdeɪpət ˈbɒks/ noun a small box which you can rent to hold jewellery or documents in a bank’s strongroom.
safeguard /ˈseɪfɡɔːrd/ noun protection. ☺ The metal fence is a safeguard against accidents. 2. There are no safeguards at the moment to prevent the same mistake being made. Antonym hazard verb to protect something. 2. Our aim is to safeguard the interests of the widow and children.
safe haven /ˈseɪf ˈheɪvən/ noun a place which is safe from attack, where someone is protected from danger.
safe keeping /ˈseɪf ˈkiːpɪŋ/ noun the care of something in a safe place.
safely /ˈseɪflɪ/ adverb 1. without being hurt. ☺ The rescue services succeeded in getting all the passengers safely off the burning train. 2. We were shown how to handle explosives safely. 2. ‘Drive safely!’ she said as she waved goodbye. 2. without being damaged. ☺ The cargo was unloaded safely from the sinkling ship. 3. without making a mistake or having problems. ☺ Can we safely say that this is a genuine Picasso? 2. She got safely through the first part of her exams.
safe sex /ˈseɪf ˈseks/ noun having sex in a way that avoids transmission of a sexual disease, e.g. by using a condom and only having one sexual partner. ☺ safety /ˈseɪflɪ/ noun 1. being safe. ☺ The police tried to ensure the safety of the public. 2. I am worried about the safety of air bags in cars. ☺ to take safety precautions or safety measures to act to make sure something is safe. ☺ Be sure to take proper safety precautions when handling explosives. 2. ☺ for safety to make something safe, to be safe. ☺ Put the money in the office safe for safety. 2. Keep a note of the numbers of your traveller’s cheques for safety.
safety belt /ˈseɪflɪ ˈbɛlt/ noun a belt which you wear in a plane to stop you being hurt if there is an accident. Synonym seat belt.
safety curtain /ˈseɪflɪ ˌkeɪət(ə)n/ noun a fireproof curtain in front of the stage in a theatre.
safety helmet /ˈseɪftiˌhelmi/ noun a solid hat worn by people such as construction workers

safety net /ˈseɪfti nɛt/ noun 1. a net stretched under someone such as a tightrope walker to catch him or her if he or she falls. ○ He was killed when he walked the tightrope without a safety net. 2. something which protects you if things go wrong. ○ He has a second job, which is a useful safety net if he is made redundant.

safety pin /ˈseɪfti ˈpɪn/ noun a pin whose point fits into a cover when it is fastened, and so can’t hurt you

safety regulations /ˈseɪfti ˈreɡjəleɪʃənz/ noun rules to make a place of work safe for the workers

safety valve /ˈseɪfti væl/ noun 1. a valve which allows liquid, gas or steam to escape if the pressure becomes too high. ○ There was a loud hiss from the safety valve as steam escaped from the boiler. 2. a flap in the heart or other organ which opens and closes to allow liquid to pass in one direction only. 3. an activity which allows people to get angry or excited without causing any harm. ○ These meetings act as a safety valve for employees to complain about the management.

saffron /ˈsæfrən/ noun an orange-coloured powder made from crocus flowers, used in cooking to give colour and flavour to food. ○ She made rice with saffron.

sage /seɪdʒ/ verb to sink or bend in the middle under weight or pressure.

sail /seɪl/ noun 1. an old story of heroic achievement or adventure, especially in Norway and Iceland. ○ the sagas of ancient kings of Iceland. 2. a long story I don’t want to hear her tell the saga of the accident all over again.

sage /ˈseɪdʒ/ noun 1. an aromatic herb with silvery-green leaves used in cookery. ○ sage and onions. sage and onion stuffing

sail /seɪl/ noun 1. a piece of cloth which catches the wind and drives a boat along. ○ The wind dropped so they lowered the sail and started to row. ○ They hoisted the sail and set out across the Channel. 2. to set sail to leave by boat. ○ They set sail for France. 3. a trip in a boat. ○ They went for a sail down the Thames. ○ There are three sailings every day to Dieppe. ○ sailing /ˈseɪlɪŋ/ noun the departure of a ship ○ There are no sailings to France because of the strike.

sailboat /ˈseɪlbɔt/ noun US same as sailing boat

sailor /ˈseɪlər/ noun a seaman, a person who works on a ship. ○ The sailors were washing down the deck of the ship.

saint /ˈseɪnt/ noun 1. a person who led a very holy life, and is recognised by the Christian Church. ○ There are more than 50 statues of saints on the west front of the cathedral. ○ St Peter was a fisherman. ○ Will Mother Teresa be made a saint? 2. a very good or devoted person. ○ She has the patience of a saint and never shouts at the children. ○ He may be no saint in his personal life but he has the support of the voters. (NOTE: abbreviated with names to St/saint/)

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sailing /ˈseɪliŋ/ noun for someone’s sake. for something’s sake for certain reasons or purposes, because of something. ○ The muggers killed the old lady, just for the sake of £20. ○ For the sake of decency, he wrapped a towel round herself. ○ He’s not really hungry, he’s just eating for eating’s sake. ○ They gave the children sweets, just for the sake of a little peace and quiet.

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salary is £20,000

3. for heaven’s sake, for goodness’ sake used for showing you are annoyed, or that something is important

2. for goodness’ sake try to be quiet, we don’t want only a little mouse, for heaven’s sake.

The shop only opened a Japanese rice wine We had a glass of sake with our meal.

salad /ˈsælad/ noun a cold food, such as vegetables, often served raw and with cold meat or a chicken salad sandwich We found some ham, tomatoes and lettuce in the fridge, and made ourselves a salad.

salad bar /ˈsælad bɑr/ noun a bar where customers help themselves to a wide variety of meat, fish or vegetable salads

salad bowl /ˈsælad bʊl/ noun a special bowl for salad

salad cream /ˈsælad kriːm/ noun a ready-made creamy dressing for salads

salad dressing /ˈsælad ˈdresɪŋ/ noun a sauce consisting of a mixture of oil, vinegar and herbs or spices, used on salad

salad servers /ˈsælad ˈsɜːvəz/ plural noun a spoon and fork for serving salad

salami /ˈsələmɪ/ noun a large dry Italian-style sausage eaten cold in thin slices

salary /ˈsæləri/ noun payment for work, made to an employee with a contract of employment, especially in a professional or office job She started work at a low salary, but soon went up the salary scale. The company froze all salaries for a six-month period. I expect a salary increase as from next month. Synonym income her basic salary is £20,000 her normal salary without extra payments is £20,000

COMMENT: In Britain and the USA, salaries are usually paid monthly but are quoted in annual terms. So you say ‘her salary is £20,000’, ‘the job carries a salary of £50,000’. Although bonuses are paid, a regular extra month’s salary at Christmas (the ‘thirteenth month’ in some European countries) is not common in Britain or the USA.

1. sale /sɛl/ noun 1. the act of giving an item or doing a service in exchange for money The sale of the house produced £200,000. The shop only opened this morning and we’ve just made our first sale. 2. an occasion when things are sold at cheaper prices There’s a sale this week in the department store along the High Street. The sale price is 50% of the normal price.

for sale ready to be sold These items are not for sale to the general public. The office building is for sale at £1m. I noticed there was a ‘for sale’ sign outside her house.

2. to offer something for sale, to put something up for sale to announce that something is ready to be sold They put the factory up for sale.

saleable /ˌsɛləˈbəʊl/ adj easy to sell or capable of being sold

saleroom /ˌsɛləˈruːm/ noun a room where an auction takes place

1. sales /sɛləs/ plural noun 1. money which a business receives from selling things The business has annual sales of over £250,000. Sales have risen over the first quarter.

2. a time when many shops sell goods at low prices The sales start on Saturday. I bought these shirts in the January sales. She bought the cups in the sales or at the sale.

2. sales assistant /ˌsɛləs əˈsɪstənt/ noun a person who sells goods to customers in a shop. Synonym salesperson

sales drive /ˌsɛləs drəv/ noun a vigorous effort to increase sales

sales force /ˌsɛləs fɔːs/ noun a group of salesmen

salesman /ˌsɛləzmən/ noun 1. a man who sells goods to customers in a shop. The salesman is going to show us the latest model. 2. a person who represents a company, selling its products or services to other companies (NOTE: The plural is salesmen.)

salesperson /ˌsɛləspɜːson/ noun a person who sells goods in a shop

sales pitch /ˌsɛləs pɪtʃ/ noun a way of talking aimed at selling something

sales representative /ˌsɛləs ˌreprɪˈzɛntətɪv/ sales rep /ˌsɛləs ˌrep/ noun a person who works for a company, showing goods or services for sale We have six sales reps calling on accounts in central London.

sales slip /ˌsɛləs slɪp/ noun a piece of paper showing that an article was bought at a certain shop on a certain day

sales tax /ˌsɛləs tæks/ noun a tax to be paid on each item sold

saleswoman /ˌsɛləzwʊmən/ noun a woman who sells goods to customers in a shop (NOTE: The plural is saleswomen /ˌsɛləzwʊmn/)

salient /ˈsɛlənt/ noun a projecting part of a fortification or of a line of battle The battle for the salient lasted several days. adj most important I asked her to write down the salient points of the talk. Synonym noticeable

saline /ˈsɛlən/ adj containing salt. Synonym salty

saliva /ˈsɑːlɪvə/ noun a fluid in the mouth, secreted by the salivary glands, which starts...
the process of digesting food. Synonym 

spit

to produce saliva.

drool

slightly yellow, unhealthy-looking (NOTE: sallower – sallowest)

a large fish with silver skin and pink flesh that lives in the sea, but swims up rivers to produce young in the winter.

with a pink colour like salmon.

We put a salmon wallpaper in the bathroom.

a genus of bacteria, which are usually acquired by eating contaminated food, and cause typhoid or paratyphoid fever, gastroenteritis or food poisoning.

he got salmonella poisoning.

he got an illness caused by eating food which was contaminated with Salmonella bacteria which develop in the intestines.

Five people were taken to hospital with salmonella poisoning.

a shop where people can have their hair cut or styled, or have beauty treatments

(US) a bar in a pub

(a shop where alcoholic drinks are sold)

The conversation stopped when the stranger walked into the saloon.

a comfortable bar in a pub

(Note: now usually called a lounge bar)

a car with two or four doors, which can carry four or five people

a spicy sauce made with chopped vegetables, of Mexican origin

1. white crystals of sodium chloride, used to make food taste better or to stop roads from freezing

to take something with a pinch of salt not to believe something entirely.

You have to take everything she says with a pinch of salt.

he’s an ordinary good honest person.

He’s a wonderful man.

2. the salt of the earth

he’s a wonderful man

the salt of the earth.

containing salt

You have to take salt with a pinch of salt.

salt marsh

a wet land covered by the sea at high tide

water which contains salt, such as sea water, as opposed to fresh water in rivers and lakes.

She dived into the waves and got a mouthful of salt water.

You can float more easily in salt water than in a lake.

referring to water which contains salt

tasting of salt

(Note: saltier – saltiest)

healthy and pleasant to live in

which teaches.

salvia

a genus of plants

and pleasant to live in (informal)

salute

a movement to express respect or recognition, especially putting your right hand up to touch the side of your forehead.

The officer returned the soldier’s salute.

The officer returned the salute.

The general took the salute at the march past.

firing guns to mark an important occasion.

The birthday of the Queen was marked with a 21-gun salute.

to give a salute to someone

Ordinary soldiers must salute their officers.

to praise someone

We salute the brave firemen who saved the children.

1. saving a ship or cargo from being destroyed.

2. goods saved from something such as a wreck or a fire.

a sale of flood salvage items.

salvage its reputation after the managing director was sent to prison for fraud.

The receiver managed to salvage something from the collapse of the company.

the action of saving a person’s soul from sin.

a healing ointment.

salvation

the simultaneous firing of several guns in a battle at sea or as a salute.

The officer returned the salute.

salvo

the simultaneous firing of several guns in a battle at sea or as a salute.

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The simultaneous firing of several guns in a battle at sea or as a salute.

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sameness /ˈsæmɪnəs/ noun 1. monotony, lack of variety, being always the same
2. sample /ˈsæmpl/ noun a specimen, a small part which is used to show what the whole is like 1. of a sample of the cloth or a cloth sample 2. Try a sample of the local cheese 3. He gave a blood sample 4. We interviewed a sample of potential customers.
Synonym example of wild animals or birds
Let your children go to the same school as theirs.

same-sex /ˈseɪm ˈsɛks/ adj attracted to people of the same sex.
They sampled 2,000 people at random to test the new soap.

sand /sænd/ noun a mass of tiny bits of rock found on beaches and in the desert 1. a beach of fine white sand 2. the black sand beaches of the Northern coast of New Zealand 3. He kicked sand in my face.
verb 1. sand, sand down to rub something smooth 1. They sanded the floor before polishing it. 2. to spread sand on something

sandbag /ˈsændbæg/ noun a bag filled with sand and used as a protection
sandbank /ˈsændbæŋk/ noun an area of sand in the sea or a river
sandcastle /ˈsændˌkæs(ə)l/ noun a little castle of sand made by children on a beach
sand dune /ˈsænd ˈdjuːn/ noun an area of sand blown by the wind into small hills and ridges which have very little soil or vegetation

sander /ˈsændə/ noun a machine for sanding
sandpaper /ˈsændpɛpər/ noun thick paper covered with sand used for smoothing rough surfaces 1. Use fine sandpaper if you want to get a very smooth finish.

sandpit /ˈsændpɪt/ noun a place in a garden, with sand where children can play

sandstone /ˈsændstɔn/ noun a type of reddish-brown rock, formed of tiny pieces of sand

sandstorm /ˈsændstɔrm/ noun a high wind in the desert, which carries large amounts of sand with it

sandwich /ˈsændwɪtʃ/ noun a snack made with two slices of bread with meat, cheese, etc. and sometimes salad between them 1. She ordered a cheese sandwich and a cup of coffee. 2. What sort of sandwiches do you want to take for your lunch? 3. I didn’t have a big meal – just a sandwich with some beer in the pub.

sandbar /ˈsændbær/ noun a small shop which mainly sells sandwiches
sandwich course /ˈsændwɪtʃ ˈkɔrs/ noun an education course where students spend time working in an office or factory between periods of study at a college

sandy /ˈsændi/ adj covered with sand (NOTE: sandier – sandiest)

sane /ˈseɪn/ adj not mad (NOTE: saner – sanest)
sang

sang /saŋ/ past tense of sing

sanguine /sąŋgwı̄n/ adj confident, optimistic. Antonym: pessimistic

sanitary /sǝnnəti/ adj referring to hygiene or to health. Synonym: hygienic. Antonym: insanitary

sanitary towel /sǝnnəti towl/, sanitary napkin /sǝnnəti nakpın/ a pad of absorbent cotton used by a woman to absorb blood during her period

sanitation /sǝntəʃən/ n noun being hygienic, especially referring to public hygiene and the removal of household waste and sewage

sanitise /sǝntətəzi/ verb to make something less likely to offend people

sanity /sǝntəti/ noun the state of being sane

sink /sınk/ noun

Santa Claus /sǝntə klaus/ noun Father Christmas ○ The children whooped with delight when Santa Claus came in carrying a big sack full of toys.

sap /sǝp/ noun the liquid which flows inside plants and trees ○ They cut a notch in the bark of the tree and the sap ran out. vi verb to make something weaker ○ His strength was sapped by the cold. (NOTE: sapping = sapping)

sapping /sǝp̻pl̻iŋ/ noun a young tree

sapphire /sǝfərəp/ adj a bright blue precious stone

sarcasm /sǝrkǝzǝm/ n noun sharp unpleasant remarks which mean the opposite of what they say

sarcastic /sǝrkəstık/ adj using sarcasm

sarcastically /sǝr kǝstɪklɪ/ adv in a sarcastic way

sardine /sǝr di:n/ noun a small silvery fish which can be eaten fresh, or commonly bought in tins ○ packed (together) like sardines standing or sitting very close together ○ In the rush hour we were packed like sardines on the Underground.

sardonic /sǝrdɔnɪk/ adj scornful, showing you feel superior to someone. Synonym: mocking

sari /sǝrɪ/ noun a long piece of cloth, especially silk, which Indian women wrap around their bodies

sarong /sǝroʊŋ/ noun a cloth worn wrapped round the waist or under the arms by South East Asian men and women

sash /sæʃ/ noun 1. an ornamental scarf or belt ○ In France, mayors wear a red, white and blue sash. 2. a wooden frame holding panes of glass

satisfy /sǝtɪfɪ/ verb 1. to make someone pleased with what he or she has purchased, or with the service he or she has received ○ The council’s decision should satisfy most people. ○ Our aim is to satisfy our...
customers. 2. □ to satisfy a demand to fill a demand □ We cannot produce enough to satisfy the demand for the product. □ to satisfy yourself to make sure of something □ The buyer must satisfy himself that the car is in good condition. 3. to comply with conditions □ The payments received so far do not satisfy the conditions attached to the contract. □ satisfying /ˈsætɪfɪŋ/ adj which satisfies

SATs /sæts/ noun in the UK, national tests taken at various ages during secondary school. Full form Standard Assessment Tests

satsuma /ˈsætsʊmə/ noun a type of small orange, with peel which is easily removed

the market for home computers is saturated there are too many home computers available for the number of people who want to buy them

saturated /ˈsætʊreɪd/ adj 1. as full of a liquid or other substance as can be absorbed □ The ground is saturated and we can’t start ploughing yet. □ It is a marginal seat, and has been saturated with election posters. 2. containing an overwhelming amount of something □ The media are saturated with scenes of violence. □ the market for home computers is saturated there are too many home computers available for the number of people who want to buy them

saturated fat /ˈsætʊreɪtɪd fæt/ noun butter and other types of animal fat, which contain the largest amount of hydrogen possible

satisfaction /ˌsætɪfɪˈkeɪʃn/ noun the act of filling something to the maximum amount possible

satisfaction point /ˌsætɪfɪˈkeɪʃn pɔɪnt/ noun a level at which no more of something can be absorbed
□ Saturday /ˈsætɜːrdeɪ/ noun the sixth day of the week, the day between Friday and Sunday □ We arranged to meet up on Saturday. □ He works in a shop, so Saturday is a normal working day for him. □ We go shopping in London most Saturdays. □ Saturday is the Jewish day of rest. □ Today is Saturday, November 15th. □ The 15th is a Saturday, so the 16th must be a Sunday.

savoury /ˈsɔːvərɪ/ noun a classical god living in woods, with a human body, but with legs of a goat (NOTE: Do not confuse with satire.)

sauce /sɔs/ noun a liquid with a particular taste, poured over food (informal) □ spaghetti with meat and tomato sauce □ ice cream with chocolate sauce □ We had chicken with a barbecue sauce. □ The waitress put a bottle of tomato sauce on the table. □ We had roast duck and orange sauce for dinner.

saucepan /ˈsɔsəpæn/ noun a deep metal cooking pan with a lid and a long handle

satisfied 753

sauces /ˈsɔsiz/ plural noun a shallow dish which a cup stands in □ a saucer of milk milk put in a saucer, usually for a cat to drink

saucesauce /sɔs/ noun a shallow dish □ a saucer of milk milk put in a saucer, usually for a cat to drink

saucesaucy /ˈsɔsɪ/ adj cheeky.

saucy /ˈsɔsɪ/ adj cheeky.

sausage /ˈsɒzɡeɪ/ noun a tube of edible skin full of minced and seasoned meat

sausage role /ˈsɒzɡiːrəl/ noun a small roll of pastry with a piece of sausage or some sausagemeat inside

saucier – sauciest

saucy – sauciest

sausage roll /ˈsɒzɡiːrəl/ noun a small roll of pastry with a piece of sausage or some sausagemeat inside
save on

self so as to save the cost of postage.  0 If you have your car serviced regularly it will save you a lot of expense in the future.  0 Going by air saves a lot of time.  5. to store data on a computer disk  0 Don’t forget to save your files when you have finished working on them.  6. (in football) to stop an opponent from scoring  0 The goalkeeper saved two shots and also did well.  0 He saved two goals.  0 Everyone was there, save Richard, who was ill.

save on /ˈseɪv ʌn/ verb not to waste something, to use less of something

saver /ˈseɪvər/ noun 1. a person who saves money  0 All savers will receive a bonus this year.  2. a special offer or ticket which allows you to buy something at a lower price  0 Among this week’s savers are baked beans at 50p.  0 Saver tickets are not valid on trains before 9.30.

save up /ˈseɪv ʌp/ verb not to spend the money you get because you are keeping it for a special purpose

saving /ˈseɪvɪŋ/ noun using less  0 We are aiming for a 10% saving in fuel.  0 Saving on electricity will reduce your bills.  1. an energy-saving or labour-saving device a machine which saves energy or labour

saving grace /ˈseɪvɪŋ ɡreɪs/ noun a quality or feature which makes a situation less bad than it seemed

 savings /ˈseɪvɪŋz/ plural noun 1. money which you have saved  0 He put all his savings into a building society account.  0 She spent all her savings on a round-the-world trip.  2. money which you do not need to spend because of a price reduction  0 There are incredible savings on flights to Florida.

savings account /ˈseɪvɪŋz əˈkaʊnt/ noun a bank account where you can put money in regularly and which pays interest, often at a higher rate than a deposit account

savings bank /ˈseɪvɪŋz bɜːŋk/ noun a bank where you can deposit money and receive interest on it

saviour /ˈseɪvər/ noun 1. a person who saves people  0 a Saviour of the West.  2. our Saviour Jesus Christ  2. a person who saves people  0 He was called the Saviour of the West.

savour /ˈsɛvər/ noun 1. a characteristic pleasant taste  0 Some Greek soups have a savour of lemon.  2. a feeling of excitement and interest  0 Office life seems to have lost some of its savour for her.  3. to appreciate or enjoy something  0 He ate slowly, savouring his meal.  0 The general stood at the top of the hill, savouring his victory.  2. to savour of to have a suggestion of something bad  0 The whole project savours of tax evasion to me.  0 (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is savor.)

savoury /ˈsɛvərɪ/ adj. 1. with a salty taste, or other taste which is not sweet  0 I don’t particularly like sweets, I prefer savoury things.  2. not savoury unattractive and unpleasant  0 The bar doesn’t have a very savoury reputation.  0 Seeing all those fat men in the sauna was not a very savoury sight.  1. a little salty snack  0 They served little savouries with the aperitifs.  0 (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is savory.)

saying /ˈseɪɪŋ/ noun practical knowledge

say /seɪ/ verb well informed

saw /sɔ/ 1. a noun a tool with a long metal blade with teeth along its edge, used for cutting  0 He was cutting logs with a saw.  0 My saw didn’t cut very well – it needs sharpening.  2. a verb to cut something with a saw  0 She was sawing wood.  0 They sawed the old tree into pieces.  0 You will need to saw that piece of wood in half.  0 (NOTE: sawing – sawed – sawn /sɔːn/  2. a see sawdust /ˈseɪdʌst/ noun powder produced when you saw wood

sawmill /sɔːmɪl/ noun a factory where wood is cut into planks by machines

saw-off shotgun /ˈseɪəf ˈʃtɒɡən/ noun a gun with the barrel cut short  0 (NOTE: The US term is sawed-off shotgun.)

say off /ˈseɪ əf/ verb to cut something off with a saw

sax /sæks/ noun a saxophone (informal)

saxophone /ˈseɪksəfən/ noun a large brass musical instrument with keys

saxophonist /ˈseɪksənˌfɪst/ noun a saxophone player

say /seɪ/ 1. a right to speak about something  0 The children have no say in the matter.  0 She always wants to have the final say in an argument.  0 They will all expect to have their say in choosing the new leader.  2. a verb 1. to speak words  0 I was just saying that we never see James any more.  0 What’s she saying?  0 I don’t know, I don’t understand Dutch.  0 She says the fee is £3 per person.  0 Don’t forget to say ‘thank you’ after the party.  0 The weather forecast said it was going to rain and it did.  2. to give information in writing  0 The letter says that we owe the bank £200.  0 The notice says that you are not allowed to walk on the grass.  3. to suggest something  0 Choose any number – (let’s) say eighteen.  0 Let’s have another meeting next week – shall we say Thursday?  0 (NOTE: says /sez/ – saying – said /sed/ – has said)  0 (interj US) to show surprise  0 Say! haven’t we met somewhere before?

saying /ˈseɪɪŋ/ noun a phrase which is often used to describe an aspect of everyday life.  0 Synonym proverb  0 as the saying goes as expressed by a traditional phrase  0 ‘More haste, less speed’ as the saying goes.
say-so /ˈseɪ ˈsau/ noun permission (informal). Synonym: authorisation. Antonym: veto

scab /ˈskeɪb/ noun 1. a crust of dry blood which forms over a wound and protects it. 2. a worker who goes on working when there is a strike. We don’t want scabs here.

scabbard /ˈskeɪbərd/ noun a sheath, a cover for a dagger or sword. Synonym: sheath

scaffold /ˈskeɪfəld/ noun a wooden platform on which an execution takes place

scaffolding /ˈskeɪfəldɪŋ/ noun a construction of poles and planks which make a series of platforms for workmen to stand on while working (NOTE: no plural)

scald /ˈskeɪld/ verb to burn a part of the body with hot liquid or steam

scalding /ˈskeɪldɪŋ/ adj very hot

scale /ˈskel/ noun 1. a proportion used to show a large object in a smaller form or a map with a scale of 1 to 100,000 or a scale model of the new town centre development. The architect’s design is drawn to scale.

2. a measuring system which is graded into various levels. The Richter scale is used to measure earthquakes.

3. large scale, small scale working with large or small amounts of things such as investment or staff to start in business on a small scale to start in business with a small staff, few products, little capital, a thin plate protecting the skin of fish and snakes. Don’t forget to scrape the scales off the sardines before you grill them.

4. a series of musical notes arranged in a rising or falling order. She practices her scales every morning.

5. to scale up, to scale down to increase or to reduce in proportion. Not enough students have passed the exam, so the marks will have to be scaled up.

6. The company is scaling down its operations in Bangkok.

7. scales /ˈskeləz/ plural noun a weighing machine to tip the scales at to weigh a particular amount. He tipped the scales at 210lb.

scallops /ˈskeləps/ noun a type of shellfish with a pair of semicircular flat shells. We had scallops fried in butter.

scalp /ˈskelp/ noun the skin which covers the skull. He was taken to hospital with a scalp wound. Rubbing the scalp will encourage your hair to grow.

scalpel /ˈskelpəl/ noun a sharp pointed knife used in surgery

scaly /ˈskelɪ/ adj covered in scales

scan /ˈskæn/ noun 1. a case of fraud (slang) Synonym: scam

scammer /ˈskæmər/ verb to run fast with little steps. Synonym: scurry. Antonym: dawdle

scampi /ˈskæmpi/ plural noun large prawns (NOTE: can be followed by a singular or plural verb)

scan /ˈskæn/ verb 1. to look very carefully at something all over. We scanned the horizon but no ships were to be seen.

2. to pass a radar beam over an area. First they scanned the right side of the brain.

3. to pass X-rays through part of the body. The hospital has decided to re-examine all patients who have been scanned over the last year.

4. to examine a drawing or text and produce computer data from it electronically. They scanned the text of the book using a hand-held scanner.

5. to analyse a line of poetry to identify the rhythm. Some modern poetry is impossible to scan. (of poetry) to fit a regular rhythm. The second line of the poem doesn’t scan. (NOTE: scanning = scanned) noun 1. the examination of part of the body by passing X-rays through the body and analysing the result in a computer. She went to have a scan after ten weeks of pregnancy.

2. a picture of part of the body shown on a screen, derived by computers from X-rays. The examination of an image or an object to obtain data. A heat scan will quickly show which component is overheating.

scandal /ˈskændəl/ noun 1. talking about wrong things someone is supposed to have done.

2. a wrong action that produces a general feeling of public anger. The government was brought down by the scandal of the emperor’s diamonds. It’s a scandal that her parents never allowed her to go to university.

scandalise /ˈskændəlais/ verb to make people angry by doing something which they think is wrong. Synonym: horrify. Antonym: impress

scandalous /ˈskændələs/ adj which is shameful and wrong. Synonym: shocking.

Scandinavian /ˈskændənvəniən/ adj referring to Scandinavia. We often think of Scandinavian women as being tall with fair hair. He is studying Scandinavian languages at university. He’s studying languages such as Swedish, Danish, Finnish and Norwegian at university.

scanner /ˈskænə/ noun 1. a machine which scans part of the body. The hospital has acquired the most up-to-date scanner.
scant /skænt/ adj not enough. Synonym slight. Antonym extensive
scantily /skæntlɪ/ adv scantily dressed with very few clothes on
scanty /skæntɪ/ adj small, not big enough (NOTE: scantier – scantiest)
scapegoat /ˈskæpməʊt/ noun a person who carries the blame for someone else
scapula /ˌskæpljə/ noun a shoulderblade, one of the two large flat bones covering the top part of your back
scar /skær/ noun a mark left on the skin after a wound has healed. 1. He still has the scars of his operation. 2. He was scared for life as a result of the accident. 3. to leave a mark on the skin. 4. He was scared for life. (NOTE: scarrier – scariest)
scarce /skɑːs/ adj, not enough for the amount needed. 1. This happened at a period when food was scarce. 2. Good designers are scarce. 3. to leave a mark on the mind of someone. 4. The bullying she received at school has scared her for ever. (NOTE: scaring – scared)
scarcely /ˈskɑːrsli/ adv almost not. Synonym barely. Antonym fully
scarcity /ˈskɑːsɪti/ noun a lack of something, the state of being scarce
scare /skɑːr/ noun a fright. 1. What a scare you gave me – jumping out at me in the dark like that! 2. The thought of travelling alone across Africa scares me. 3. She was scared by the spider in the bathroom. Antonym reassurance 4. to scare someone to leave a mark on the skin. 5. The fire Brigade were on the scene very quickly. 6. The bullying she received at school has scared her for ever. (NOTE: scaring – scared)
scared /skərd/ adj frightened. 1. Don’t be scared – the snake is harmless. 2. She was too scared to answer the door. 3. I’m scared at the idea of driving in London’s rush-hour traffic. 4. She looked round with a scared expression. Antonym fearless 5. so frightened that you cannot move. 6. I was scared stiff when I saw the children playing at the top of the cliff.

scene /ˈseɪns/ noun 1. a long piece of cloth which is worn round your neck to keep yourself warm. 2. Take your scarf – it’s snowing. (NOTE: The plural is scarves /ˈskɑːvz/)
scarf /skɑːf/ noun 1. a long piece of cloth which can be worn over the head, especially of a woman. 2. Put a scarf over your head – it’s windy outside.

scattered /skətəd/ adj spread out over a wide area
scattering /ˈskætərɪŋ/ noun a small quantity or number of things. Synonym handful

scavenger /ˈskævəndʒə/ noun an animal which feeds on dead animals, dead plants or refuse left by other animals
scenario /ˈskærərɪəʊ/ noun 1. a written draft of a film with details of things such as the plot, the characters and the scenes. 2. He wrote the scenario for ‘Gone with the Wind’. 3. the general way in which you think something may happen. 4. The worst scenario would be if she wanted to come on holiday with us. (NOTE: The plural is scenarios.)
scene /ˈseɪn/ noun 1. a short part of a play or film. 2. Did you like the scene where he is trying to climb up the skyscraper? 3. It was one of the funniest scenes I have ever seen. 4. The British political scene has changed radically over the last twelve months. 5. He’s king of
Scene 1. The team comes to astrology. 3. A student has a busy schedule of appointments. 2. A plan of times drawn up in advance to plan something in secret. She spent most of her time in the office scheming against the finance department. 3. A person who doubts the truth of religion sceptically (NOTE: no plural) sceptical (NOTE: The US spelling is skeptical) sceptically (NOTE: The US spelling is skeptically).

Sceptre /ˈseptər/ noun a gold stick covered with precious stones, carried by an emperor, king or queen (NOTE: The US spelling is scepter.)

Scheduling

3. The building of the hotel was completed ahead of schedule. 2. A timetable, a plan of times drawn up in advance He has a busy schedule of appointments. 2. to be ahead of schedule to be early.

The pop music scene. It’s not my scene it’s not the sort of thing I usually do or like. 2. A view He took a photo of the scene from the hotel window. 6. A display of angry emotion. She made a terrible scene when she discovered the truth. 2. I can’t stand it when people make scenes.

Scenery /ˈseɪneri/ noun 1. The features of the countryside. 2. A painted cloth background used to imitate things such as real buildings, rooms and landscapes on the stage in a theatre. They lowered the scenery onto the stage. In between the acts all the scenery has to be changed. 

Scent /sɛnt/ noun 1. A pleasant smell of something which you can recognise. 2. A smell on the scent of following a trail left by. 3. To put someone off the scent to give someone wrong information so as to mislead them. She tried to put the reporters off the scent by saying that her husband had gone into hospital. 1. To give something a pleasant smell. 2. To discover something by smelling. 3. To begin to feel that something exists. The team raced forward, scenting victory. (NOTE: Do not confuse with cent, sent.)

Scented /ˈsɛntɪd/ adj with a pleasant scent. Synonym perfumed.

Sceptic /ˈsɛptɪk/ noun 1. A person who doubts the truth of religion. In the area of religious belief, he is something of a sceptic. 2. A person who always doubts the truth of what he or she is told. I am a sceptic when it comes to astrology. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is skeptic.)

Sceptical /ˈsɛptɪkl/ adj doubtful, who doubts (NOTE: The US spelling is skepticism.)

Sceptically /ˈsɛptɪklɪ/ adv doubtfully (NOTE: The US spelling is skeptically.)

Scepticism /ˈsɛptɪsɪzm/ noun doubt or uncertainty (NOTE: The US spelling is skepticism.)

Sceptre /ˈseptər/ noun a gold stick covered with precious stones, carried by an emperor, king or queen (NOTE: The US spelling is scepter.)

Scheduling /ˈsejdʒʊlɪŋ/ noun 1. A timetable, a plan of times drawn up in advance He has a busy schedule of appointments. 2. to be ahead of schedule to be early. 3. The building of the hotel was completed ahead of schedule. 2. to be on schedule to be on time. 3. The flight is on schedule. 2. to be behind schedule to be late. I am sorry to say that we are three months behind schedule. 2. A list of times of departure and arrival of forms of transport such as trains, planes or coaches. 3. A programme or list of events. 4. A list, especially of documents attached to a contract. The schedule of territories to which an insurance policy applies. Please find enclosed our schedule of charges. 1. to put something on an official list. 2. to give someone to help pay for the cost of his or her study. 2. The college offers scholarships to attract the best students. 3. She got or won a scholarship to carry out research into

Scholarship /ˈskɒlərʃɪp/ noun 1. Money given to someone to help pay for the cost of his or her study. 2. The college offers scholarships to attract the best students. 3. She got or won a scholarship to carry out research into.
Scholastic Aptitude Test /skənˌestɪtjuː tɛst/ noun US full form of SAT.

School /skjuː/ noun 1. a place where students, usually children, are taught. 2. Our little boy is four, so he'll be going to school this year. 3. Some children start school younger than that. 4. What did the children do at school today? 5. When he was sixteen, he left school.

Grammar school /'græmər skuoːl/ a school which selects children by an entrance examination. 1. Public school 2. a section of a college or university. The school of medicine is one of the largest in the country. 3. She's studying at law school. 4. A group of similar artists. 5. Painters who do not belong to the naturalist school. 6. A group of animals. 7. A school of porpoises.

School day /ˈskoʊldeɪ/ noun the time when you are at school.

Schoolchild /ˈskoʊldʒɪld/ noun a child who goes to school.

School-days /ˈskoʊldiːz/ plural noun the time when you are at school.

Schoolgirl /ˈskoʊlgɜːl/ noun a girl who goes to school.

Schooling /ˈskoʊlɪŋ/ noun education at school level.

School kid /ˈskuːl kɪd/ noun a child who is at school (informal).

School leaver /ˈskuːl lɪvər/ noun a young person who has just left secondary school.

Schoolteacher /ˈskuːltʃɪər/ noun a person who teaches in a school.

School year /ˈskuːl jɪər/ noun (in Britain) a year starting in September and ending in July of the following year.

Science /ˈskeɪns/ noun the study of natural physical things, based on observation and experiment. 1. She took a science course or studied science. 2. We have a new science teacher this term. 3. He has a master's degree in marine science. 4. Social science

Science fiction /ˈskeɪns fɪʃən/ noun stories of life in the future, based on imaginary scientific developments.

Scientific /ˈskeɪntɪfɪk/ adjective referring to science. 1. We employ hundreds of people in scientific research. 2. He's the director of a scientific institute. 3. She loved art and music and was never very scientific.

Scientifically /ˈskeɪntɪfɪkli/ adverb by using scientific experiments.

Scientist /ˈskeɪnstɪst/ noun a person who specialises in a science, often doing research. 1. Scientists have not yet found a cure for the common cold. 2. Space scientists are examining the photographs of Mars.

Scissors /ˈskɪsəz/ plural noun a tool for cutting paper, cloth, etc., made of two blades attached in the middle, with handles with holes for the thumb and fingers. 1. These scissors aren't very sharp. 2. Have you got a pair of scissors I can borrow?

Scoop /skəʊp/ verb 1. to scoop at something to make fun of something in a nasty way. 2. He scooped at her attempts at windsurfing. 3. The committee chairman scooped at my idea for redeveloping the town centre. 4. to eat something greedily. 5. The two boys rushed into the dining room and scooped half the cakes.

Scoff /skəʊf/ verb to speak to someone angrily. Synonym rebuke. Antonym praise.

Scone /skoʊn/ noun a type of small round soft bread, sometimes with dried fruit in it, eaten with butter or cream and jam.

Scoop out /ˈskuːp aʊt/ verb 1. to cut something out with a scoop. 2. He scooped out a helping of mashed potato.

Scoop out the inside of something /ˈskuːp aʊt də ˈɪnza da ˈsʌmθɪŋ/ to remove the inside of something with something such as a spoon. 1. Scoop out the inside of a melon. 2. He scooped up the bananas into her arms and ran upstairs. 3. He scooped all the newspapers off the floor.
scooter
noun 1. a child’s two-wheeled vehicle with a long steering handle, pushed along with one foot while the other foot is on the board 2. a small type of motorbike with a curving shield in front of the seat and a platform for the feet 3. She dodged through the traffic on her scooter.

scorched-earth policy
noun tactics in war where you destroy all resources before retreating and giving up land to the enemy.

scorch
verb 1. to burn something slightly or brown something □ He accidentally scorched the tablecloth with the iron. 2. to make something very hot and dry □ The sun has scorched the grass.

scorched
adjective slightly burnt or browned

score
noun 1. the number of goals or points made in a match □ The final score in the rugby match was 22–10. □ I didn’t see the beginning of the match — what’s the score? □ what’s the score? what is the news? □ I know the score I know all the problems involved □ twenty □ three score years and ten □ seventy years □ I must have seen film scores of times. 4. written music □ He composed the score for the musical. 5. □ to settle old scores to take revenge for things that happened a long time ago □ He scored three goals in the first twenty minutes. □ She scored sixty-five 

scoreboard
noun a large board on which the score in a game is shown as the game progresses.

scorer
noun 1. a person who scores a point, a goal, etc., in a game □ With his hat trick he became the highest scorer in the league this season. 2. a person who writes down the scores in a game □ We played Scrabble and I was the scorer.

scorn
noun a feeling of thinking that someone or something is not good enough □ He heaped scorn on the committee’s proposal. □ The suggestion was greeted with scorn. Synonym contempt. Antonym admiration □ verb to refuse to accept an idea or a suggestion □ Most young people in the office scorn the idea that smoking can be bad for your health. □ She scoured his proposal of a lift.

scornful
adjective considering something not good enough. Synonym contemptuous. Antonym admiring

scornfully
adverb in a scornful way

scorpio
noun one of the signs of the Zodiac, shaped like a scorpion, covering the period 23rd October to 21st November.

scorpsion
noun a poisonous tropical animal which stings with its long curved tail.

scotch whisky
noun whisky made in Scotland.

scot-free
adjective to get off scot-free to avoid being punished.

scot-free
noun a person from Scotland.

Scotland Yard
noun the headquarters of the London Metropolitan Police, or the officers who work there □ The local police were baffled so they called in Scotland Yard □ A spokesman for Scotland Yard said that a man was helping police with their enquiries. (NOTE: also called simply the Yard)

Scott
noun (of the people, laws, etc.) Scottish □ Not proven’ is a decision in Scots Law. □ noun a dialect of English spoken in Scotland □ Auld Lang Syne’ is one of Burns’ poems in Scots.

Scottish
noun a man from Scotland (NOTE: The plural is Scotsmen.)

Scotswoman
noun a woman from Scotland (NOTE: The plural is Scotswomen.)

scoundrel
noun a bad person, with no principles. Synonym rogue

scour
verb 1. to clean something by scrubbing with a hard material □ Her first job was scouring dirty pans in the restaurant. 2. to search everywhere in a place □ We scoured the market and couldn’t find any
scourer /ˈskauər/ noun a pad of steel wool, plastic thread or other hard material, used to clean pans, etc.

to be scrapping to get food.

scramble /ˈskræmbl/ trademark a game where you are given a series of letters and have to make words with them

cram /kræm/ interj go away!

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cram /kræm/ interj go away!
starts talking about the office. 1. verb 1. to make loud cries 2. to scream with laughter to laugh very loudly

screech /skrɪtʃ/ noun a piercing sound 1. I was woken up by the screech of the owl in the tree. 2. The car sped away with a screech of tyres. (NOTE: The plural is screeches.) 2. verb to make a piercing sound 3. The motorbike raced up and screeched to a stop.

screech 761 scroll bar

screw /skrʊ/ noun 1. a metal pin with a winding groove round it, which you twist to make it go into a hard surface 2. to have a screw loose to be slightly mad (informal) 3. a propeller of a ship 4. a twin-screw trawler 5. to attach something with screws 6. The picture was screwed to the wall. 7. to attach something by twisting 8. He filled up the bottle and screwed on the top. 9. Screw the lid on tightly. 10. he's got his head screwed on the right way he's very sensible (informal)

screwdriver /ˈskrəudrvər/ noun a tool with a long handle and special end which is used for turning screws

screwed-up /ˈskrədˌʌp/ adj worried and unhappy

screw-top jar /ˈskrəu ˈtɒp/ noun a jar with a top which screws on and off

screwy /ˈskrʊə/ adj mad (slang insult) (NOTE: screwier – screwiest)

scribble /ˈskribl/ noun 1. meaningless marks written by a child 2. The wallpaper was covered with scribbles.

scribble 735 screen

script /ˈskrɪpt/ noun 1. the written text of a film or play 2. The actors settled down with their scripts for the first reading. 3. a written examination answer 4. At the end of the exam the invigilator gathered up all the scripts.

scriptwriter /ˈskrɪptwraɪtə/ noun a person who writes scripts for films or for TV or radio plays

scroll /ˈskrɔːl/ noun 1. a long piece of paper with writing on it, rolled up 2. Each graduate was presented with a scroll marking his or her achievement. 2. a curved shape, like a roll of paper 3. The wallpaper is decorated with little blue scrolls. 4. verb to move displayed text up or down the computer screen, one line at a time 5. She rapidly scrolled down until she came to the address she wanted.

scroll bar /ˈskrɔəl bɑ/ noun a bar on a computer screen which is used to scroll up and down
vent you from doing it about whether something is right, which pre-
to have doubts

who scrounges

through the scrub until they came to a river.

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copying other people’s ideas.

rugby you will need a good scrub.

/L50237

something

amination of facts or a very close look at

(L50237

stuff your fingernails to get rid of the dirt.

(L50237

to remove something that has been re-

(L50237

scrubbing brush

(L50237

a layer of dirty foam

(L50237

scrap

(L50237

a small hole in the top of the side

(L50237

scrupulous

(L50237

very careful,

(L50237

to stand close scrutiny

(L50237

The charity’s work will not stand close scrutiny.

(L50237

a person who goes scuba diving

(L50237

the activity of swimming underwater, using

breathing apparatus

(L50237

verb to scratch the surface of

(L50237

verb to row using two oars

(L50237

who makes figures or shapes out of wood, metal

(L50237

verb to carve a figure out of

wood or stone or make it out of metal

(L50237

a woman who makes figures or shapes out of wood, metal

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verb to sink a

(L50237

verb to have scru-

(L50237

to have scruples about doing something to have doubts

about whether something is right, which pre-

vent you from doing it (informal).

(L50237

verb to squash or crush

something with your hand

(L50237

verb to stand close scrutiny

(L50237

verb to have scruples about doing something to have doubts

about whether something is right, which pre-

vent you from doing it (informal).

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to stand close scrutiny

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noun (in rugby)

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verb to stand close scrutiny

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aphorism

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verb to scuttle

(L50237

noun a person who goes scuba diving

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noun the activity of swimming underwater, using

breathing apparatus

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verb to scratch the surface of

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noun (in rugby)

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(L50237

verb to sink a
they saw the police officer in the distance, they all scuttled off down back streets. 2. to sink a ship on purpose by opening holes in the bottom to allow water to come in 0 The captain gave orders to scuttle the ship because he did not want her to be captured by the enemy. 0 noun a type of bucket for keeping coal in the house

cyclet/ˈsaɪθ/ noun a farming implement with a long slightly curved blade attached to a handle with two short projecting hand grips, used for cutting long grass 0 verb to cut grass with a scythe

SE abbr south-east

0 sea /si:/ noun 1. an area of salt water between continents or islands, but not as large as an ocean 0 Swimming in the sea is more exciting than swimming in a river. 0 The sea’s too rough for the ferries to operate. 0 His friends own a house by the sea. 0 The North Sea separates Britain from Denmark and Germany. 0 at sea travelling by ship 0 We were at sea for only five days. 0 by sea using ships as a means of transport 0 When we moved to Australia we sent our furniture to or in the sea. Synonym

of the sea change

seafaring /ˈsiːfərɪŋ/ adj working or travelling on the sea

0 seafood /ˈsiːfaʊd/ noun fish or shellfish which can be eaten

seafront /ˈsiːfrʌnt/ noun a road or wide path which runs beside the sea in a seaside town. Synonym waterfront

seagoing /ˈsiːgɔɪŋ/ adj which is made to be used on the sea

seagull /ˈsiːgʌl/ noun a white sea bird. Synonym gull

gull/ˈgʌl/ noun a small fish that has a head which looks like a horse’s head 0 seal /ˈsiːl/ noun 1. a large animal with short fur, which eats fish, living mainly near to or in the sea. 2. a piece of paper, metal or wax which is used to attach something to close it so that it cannot be opened 0 The customs officials attached their seal to the box. 3. a way in which something is closed 0 The screw top gives a tight seal. 0 verb 1. to close something tightly 0 a box carefully sealed with sticky tape 0 a sealed envelope an envelope whose flap has been stuck down to close it 0 The information was sent in a sealed envelope. 2. to attach a seal to something or stamp something with a seal 0 The customs sealed the shipment.

seal /ˈsiːl/ noun 1. a piece of paper, metal or wax which is made to be used on the sea 0 sealing on the sea 0 go wrong 0 His plans for a long holiday seem to be coming apart at the seams. (NOTE: Do not confuse with seem.)

seaman /ˈsiːmɪn/ noun a man who works on a ship. Synonym sailor (NOTE: The plural is seamen. Do not confuse with semen.)

seamanship /ˈsiːmənʃɪp/ noun the art of sailing a ship

seamless /ˈsiːmləs/ adj with no visible seams or joins

seance /ˈsɛns/ noun a meeting at which people try to communicate with dead people

seaplane /ˈsiːplɛn/ noun a plane with floats instead of wheels, which can land on water

seaport /ˈsiːpɔːt/ noun a town with a large harbour

search /sɛr tʃ/ noun 1. the action of trying to find something 0 Our search of the flat revealed nothing. 0 They carried out a search for the missing children. 0 I did a quick search on the Internet for references to Proust. 2. the examination of records to make sure that a property belongs to the person who is trying to sell it 0 The solicitor’s search revealed that part of the drive belonged to the neighbouring farm. (NOTE: The plural is searches.) 0 verb 1. to examine something or someone very carefully 0 The police searched the house from top to bottom but still couldn’t find any weapons. 0 She searched and searched by customs. 2. to search for someone or something to try to find 0 The police searched for the missing children. 0 I searched the Internet for references to Ireland. 0 to search through something to try to find something by looking through something carefully 0 She searched
search and replace 

through her papers, trying to find the document.

search and replace /ˈsɜːft/ and nˈoples/ noun the action of looking for words or phrases and replacing them automatically with other words or phrases.

search engine /ˈsɜːtʃ ˈendʒɪn/ noun a program which allows you to search for particular words or phrases on the Internet.

 searching /ˈsɜːtʃɪŋ/ adj very detailed or a searching question.

searchlight /ˈsɜːrlɪt/ noun a powerful light used to try to see things, especially aircraft, at night.

search party /ˈsɜːrt/ pɜrti/ noun a group of people sent to look for someone.

search warrant /sɜːtʃ ˈwɔːrnt/ noun an official document signed by a magistrate which allows police to go into a building and look for criminals, weapons or stolen goods.

searing /ˈsɜːrɪŋ/ adj (of heat or pain) very strong.

seashell /ˈsɪʃəl/ noun a shell of a shellfish which lives in the sea.

seashore /ˈsɪʃɔːr/ noun a sandy area along the edge of the sea.

Synonym: beach

seasick /ˈsɪsk/ adj ill because of the movement of a ship.

Seasickness /ˈsɪksɪnθ/ noun sickness caused by the movement of a ship.

Seasickness pills or tablets: medicine taken to prevent seasickness.

seaside /ˈsɪsdεə/ noun an area near the sea where people go to have a holiday.

Synonym: beach

season /ˈseɪzn/ noun 1. one of four parts of a year. The four seasons are spring, summer, autumn and winter. Spring is the season when the garden is full of flowers.

season two. a part of the year when something usually happens.

The tourist season is very long here—from March to September. The football season lasts from September to May.

London is very crowded during the school holiday season.

High season, low season

In season (of fruit) fresh and plentiful and easy to buy. Strawberries are cheap in season. Peaches are in season just now.

Out of season more expensive because the growing season is over.

Oysters are out of season in June.

Season 1, to add flavouring or spices to a dish.

The meat is seasoned with paprika.

2. To dry wood until it is ready to be used.

They made the windows with wood which had not been seasoned properly.

Seasonal /ˈseɪzn(ə)l/ adj 1. which only lasts for a season, usually the holiday season. 2. Work on the island is only seasonal.

Seasoned /ˈseɪzd/ adj 1. (of food) which has had seasoning put on it to improve the flavour.

Seasoned 2. who has had a lot of experience.

Seasoned traveller

Seasoning /ˈseɪznɪŋ/ noun spices which are added to food.

Season ticket /ˈseɪztɪk/ noun a railway, bus or theatre ticket, which you can use for a whole year or a month at a time.

Seat /sɪt/ noun 1. a chair, something which you sit on.

Bicycle seats are narrow.

He was sitting in the driver’s seat.

Can we have two seats in the front row? Our kitchen chairs have wooden seats.

To take a seat to sit down. Please take a seat, the dentist will see you in a few minutes.

To take your seat to sit down in as seat reserved for you, especially at the theatre.

Please take your seats, the play is about to begin.

2. a place on a committee or a town council, in Parliament, etc.

He lost his seat at the general election.

3. the part of a chair on which you sit.

The seat of the chair needs to be re-covered.

4. The part of trousers which covers your behind.

Verb to have enough seats for a number of people.

The restaurant seats 75.

The bus seats sixty.

Seat belt /sɪt bɛlt/ noun a belt which you wear in a car or plane to stop you being hurt if there is an accident.

Seated /ˈsɪtɪd/ adj sitting down.

Seating /ˈsɪtɪŋ/ noun seats for people.

Seating capacity /ˈsɪtɪŋ ˈkæpəsɪtɪ/ noun the number of seats, e.g. in a bus or cinema.

Seafood /ˈsiːwʊd/ noun a plant which grows in the sea.

NOTE: some seafood: a piece of seafood.

Seaworthy /ˈsiːwɔrθi/ adj (of a boat) which is fit to go to sea.

Seat of the chair needs to be re-covered.

Searchlight /ˈsɜːrtʃ ˈlɪt/ noun a powerful light used to try to see things, especially aircraft, at night.

Search party /ˈsɜːrt/ pɜrti/ noun a group of people sent to look for someone.

Search warrant /sɜːtʃ ˈwɔːrnt/ noun an official document signed by a magistrate which allows police to go into a building and look for criminals, weapons or stolen goods.

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search and replace
which has seceded or is proposing to secede ○ a secessionist state
second /ˈsekənd/ adj quiet or away from crowds ○ We found a secluded spot by the river for our picnic.
seclusion /ˈsiːklən/ noun solitude.
Synonym privacy ○ second noun /ˈsekənd/ 1. one of sixty parts which make up a minute ○ Please wait a second. ○ Wait here, I’ll be back in a second. 3. something or someone that comes after the first thing or person ○ Today is the second of March or March the second (March 2nd). ○ The Great Fire of London took place when Charles the Second (Charles II) was king. (NOTE: In dates second is usually written 2nd or 2: August 2nd, 1932, 2 July, 1666 (American style is July 2, 1666), say the second of July or July the second (American style is July second). With names of kings and queens second is usually written II: Queen Elizabeth II (say Queen Elizabeth the Second’)). 4. the person who helps a boxer during a fight ○ seconds out an instruction to seconds to leave the boxing ring before a round begins ○ adj /ˈsekənd/ 1. coming after the first and before the third ○ That’s the second time the telephone has rung while we’re eating. ○ February is the second month of the year. ○ He came second in the race. ○ It’s his second birthday next week. ○ B is the second letter in the alphabet. ○ Women’s clothes are on the second floor. ○ the second century the period from 100 AD to 199 2. only one other is more (followed by a superlative) ○ This is the second longest bridge in the world. ○ He’s the second highest paid member of staff. ○ verb 1. /ˈsekənd/ 2. to second a motion ○ to be the first person to formally support a proposal put forward by someone else in a meeting ○ The motion was seconded by Mrs Smith. 2. /ˈsekənd/ to lend a member of staff, e.g. to another company or a government department, for a fixed period of time ○ He was seconded to the Department of Trade for two years. ○ secondment ○ secondary /ˈsekəndri/ adj 1. which comes second, after primary 2. ○ of secondary importance not so very important ○ The colour of the car is of secondary importance.
secondary education /ˈsekəndri/ education for children after the age of eleven or twelve ○ secondary school /ˈsekəndri/ school for children after the age of eleven or twelve
second best /ˈsekənd ˈbest/ noun something which is not as good as the best...
second-rate /ˈsekənd ˈret/ adj not of very good quality. Compare first-rate, third-rate

2. seconds /ˈsekəndz/ plural noun 1. another helping of the same dish ○ Can I have seconds, please?
2. items which have been turned down as not being of top quality ○ The shop has a sale of seconds. ○ We bought our dinner plates as seconds.

second sight /ˈsekənd ˈsæt/ noun the ability to see what will happen in the future.

second thoughts /ˈsekənd ˈθɔːts/ plural noun □ to have second thoughts about something to change your mind about something ○ Is she having second thoughts about getting married? ○ on second thoughts having thought about it again ○ I said I didn’t want any pudding, but on second thoughts, perhaps I will have some.

Second World War /ˈsekənd wɜːld ˈwɔːr/ noun a war fought from 1939 to 1945 in Europe, Africa and Asia.

secrecy /ˈsɪkriːsɪ/ noun the fact of being secret or keeping something secret ○ a secret kept from other people ○ There is a secret door into the cellar. ○ to keep something secret to make sure that no one knows about something ○ She kept her birth secret for twenty years. □ noun 1. a thing which is not known or which is kept hidden ○ If I tell you a secret will you promise not to repeat it to anyone? ○ are they in on the secret? do they know the secret? ○ to keep a secret not to tell someone something which you know and no one else does ○ Can you keep a secret?
2. in secret without anyone knowing ○ They met in secret by the lake in the park. ○ they make no secret of where the money came from ○ everyone knows where the money came from ○ what’s the secret of something? how do you do something successfully? ○ What’s the secret of making mayonnaise?

secret agent /ˈsɪkərət ˈɛdʒənt/ noun a spy

secretarial /ˈsɛkrətriəl/ adj referring to the work of a secretary

secretariat /ˈsɛkrətriət/ noun an office with the job of running an organisation or government department, and the officials who work in it.

2. secretary /ˈsɛkrətri/ noun 1. a person who does work such as writing letters, answering the phone and filing documents for someone 2. an official who keeps the minutes and official documents of a committee or club ○ He was elected secretary of the committee or committee secretary. 3. a Secretary of State, a member of the government in charge of a department ○ the Secretary for Education, the Education Secretary

Secretary General /ˈsɛkrətri ˈdʒenərəl/ noun the chief administrative officer of an international organisation (NOTE: The plural is Secretaries General.)

Secretary of State /ˌsɛkrətri əv ˈstet/ noun 1. a member of the government in charge of a department 2. US a senior member of the government in charge of foreign affairs (NOTE: The British term is Foreign Secretary.)

secret ballot /ˈsɪkət ˈbaʊlt/ noun an election where the voters vote in secret.

secret society /ˈsɪkət ˈsəsəti/ noun a group of people who are loyal to each other and work secretly to achieve certain aims.

secret service /ˈsɪkət ˈsɜːrvɪs/ noun an organisation that works to prevent and punish crime and espionage.

secretive /ˈsɪkətrɪv/ adj liking to keep things secret.

secretly /ˈsɪkətrɪli/ adv without anyone knowing. Antonym openly

secret police /ˈsɪkət ˈpolɪs/ noun a part of a police force which spies on members of the public.

secret service /ˈsɪkət ˈsərvɪs/ noun a government department which spies on other countries.

sect /sɛkt/ noun a religious group.

sectarian /ˈsɛktərɪən/ adj referring to conflicts between religious groups.

sectorialism /ˈsɛktəriəlɪzəm/ noun the existence of religious groups which are violently opposed to each other.

2. section /ˈsɛkʃən/ noun 1. a part of something which, when joined to other parts, goes to make up a whole ○ the brass section of the orchestra ○ the financial section of the newspaper ○ He works in a completely different section of the organisation. 2. the act of cutting tissue in a surgical operation ○ caesarean 3. a diagram showing the inside of something as if cut open ○ The drawing shows a section through the main part of the engine. ○ cross-section, a part of a legal document or Act of Parliament ○ We qualify for a grant under Section 23.

sectional /ˈsɛkʃənəl/ adj 1. built in sections ○ They used sectional building techniques to put up the block of flats quickly. 2. referring to the interests of certain groups of
guarantee that if someone does not repay a thing dangerous or illegal such as a bomb

security /siˈkjuərɪ/ noun 1. a part of the economy or the business organisation of a country. 2. a part of a circle between two lines drawn from the centre to the outside edge. The circle had been divided into five sectors.

secular /ˈsekjʊələr/ adj not religious, not connected with religion. Antonym spiritual

security guards patrol the factory at night.

something such as attack or robbers

visit.

storm comes.

four-door car with seating for four or five people

shares
certificates to show that someone owns stocks or a loan.

computers technology is a booming sector of the economy.

security. It is repaid.

is repaid

to the rise in the exchange rate.

funds to them. 2. firmly fixed. 3. Don’t step on that plank, it’s not secure. 4. to be in a secure job to have a job which you are sure to keep for a long time

secure all the doors before the storm comes. 2. She secured herself to the rock with a strong rope. 3. to be successful in getting something important

He secured the backing of a big bank.

get money by promising to give property or goods if you cannot pay back the money

securely /ˈsɪkjurəli/ adv in a secure way.

security /ˈsɪkjʊərɪtɪ/ plural noun 1. investments in stocks and shares 2. certificats to show that someone owns stocks or shares

security /ˈsɪkjʊərəti/ noun 1. safety. 2. protection against criminals. 3. There were worries about security during the prince’s visit. 4. Security in this office is nil. 5. Security guards patrol the factory at night.

a thing given to someone who has lent you money and which is returned when the loan is repaid. He uses his house as security for a loan. 2. The bank lent him £20,000 without security. 3. to stand security for someone to guarantee that if someone does not repay a loan, you will repay it for him or her

security check /ˈsɪkjʊərɪ-ti ˈtʃek/ noun a check to see that no one is carrying something dangerous or illegal such as a bomb

Security Council /ˌsɪkjʊərəti ˌkeɪˈɒnsl/ noun the 15-member ruling body of the United Nations, of which five permanent members have the power of veto

security service /ˌsɪkjʊərəti ˈsɜːvɪs/ noun a government service which looks after the security of the country

sedan /ˈsedən/ noun US a two- or four-door car with seating for four or five people (NOTE: The British term is saloon.)

sedate /ˈsedət/ adj calm, solemn and dignified. They live in a sedate suburb. 2. The procession moved at a sedate pace through the town. 3. to give someone a drug to make them calm or go to sleep. 4. The patient became violent and had to be sedated.

sedately /ˈsedətli/ adv in a calm or serious way

sedation /ˈsedəʃən/ noun the act of calming a patient with a drug.

sedative /ˈsedətɪv/ noun a drug which acts on the nervous system to help a patient sleep or to relieve stress.

sedative /ˈsedətɪv/ noun a drug which makes you calm or which makes you go to sleep. This herbal tea has a sedative effect.

sedentary /ˈsedəntəri/ adj which involves sitting down. 2. a sedentary occupation a job where you have to sit down most of the time.

Keyboarding is a very sedentary occupation.

sediment /ˈsedəmənt/ noun solid particles which fall to the bottom of a liquid

sedition /ˈsedɪʃən/ noun the crime of doing acts, or speaking or publishing words, which bring the royal family or the government into contempt and which encourage civil disorder.

sedulous /ˈsedəljəs/ adj which encourages sedition. Synonym rebellious.

seduce /ˈsedʒəs/ verb 1. to persuade someone to have sex. 2. She was seduced by her history teacher. 3. to persuade someone to do something which is perhaps wrong.

He was seduced by the idea of earning a vast salary.

seduction /ˈsedʒəkʃən/ noun 1. the act of seducing someone. 2. His seduction of the young girl.

an attractive possibility. He was attracted by the seductions of life in the South of France.

NOTE: usually plural.

seductive /ˈsedʒəktɪv/ adj 1. sexually appealing. 2. attractive.

see /sɪ/ verb 1. to use your eyes to notice something. 2. Can you see that tree in the distance? 3. They say eating carrots helps you to see in the dark. 4. We ran because we could see the bus coming. 5. I have never seen a badger before. 2. to watch a something such as a film. 3. I don’t want to go to the cinema this week. I’ve seen that film twice already. 4. We saw the football match on TV. 5. to go with someone to a place.
seed /siz/ noun 1. a part of a plant which is formed after the flowers die and from which a new plant will grow. 2. a packet of parsley seed. 3. sow the seeds in fine earth. 4. Can you eat pumpkin seeds? 5. see to 6. to see through

seedy /ˈsiːdi/ adj. poor and dirty. 1. The tour included three nights in a rather seedy hotel. 2. She won’t be coming to work today as she’s feeling rather seedy. (NOTE: seedier – seediest)

see in /ˈsiːn/ verb 1. to have a midnight party to celebrate something. 2. We stayed up late to see the New Year in.

seeing /ˈsiːnɪŋ/ noun the action of seeing with the eyes. 1. Seeing is believing. 2. seeing that since. 3. Seeing that everyone’s here, let’s begin!

seek /sɪk/ verb 1. to look for someone or something 2. The police are seeking a group of teenagers who were in the area when the attack took place. 3. to seek refuge to try to find shelter. 4. During the fighting, they sought refuge in the British embassy. 5. to ask for something. 6. They are seeking damages from the driver of the car. 7. She sought an interview with the minister. (NOTE: seeking – sought /sɔt/ – has sought)

seeker /ˈsɪkər/ noun a person who looks for, asks for or is trying to get a particular thing 1. an attention seeker. 2. seem /sɪm/ verb to give the appearance of being 1. She seems to like it. 2. It seems strange to us that no one answered the phone. Synonym appear (NOTE: Do not confuse with seam.)

seemingly /ˈsiːmɪŋli/ adv. apparently

seemly /ˈsiːmli/ adj. decent or correct (formal). Synonym appropriate. Antonym unseemly

see off /ˈsiː/ verb 1. to go to the airport or station with someone who is leaving on a journey. 2. an amount of liquid which has seeped. Synonym leakage

seer /ˈsɪər/ noun a person who can see into the future (archaic)

seesaw /ˈsɪzəʊ/ verb 1. a plank with seats at each end, balanced in the middle, so that when one end goes down the other goes up

seed /siːd/ noun 1. a part of a plant which is formed after the flowers die and from which a new plant will grow. 2. a packet of parsley seed. 3. sow the seeds in fine earth. 4. Can you eat pumpkin seeds? 5. see to 6. to see through

see to /ˈsiː tu/ verb to arrange something or make sure that something is done. Synonym deal with
segment /ˈseŋmənt/ noun 1. a part of something, especially something which divides naturally into different parts ○ grapefruit segments ○ 30– to 40-year-olds are the most affluent segment of the population. 2. a part of a circle or sphere when a line is drawn across it

segregate /ˈseɡrɪɡeɪt/ verb to separate people into groups. Antonym integrate

segregated /ˈseɡrɪɡeɪtɪd/ adj separated into groups ○ segregated schools schools which only take children of a certain religion or skin colour

segregation /ˈsegrɪɡəʃən/ noun a separation into different groups. Antonym integration

seismic /ˈsɛzəmɪk/ adj referring to earthquakes

seismic shock /ˈsɛzəmɪk ʃɔk/, seismic wave /ˈsɛzəmɪk wɛv/ noun a shock wave which spreads out from the centre of an earthquake ○ seize /sɪz/ verb 1. to grab something and hold it tight ○ She seized the bag of sweets in both hands and would not let go. ○ to seize the opportunity to take advantage of the situation to do something ○ When the President’s car slowed down, the man seized the opportunity and threw a grenade. 2. to take possession of something by force ○ The customs seized the shipment of books.

seize on /sɪz nən/, seize upon /sɪz əˌpən/ verb to take and use something

seize up /sɪz əˈpʊr/ verb to stop working properly

seizure /ˈsɛzjʊr/ noun 1. the act of taking possession of something ○ The court ordered the seizure of the shipment of books. 2. a sudden contraction of the muscles, especially in a heart attack or an epileptic fit ○ A member of the audience has had a seizure. ○ She has epileptic seizures. ○ seldom /ˈsɛldəm/ adv not often. Antonym often (NOTE: The word order when seldom is at the beginning of a phrase in: you seldom hear or seldom do you hear.)

select /sɛlkt/ verb to choose something or someone carefully ○ She looked carefully at the shelves before selecting a book. ○ He was selected for the England squad. ○ Selected items are reduced by 25%. ■ adj 1. carefully chosen ○ a select group of players who have scored more than 100 goals in international football 2. available to only a few rich people ○ She went to a very select school in Switzerland. They live in a very select area.

select /sɛlkt/ noun 1. a range ○ There is a huge selection of hats to choose from. 2. a thing which has or things which have been chosen ○ a selection of our product line ○ a selection of French cheeses

the process of choosing something ○ the selection procedure

selection board /səˈleksən bɔːd/, selection committee /səˈleksən kəˌmiːtɪ/ noun a committee which chooses a candidate for a job ○ selective /səˈlektɪv/ adj choosing carefully between different possibilities

selector /səˈlektər/ noun a person who chooses people to play in a national team ○ self /sɛl/ noun your own person or character ○ She was ill for some time, but now she’s her old self again. ○ She’s not her usual happy self today – I think she’s got something on her mind. (NOTE: The plural is selves.)

self /sɛl/ prefix referring to yourself

self-addressed envelope /sɛlfəˈdresd ˈenvəloʊp/ noun an envelope with your own address on it. Abbrev s.a.e.

self-adhesive /sɛlf əˈdiˈhɛsɪv/ adj covered with a special glue which allows it to be stuck to a surface without being moistened

self-assessment /sɛlf əˈsesmənt/ noun 1. the practice of assessing for yourself how well you have done something such as your work. 2. calculating for yourself what you owe in tax.

self-assured /sɛlf əˈʃʊrd/ adj confident and sure of yourself

self-awareness /sɛlf əˈwɛərəs/ noun the fact of having a clear and accurate knowledge of your own character

self-catering /sɛlf ˈkɛtərɪŋ/ noun the practice of doing the cooking for yourself

self-centred /sɛlf ˈsɛntərd/ adj thinking only about yourself and your own concerns. Synonym selfish. Antonym selfless (NOTE: The US spelling is self-centered.)

self-confessed /sɛlf ˈkɔnfəsɪd/ adj who admits to being something

self-confidence /sɛlf ˈkɔnfɪdəns/ noun the fact of being self-confident

self-confident /sɛlf ˈkɔnfɪdənt/ adj sure that you are able to do something, sure that what you are doing is well done, etc. Antonym self-doubtful

self-conscious /sɛlf ˈkɔnsɛsnəs/ adj embarrassed because you feel you have certain faults. Antonym self-confident

self-contained /sɛlf ˈkɔntɛntd/ adj (of a flat or an office) which has its own entrance and kitchen, toilets, etc., and does not share any facilities with others

self-control /sɛlf ˈkɔntrəl/ noun the act of keeping your feelings under control

self-defence /sɛlf dɪˈfens/ noun the act of defending yourself (NOTE: The US spelling is self-defense.)

self-destruct /sɛlf ˈdɪstrækt/ verb to destroy itself
self-destructive /self ˈdɪstrəktɪv/ adj doing things which are likely to cause your self harm
self-determination /ˈsɛlf dɪˈtɜrminəˈʃən/ noun a free choice by the people of a country as to how they should be governed. Synonym autonomy
self-discipline /ˈsɛlf ˈdɪsˌplɪn/ noun the ability to control your behaviour and do what you should do
self-effacing /ˈsɛlf ɪˈfesɪŋ/ adj modest about your own achievements or good qualities
self-employed /ˈsɛlf ɪmˈpʌləd/ adj working for yourself, not employed by a company ○ a self-employed accountant ○ He worked for a bank for ten years but now is self-employed. Synonym freelance. Antonym employed plural noun □ the self-employed people who work for themselves □ self-governing /ˈsɛlf ˈgʌvərning/ noun a good opinion of yourself and your ability. Synonym self-respect
self-evident /ˈsɛlf ˈevɪd(ə)nt/ adj obvious. Antonym unclear
self-explanatory /ˈsɛlf ikˈspleɪnət(ə)rɪ/ adj which explains itself easily
self-government /ˈsɛlf ˈgɑvərnmənt/ noun the control of a country by its own government, free from foreign influence. Synonym autonomy
self-help /ˈsɛlf ˈhelpt/ noun the fact of using your own efforts to help yourself, without relying on other people or the government self-important /ˈsɛlf ɪmˈpɔrt(ə)nt/ adj behaving as if you believe you are very important
self-imposed /ˈsɛlf ɪmˈpɔʊzd/ adj chosen for yourself
self-indulgent /ˈsɛlf ɪnˈdʌlt(ə)nt/ adj allowing yourself to do what you feel like without self-control
self-inflicted /ˈsɛlf ɪnˈfɪkləd/ adj caused by yourself
self-interest /ˈsɛlf ɪnˈtɜrst/ noun working for your own benefit. Synonym selfishness □ selfish /ˈsɛlfɪʃ/ adj doing things only for yourself and not for other people. Synonym self-centred. Antonym selfless
selfishly /ˈsɛlfɪʃli/ adv done only for yourself
selfishness /ˈsɛlfɪʃnəs/ noun the fact of being selfish
selfless /ˈsɛlfɪls/ adj not thinking of yourself, only of others. Synonym unselfish. Antonym selfish
self-made /ˈsɛlfmeɪd/ adj rich and successful because of your own work, not because you inherited money or position
self-pity /ˈsɛlf ˈpɪtɪ/ noun pity for yourself self-portrait /ˈsɛlf ˈpɔrtrət/ noun a painting of the artist done by himself or herself
self-righteous /ˈsɛlf ˈraɪtərəs/ adj feeling sure that you are doing what is right. Synonym sanctimonious
self-rule /ˈsɛlf rʊl/ noun the right of a country or a state to govern itself
self-sacrifice /ˈsɛlf ˈsærkəfəs/ noun the act of giving something up so that others can benefit
self-satisfied /ˈsɛlf ˈsætɪstid/ adj feeling very pleased with yourself or with your actions
self-service /ˈsɛlf ˈsɜrvəs/ adj (of a shop or restaurant) in which you take things yourself before paying for them, rather than being served by an assistant
self-styled /ˈsɛlf ˈstaidəl/ adj with a title which you have given yourself
self-sufficiency /ˈsɛlf səˈfɪʃ(ə)nsi/ noun the fact of being self-sufficient. Synonym independence. Antonym dependence self-sufficient /ˈsɛlf ˈsæfɪʃ(ə)nt/ adj able to provide everything for yourself. Synonym independent. Antonym dependent self-taught /ˈsɛlf ˈtɔt/ adj who has taught himself or herself a skill ○ sell /ˈsɛl/ verb 1. to give something to someone for money ○ He sold his house to my father. ○ We managed to sell the car for £100. ○ The shop sells vegetables but not meat 2. to be sold ○ These packs sell for £25 a dozen. ○ Her latest book is selling very well. (NOTE: selling — sold /ˈsɔld/ n noun the act of selling something ○ to give a product the hard sell to make great efforts to persuade customers to buy a product ○ to give a product the soft sell to persuade people to buy something, by encouraging and not forcing them to do so
sell-by date /ˈsɛl bə dɛt/ noun the date on a packet of food, which is the last date on which the food can be sold while it is guaranteed to be good
seller /ˈsɛlər/ noun 1. a person who sells something ○ There were a few postcard sells
seller's market 771

send

SELLOTAPE /ˈsɛlətəʊp/ trademark a type of sticky tape ○ She put the books in a box and sealed it with Sellotape.

sell out /ˈsɛl aʊt/ verb 1. to sell your business ○ He sold out to his partner and retired to the seaside. 2. to sell all the stock of an item ○ This item has sold out. ○ Have you got it in a size 12? – No. I’m afraid we’ve sold out. 3. to give in to a group of influential people ○ The environmental group has accused the government of selling out to the oil companies. sell out /ˈsɛl ət/ noun 1. a betrayal of all your principles ○ They said his change of policy was a sellout to the forces of the right. ○ It’s a sellout – the council should have stood up for our rights. 2. a performance of a play, film or concert for which all the tickets have been sold ○ The new musical is a sellout.

sell off /ˈsɛl of/ verb to sell goods quickly and cheaply to get rid of them ○ At the end of the day the market traders sell off their fruit and vegetables very cheaply.

sell-off /ˈsɛl əv/ noun the act of selling something to private buyers

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send away for 772

make someone act or feel in a certain way □ to send someone crazy. round the bend or up the wall to make someone extremely annoyed. □ The noise of the pneumatic drills outside the office is sending me up the wall.

send away for / send ə’twet fɔ/ verb to write and ask someone to send you something, usually something which you have seen in an advertisement

send back / send ‘bæk/ verb to return something by post

sender / sendə/ noun a person who sends something, especially a letter □ The letter was returned to the sender. □ ‘return to sender’ words on an envelope or parcel to show that it is to be sent back to the person who sent it

send for / send fɔ/ verb to ask someone to come

send in / send ‘ɪn/ verb to send a letter to an organisation

send off / send ‘ɒf/ verb 1. (in games) to tell someone to go off the field □ The referee sent both players off. 2. to post something □ He sent the postcard off without a stamp.

send-off / send ‘ɒf/ noun a party where you say goodbye to someone who is leaving on a long journey (informal)

send off for / send ‘ɒf fɔ/ same as send away for

send up / send ‘ʌp/ verb 1. to make something go up □ They sent up an emergency flare. □ The cold weather has sent up the price of vegetables. 2. to make jokes about someone (informal) □ In one of his TV sketches, he sends up the Foreign Minister.

senile / ˈsenɪl/ adjective referring to someone whose is forgetful and confused because of old age

senility / ˈsenɪlɪtɪ/ noun the medical condition of being senile

senior / ˈsenɪər/ adjective 1. older than the senior members of the tribe. 2. more important, e.g. in rank □ A sergeant is senior to a corporal. □ My senior colleagues do not agree with me. □ noun 1. an older person □ He must be at least ten years your senior. 2. US a student in his or her fourth year or last year at school or college. 3. the father in a family where the son has the same name □ Harry Markovitz Senior

senior citizen / ˈsenɪər ˈsɪtɪzn/ noun an old person who does not work. Synonym pensioner

seniority / ˈsenɪərɪtɪ/ noun 1. the fact of being older or more important □ the professors were listed in order of seniority the professor who had been in the department the longest was put at the top of the list. 2. the fact of being a member of a group longer than someone else □ He has several years’ seniority over me as a member of the club.

seniors / ˈsenɪzəlz/ plural noun the older children in a school

senior school / ˈsenɪər skɔːl/ noun same as secondary school (informal)

sensation / ˈsenɪʃn/ noun 1. a general feeling □ I felt a curious sensation as if I had been in the room before. 2. a physical feeling □ She had a burning sensation in her arm. 3. a thing or person that causes great excitement □ The new ballet was the sensation of the season.

sensational / ˈsenɪʃnəl/ adjective 1. which causes great excitement □ His sensational discovery shocked the world of archaeology. 2. very good □ A sensational new film – don’t miss it! □ You look sensational in that outfit.

sensationalism / ˌsenɪˈʃnəlɪzəm/ noun the practice of making things seem especially exciting or shocking, e.g. in newspaper reporting

sense / ˈsens/ noun 1. one of the five ways in which you notice something (sight, hearing, smell, taste, touch) □ He may be 93, but he still has all his senses. □ His senses had been dulled by the drugs he was taking. □ Dogs have a good sense of smell. 2. a general feeling about something □ She had a sense of being cut off from reality. □ The police seemed to have no sense of urgency. 3. a meaning □ He was using ‘bear’ in the sense of ‘to carry’. 4. the fact of being sensible □ At least someone showed some sense and tried to calm the situation. □ She didn’t have the sense to refuse. □ I thought Patrick would have had more sense than that. □ to have more money than sense to have too much money and not know how to spend it wisely (informal) □ Did you see what she bought? ‘She’s got more money than sense!’ 5. □ in one sense, in a sense up to a point, partly □ In a sense, he was right. □ in no sense in no way, not at all □ She’s in no sense to blame for what happened. □ verb to be aware of or feel something □ I could sense the feeling of hostility in the room.

senseless / ˈsensls/ adjective 1. stupid □ a senseless attack on a little old lady □ It’s senseless to buy clothes you don’t need, just because they are in the sales. 2. unconscious □ He lay senseless on the ground.

sense of humour / ˈsens əv ‘hjʊərəm/ noun an ability to find things funny and not be too serious

sense / ˈsens/ noun 1. the five physical senses (sight, hearing, smell, taste, touch) (in games) □ You lose one of your senses each time you are hit. 2. a sense of being cut off from reality. □ She had a burning sensation in her arm. □ I felt a curious sensation as if I had been in the room before. □ The new ballet was the sensation of the season. □ She had a burning sensation in her arm. □ The police seemed to have no sense of urgency. □ I thought Patrick would have had more sense than that. □ to have more money than sense to have too much money and not know how to spend it wisely (informal) □ Did you see what she bought? ‘She’s got more money than sense!’ 5. □ in one sense, in a sense up to a point, partly □ In a sense, he was right. □ in no sense in no way, not at all □ She’s in no sense to blame for what happened. □ verb to be aware of or feel something □ I could sense the feeling of hostility in the room.

sense of smell / ˈsens əv ˈsmɛl/ noun the ability to notice things by smell (informal)
sensibility /ˈsɛnsəbɪlɪti/ noun the ability to respond to experiences with emotion (formal)

- sensible /ˈsɛnsəbl/ adj 1. showing good judgement and wisdom ○ Staying indoors was the sensible thing to do. ○ Try and be sensible for once! 2. (of shoes) strong and comfortable for walking, rather than fashionable

sensibly /ˈsɛnsəblɪ/ adv in a sensible way

sensitise /ˈsɛnsɪtɪz/, sensitize verb to make something sensitive to something such as light

- sensitive /ˈsɛnsɪtɪv/ adj 1. with keen feelings, easily upset ○ She’s a very sensitive young woman. ○ Some actors are extremely sensitive to criticism. 2. controversial, which may provoke an argument ○ Human rights is a very sensitive issue at the moment. 3. which measures very accurately ○ a very sensitive light meter ○ We need a more sensitive thermometer. 4. which reacts to something ○ If you have very sensitive skin use plenty of sun tan cream. ○ Flowers are sensitive to fluctuations in temperature and humidity.

- sensitivity /ˈsɛnsɪtɪvɪtɪ/ noun sensitive feelings. Antonym indifference

sensor /ˈsɛnsər/ noun an electronic device that reacts to something such as heat, light or smoke

sensory /ˈsɛnsərɪ/ adj referring to the senses

sensual /ˈsɛnsjuəl/ adj referring to pleasures of the body, not of the mind

sensuous /ˈsɛnsjʊəs/ adj which gives pleasure to the senses. Antonym ascetic

- send /sɛnd/ verb

- sentence /ˈsɛntəs/ noun 1. words put together to make a complete statement, usually ending in a full stop ○ I don’t understand the second sentence in your letter. ○ Begin each sentence with a capital letter. 2. a judgement of a court ○ He was given a six-month prison sentence. ○ The judge passed sentence on the accused. Antonym acquittal

- sentiment /ˈsɛntɪmənt/ noun a general feeling ○ The government had to take public sentiment into account.

- sentimental /ˈsɛntɪməntəl/ adj showing emotions of love or pity, not reason ○ to be of sentimental value ○ to be of sentimental value at the moment. ○ The second sentence in your letter.

sentiments /ˈsɛntɪmənts/ plural noun opinions

- sentry /ˈsɛntri/, sentinel /ˈsɛntən(ə)l/ noun a soldier on duty, e.g. at a gate. Synonym guard (NOTE: The plural is sentries.)

sepal /ˈsɛp(ə)l/ noun a part of a plant like a green leaf under the petals of a flower

separable /ˈsɛpərəb(ə)l/ adj able to be separated

- separate adj /ˈsɛpərət/ not together or attached ○ They are in separate rooms. ○ The house has one bathroom with a separate toilet. ○ The dogs were kept separate from the other pets. ○ Can you give us two separate invoices? ○ to send something under separate cover to send something in a different envelope or parcel ▪ verb /ˈsɛpərət/ 1. to divide people or things ○ The personnel are separated into part-timers and full-time staff. ○ The teacher separated the class into two groups. 2. to keep people or things apart ○ The police tried to separate the two gangs. ○ Is it possible to separate religion and politics? 3. to break away from a partner and become independent ○ They are arguing all the time – it wouldn’t surprise me if they were to separate. ○ The Baltic states separated from Russia.

separated /ˈsɛpərətɪd/ adj not living together any more

- separably /ˈsɛpərəb(ə)lɪ/ adv in a separate way, individually

- separates /ˈsɛpərəts/ plural noun pieces of women’s clothing, such as skirts, blouses or jumpers, which can be worn in different combinations

separation /ˈsɛpərəʃ(ə)n/ noun 1. the act of dividing people or things ○ He favours the separation of the students into smaller groups. ○ The separation of the house into two flats will require planning permission. 2. the fact of living apart ○ A six-month separation of mother and child may have long-term effects. ○ After my parents’ separation I lived with my father.

separatism /ˈsɛpərətɪz(ə)m/ noun a belief that part of a country should become separate and independent from the rest

separatist /ˈsɛpərətɪst/ adj referring to separatism ○ The separatist movement is gaining in popularity. ▪ noun a person who believes that part of the country should become separate and independent ○ Basque separatists met the Spanish Prime Minister today.
In several parts containing a tomb or grave.

The weather is usually good in September. Her birthday is in September. Today is September 3rd. We always try to take a short holiday in September. (NOTE: September 3rd or September 3, say ‘September the third’ or the third of September or in US English ‘September third’.)

Septic /ˈseptɪk/ adj (of a part of a body or a wound) infected with bacteria.

Serpent /ˈsɛpənt/ noun a small round shiny metal ornament, sewn onto clothes.

Serenade /ˌsərəˈnɛd/ noun a love song. He sang a serenade.

Serenely /ˌsərəˈnɛli/ adv calmly.

Serenity /ˌsɛrəˈnəti/ noun the fact of being calm.

Sergeant /ˈsɜrdʒənt/ noun a non-commissioned officer in the army or the police, the rank above a corporal. (NOTE: also used as a title before a surname: Sergeant Jones)

Sergeant major /ˌsɜrdʒənt ˈmeɪdʒər/ noun a non-commissioned officer of middle rank in the army and some other armed forces.

Serial /ˈsɛrɪəl/ adj in a series. Place the cards in serial order. Antonym random.

Serial killer /ˈsɛrɪəl ˈkɪλər/ serial murderer /ˈsɛrɪəl ˈmɜrdərər/ noun a person who has committed several murders, one after the other.

Serve /sɜrv/ verb 1. To give food or drink to someone. She served the soup in small bowls. It’s a buffet lunch – take a plate and serve yourself. Has everyone been served? 2. To bring food or drink to someone at a table. Which waitress is serving this table? 3. To go with a dish. Is served with a white sauce. You usually serve red wine with meat.

Serve /sɜrv/ verb 4. To work as an official. He served in the army.

Serve /sɜrv/ noun a number that is given to something such as a piece of equipment or a bank note so that it can be identified.

Serious /ˈsiːriəs/ adj 1. Not funny; not joking. He’s such a serious little boy. 2. Important and possibly dangerous. There was a serious accident on the motorway. 3. Carefully planned. The management is making serious attempts to improve working conditions.

Seriously /ˈsiːriəsli/ adv in a serious way. She should laugh more – she mustn’t always take things so seriously.

The cargo was seriously damaged by water.

There’s no need to worry – it’s nothing serious.

He’s such a serious person.

We all have to listen to the head teacher’s annual sermon about drugs.

Serotonin /ˈsɜrtərəʊˌtən/ noun a chemical in your body which affects your moods and the sending of messages through your nerves.

Serrated /ˈsɛrɪtəd/ adj with V-shaped teeth along the edge. Synonym jagged.

Serve /sɜrv/ verb 1. To give food or drink to someone. She served the soup in small bowls. It’s a buffet lunch – take a plate and serve yourself. Has everyone been served? 2. To bring food or drink to someone at a table. Which waitress is serving this table? 3. To go with a dish. Fish is served with a white sauce. You usually serve red wine with meat. To be enough food for a number of people. The packet contains enough to serve six.

Serve /sɜrv/ verb 5. To work as an official. He served in the army.
server 775

for ten years. 6. to help a customer, e.g. in a shop. 7. Are you being served? 8. The manager served me himself. 9. Will you serve this lady next, please? 10. to provide a service for people or a place. 11. The local bus serves the villages in the hills. 12. The aim of our organisation is to serve the local community. 13. This hospital serves the western side of the city. 14. in games like tennis. to start the game by hitting the ball. 15. She served two aces in a row. 16. He served first.

17. to serve as something to be useful as something. 18. The tall hedge serves as a screen to cut out the noise from the motorway. 19. (noun in games like tennis) the action of hitting the ball. 20. She has a very powerful serve.

server /ˈsɜːvər/ noun 1. a dedicated computer or program which provides a function to a network. 2. (in games like tennis) a person who is serving. 3. the server stands behind the baseline. 4. a person who helps a priest at mass. 5. The server held the book for the priest.

service /ˈsɜːvɪs/ noun 1. a time when you work for a company or organisation or in the armed forces. 2. Did he enjoy his service in the army? 3. She did six years' service in the police. 4. He was awarded a gold watch for his long service to the company. 5. He saw service in Northern Ireland. 6. the length of service the number of years someone has worked. 7. the act of serving or helping someone in a shop or restaurant. 8. The food is good here, but the service is very slow. 9. The bill includes an extra 10% for service. 10. Is the service included? 11. The bill does not include service. 12. a regular check of a machine. 13. The server has had its 20,000-kilometre service. 14. a group of people working together. 15. the ambulance service. 16. the (armed) services the army, the navy and the air force. 17. Have you thought about a career in the services? 18. Service families often have to travel abroad. 19. the provision of a facility which the public needs. 20. Our train service to London is very good. 21. The postal service is efficient. 22. The bus service is very irregular. 23. The hotel provides a laundry service. 24. the rent includes services the rent includes the cost of water, gas and electricity. 25. a favour, something done for someone. 26. You would do me a great service if you could carry my suitcases for me. 27. to be of service to someone to help someone. 28. Can I be of service to anyone? 29. a religious ceremony. 30. My mother never misses the nine o'clock service on Sundays. 31. (in games like tennis) the action of hitting the ball. 32. She has a very powerful service. 33. a set of china for a meal. 34. a square piece of cloth or paper used to protect clothes and wipe your mouth at meals. 35. The aim of hitting the ball first. 36. She has a very powerful serve.

serviceable /ˈsɜːvəsəbl/ adj practical, which will be useful.

service area /ˈsɜːvɪs, ˈsɜːvərə/ noun a place next to a motorway where you can stop and buy petrol or get food. 1. service centre /ˈsɜːvɪs, ˈsɜːvənt/ noun an office or workshop which specialises in keeping machines in good working order.

service charge /ˈsɜːvɪs (ˈʃeɪdʒ)/ noun a charge added to a bill in a restaurant to pay for service.

service industry /ˈsɜːvɪs ˈɪndɪstri/ noun an industry which does not make products, but offers a service, e.g. banking, insurance or transport.

serviceman /ˈsɜːvɪsmən/ noun a male member of the army, navy or air force. (NOTE: The plural is servicemen.)

services /ˈsɜːvɪsiz/ noun an area next to a motorway with a service station, restaurants and sometimes a hotel.

service station /ˈsɜːvɪs ˈsteɪʃən/ noun a garage where you can buy petrol and have small repairs done to a car.

servicewoman /ˈsɜːvɪswʊmən/ noun a woman member of the army, navy or air force. (NOTE: The plural is servicewomen.)

servicing /ˈsɜːvɪsɪŋ/ noun the action of repairing a machine.

serviette /ˈsɜːvɪt/ noun a square piece of cloth or paper used to protect clothes and wipe your mouth at meals. (NOTE: Although serviette is perfectly correct English, some people prefer to use the word napkin.)

servile /ˈsɜːvɪl/ adj too willing to obey someone else. Synonym submissive.

servility /ˈsɜːvɪlɪtɪ/ noun behaviour that shows too much obedience to what someone else wants.

servility /ˈsɜːvɪlɪtɪ/ noun having to work hard for other people. (formal)

sesame /ˈseɪzmə/ noun 1. a plant with small flat seeds that are used in cooking, sometimes scattered on top of bread or cakes, or to make oil. 2. open sesame words, spoken by a magician, which are supposed to make something open magically. (The boy said ‘Open, sesame’ and the rock rolled away to reveal a cave full of gold.)

session /ˈsɛʃn/ noun 1. the time when an activity is taking place. 2. All these long sessions in front of the computer screen are ruining my eyesight. 3. a practice session a time when someone, e.g. an athlete or a tennis player, practises. 4. a meeting, e.g. of a committee or of parliament. 5. The first session of the all-party talks will be held on
set 776  setting

Monday. opening or closing session the first or last part of a conference in session in the process of meeting. The committee has been in session for two hours.

set /set/ noun 1. a group of things which go together, which are used together or which are sold together. He has a set of tools in the back of his car. The six chairs are sold as a set. 2. (in films) a place where a film is shot. She has to be on set at 7:00 a.m. We went on a tour of the studios and watched a set being built. 3. (in games like tennis) one part of a match, consisting of several games. She won the set 7–5. He lost the first two sets.

verb 1. to put something in a special place. She set the plate of biscuits down on the table next to her chair. 2. to fix something. When we go to France we have to set our watches to French time. The price of the new computer has been set at £500. To fix a broken limb in position. The doctor set his broken arm. (of broken bones) to heal. The broken wrist is setting very well. 3. to give something to do. The teacher has set us some homework for the weekend. Who set this quiz? It is very difficult. He sets the crosswords in the local paper.

Antonym 1. remove. 2. destroy. 3. change.

set down to write music to go with words. She set the poems about cats to music. 4. to put something in writing. The rules are set down in this booklet.

set back to put a text into printed characters. The poem about cats was set to music. 5. to give work to someone. Set the children to work washing up. 6. to make something happen. He went to sleep smoking a cigarette and set the house on fire. All the prisoners were set free.

set about someone to do something. He set about retrieving the money. He was set about getting the money.

set aside every month for the children’s holidays. The proposal was set aside by the committee. To save something and keep it for future use. We set money aside every month for the children’s holidays.

set back /set ‘bæk/ verb 1. to delay something or make something late. The bad weather has set the harvest back by two weeks. 2. to place something further back. The house is set back from the road. 3. to set someone back to be a cost to someone. (informal) The meal set me back £100.

setback /’setbæk/ noun a problem which makes something late or stops something going ahead. Synonym hindrance.

Another set
set book /set ‘buk/ noun a book which is on the list of books which have to be studied for an exam.

set down /set ‘daun/ verb 1. to let passengers get off. The bus set down several passengers and two others got on. 2. to put something in writing. The rules are set down in this booklet.

set in /set ‘ɪn/ verb to start and become permanent.

set menu /set ‘menju/ noun a menu which cannot be changed.

set off /set ‘ɒf/ verb 1. to begin a trip. We’re setting off for Germany tomorrow. They all set off on a long walk after lunch. 2. to start something happening. They set off a bomb in the shopping centre. If you touch the wire it will set off the alarm. 3. to begin a journey. The hunters set out to cross the mountains. We have to set out early tomorrow.

set out /set ‘aut/ verb 1. to begin a journey. The hunters set out to cross the mountains. 2. to explain something clearly. We asked her to set out the details in her report. 3. to aim to do something. He set out to ruin the party.

design /’setnaɪn/ noun an action which is carefully planned and carried out. 1. a part of a work of art, e.g. a film or a play, which is very dramatic and very special. 2. to put a text into printed characters. The idiom set in this dictionary have been set in bold.

NOTE: sets – setting – set – has set)

set square /set skwɛə/ noun an instrument to help you draw lines, shaped like a right-angled triangle.

settee /’seti/ noun a sofa, a long seat with a soft back where several people can sit.

setler /’setlə/ noun a hunting dog trained to find game for hunters. He came into the park with two red setters.

set forest /’setfɔːr/ noun the background for a story. The setting for the story is Hong Kong in 1933. 2. a silver or gold frame in which a precious stone is fixed or a diamond in a silver setting. 3. a position at which a machine can be set. Set the microwave at its highest setting.
settle

verb 1. to arrange or agree something ○ Well, I'm glad everything's settled at last. ○ Have you settled the title for the new film yet? ○ It took six months of negotiation for the union and management to settle their differences. 2. to end a dispute 3. to settle a bill to pay a bill ○ Please settle this invoice without delay. ○ The insurance company refused to settle his claim for damages. 4. to go to live in a new country ○ They sold everything and settled in Canada. ○ The first pioneers settled in this valley in about 1860. 5. to place yourself in a comfortable position ○ She switched on the television and settled in her favourite armchair. 6. to settle money on someone to arrange for money to be passed to trustees to hold for someone in the future ○ They settled £2,000 a year on their newborn. 7. to fall to the ground, or to the bottom of something, gently ○ Wait for the dust to settle. ○ A layer of mud settled at the bottom of the pond. noun 1. a long wooden bench with a back ○ They sat on a settle by the pub fire, smoking pipes. 2. a place where a group of people come to live ○ A fund has been set up to receive donations from the public. 3. to arrange or settle a company legally ○ We were set up by the police. 4. to decide someone deliberately (informal) ○ We were set up by the police.

settlement /set(ə)lment/ noun 1. the payment of a bill ○ This invoice has not been settled. ○ They have not settled the total of what is owed. 2. an agreement in a dispute ○ In the end, a settlement was reached between management and workers. 3. a place where a group of people come to live ○ A mining settlement in the hills. noun 1. to decide on or choose something ○ A person who goes to live in a new country. 2. (of an insect, etc.) to come to rest on something ○ If only the butterfly would settle on that flower I'd be able to take a picture of it. 3. a person who goes to live in a new country. noun 1. to pay a bill, to pay the total of what is owed. 2. to start to work hard

set-up /set/'ap/ noun 1. to establish something ○ to set up a committee or a working party ○ A fund has been set up to receive donations from the public. ○ He set himself up as an estate agent. 2. to start a company legally ○ To set up a company to start a company legally. ○ He set up a company to start a company legally. 3. to go to live in a new country ○ go to live in a new country. 4. to change ○ to change. 5. to settle money on someone ○ to settle money on someone. 6. to settle for something ○ to settle for something. 7. to settle up ○ to settle up. 8. to become accustomed to something new such as a house or job ○ to become accustomed to something new such as a house or job.
sely
weather has closed several main roads. (NOTE: severely

severely

sew /sw/ verb to attach, make or repair

sew /sw/ verb

sexual intercourse /seksjuəl intəkɔrs/ noun the act in which a man puts his penis inside a woman's vagina.

sexuality /seksjuəliti/ noun sexual feelings or activity

sexually /seksjuəli/ adv in a sexual way

sexually transmitted disease /seksjuəli trənimɪd/ noun a disease passed from one person to another by having sex. Also called sexually transmitted infection

sexual orientation /seksjuəl ərəʊrɪˈeɪʃən/ noun attraction to someone of the opposite sex, of the same sex or both

sex worker /ˈseks ərkwər/ noun a person who gets paid to have sex with people or who appears in pornographic films or photographs

sexist /seks əst/ adj sexually attractive

NOTE: sexist – sexiest

SGML noun a computer language which uses a system of codes to create files

sh /ʃ/ interj used to ask for silence

shabby /ˈʃeɪbi/ adj of poor quality or looking worn out

shack /ʃæk/ noun a rough wooden shelter

shackle /ʃeɪkl/ noun something by using a needle and thread

shabby trick to fasten someone to something or to another person with a chain

The prisoners were shackled together.

shackles /ʃeɪklz/ plural noun chains for fastening a prisoner

shade /ʃeɪd/ noun a variety of a particular colour

Her hat is a rather pretty shade of green.

2. a dark place which is not in the sun

Let's try and find some shade – it's too hot in the sun.

The sun's so hot that we'll have to sit in the shade.

3. to put someone in the shade to make someone seem less impressive

His acting puts the rest of the cast in the shade.

4. a cover put over the top part of a light

I don't like the bright orange shade you bought.

a brass table lamp with a red silk shade

verb to protect something from light of the sun

She shaded her eyes against the sun.

The old birch tree shades that corner of the garden.
walk on the shady side of the street.

2. shadow move down the hall.

3. not well known (NOTE: a person who may be a criminal out being seen)

4. dancing in a shaft of sunlight.

3. sitting under a shady tree.

place to another

2. particularly fine.

2. to shock someone

1. verb

to shake

noun

a very long story with an unexpectedly silly ending (NOTE: shaggy – shaggiest)

shake /ʃeɪk/ verb 1. to move something from side to side or up and down

2. shake your head to move your head from side to side to mean ‘no’

when I asked my dad if I could borrow the car he just shook his head.

2. to shock someone

1. His family was shaken by the news that he had been arrested. The sight of it really shook me.

NOTE: shaking – shook /ʃʊk/ – has shaken

1. the action of moving rapidly up and down

If the tomato sauce won’t come out, give the bottle a shake.

2. moving from side to side

He indicated ‘no’ with a shake of his head.

shake hands /ʃeɪk ‘hands/ verb to shake hands, to shake someone’s hand to greet someone by holding their right hand

The drug dealer was shaken.

2. He shook hands with me. She refused to shake my hand.

The negotiators shook hands and sat down at the conference table.

to shake hands on a deal to shake hands to show that a deal has been agreed.

handshake

COMMENT: In Britain and the USA you shake hands with someone mainly in fairly formal circumstances, for example when you meet them for the first time or when you are saying goodbye to someone and do not expect to see them again soon. You do not usually shake hands with people you see every day.

shaken /ʃeɪkən/ adj very upset or frightened

shaken by something, usually something unpleasant

shake off /ʃeɪk/v

2. to shake something除去

very upset or frightened

to shake something off

shaky /ʃeɪki/ adj 1. not very safe, not very reliable

2. Be careful, that ladder is a bit shaky.

The champion driver got off to a shaky start.

Your argument sounds a bit shaky to me.

2. feeling weak

He’s still shaky after his operation. (NOTE: shakier – shakiest)

shaky /ʃeɪki/ adj 1. not very safe, not very reliable

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shale /ʃeɪl/ noun a soft rock formed from clay, which splits easily into thin sheets

shall /ʃəl, ʃ/ modal verb 1. used to make the future tense

We shall be out on Saturday evening.

I shan’t say anything – I shall keep my mouth shut!

Tomorrow we shan’t be home until after 10 o’clock.

2. used to show a suggestion

Shall we open the windows?

Shall I give them a ring?

(NOTE: shall is mainly used with I and we. The negative is shan’t/ʃænt/.

The past tense is should, should not usually shouldn’t.)

shallot /ʃəlɔt/ noun a type of small onion

shallow /ʃələʊ/ adj 1. not far from top

to bottom

Children were playing in the shallow end of the pool.

The river is so shallow in summer that you can walk across it.

Antonym deep 2. without any serious

shaded /ʃeɪdɪd/ adj 1. covered in shade

These plants will do well in a shaded part of the garden.

2. in a darker colour than the surrounding areas

The shaded part of the plan shows where the new office block will be built.

shades /ʃeɪdz/ plural noun sunglasses (informal)

shading /ʃeɪdɪŋ noun 1. making part of a picture darker

The shading on the face was particularly fine.

2. making a drawing darker

to indicate different crops.

2. shadow /ʃeɪd/ noun 1. a dark place behind an object where light is cut off by the object

She saw his shadow move down the hall.

They rested for a while, in the shadow of a large tree.

2. a small amount

a shadow of suspicion

verb 1. to follow someone closely, but without being seen

The drug dealer was shadowed by two undercover policemen.

2. to be an Opposition MP covering a government department

She is shadowing the Health Secretary.

shadowy /ʃeɪdəʊ/ adj not easily seen or not well known (NOTE: shadowier – shadowiest)

shady /ʃeɪdi/ adj 1. out of the light of the sun

At midday in Madrid, it’s better to walk on the shady side of the street.

2. which provides a cool dark area

They drank beer sitting under a shady tree.

3. not honest

He made several shady deals.

shady character a person who may be a criminal

2. shaft /ʃeɪt/ noun 1. the thin stick which is the main part of a weapon such as an arrow or a spear

He pulled on the shaft to get the javelin out of the ground.

2. the long handle of a tool such as a spade

The shaft of the spade was so old it snapped in two.

3. a thin beam of light

Tiny particles of dust were dancing in a shaft of sunlight.

4. a thin bar which connects parts of an engine

The shaft transmits power from the engine to the propeller.

5. a deep hole connecting one place to another

The ventilation shaft had become blocked.

shaggy /ʃeɪgɪ/ adj long and untidy.

Synonym hairy

shaggy dog story /ʃeɪgɪ dɒg ˈstʌri/ noun a very long story with an unexpectedly silly ending (NOTE: shaggier – shaggiest)

shake /ʃeɪk/ verb 1. to move something from side to side or up and down

2. Shake the bottle before pouring.

The house shook as he opened the envelope.

3. to shake your head to move your head from side to side to mean ‘no’

When I asked my dad if I
meaning • It’s a very shallow treatment of a serious subject. (NOTE: shallower = shallest)

shallow /ˈʃæləʊ/ plural noun parts of a river or the sea where the water is shallow

sham /ʃæm/ adj giving the appearance of being real  • They set up a sham company to conceal their activities. Synonym fake  • noun a person or thing which is false  • Her claim to be a great pianist is just a sham. Synonym fake (NOTE: shamming – shammed)

shambles /ˈʃæmbəlz/ noun 1. a complete lack of organisation  • The whole trip to Paris was a shambles – lost tickets, no hotel booking, everything that could go wrong did go wrong. 2. a mess  • She stood at the door looking at the shambles after the office party.  • Tidy up your bedroom – it is an absolute shambles.

shambolic /ʃæmˈbɒlɪk/ adj completely without order (informal) Synonym disorganised

shame /ʃeɪm/ noun 1. feeling caused by having done something which you should not have done  • To my shame, I did nothing to help. 2. a feeling caused by having done something which you should not have done  • I could have died of shame! 3. what a shame, it’s a shame how sad  • What a shame you couldn’t come to the party! 4. It’s a shame your father isn’t well – I’m sure he would have enjoyed the play.  • It’s a shame to have to go to the office on such a glorious day. 5. shame on you! you should be ashamed of yourself  • verb to shame someone into doing something to make someone do something because they feel ashamed  • We hope to shame her into contributing to the party.

shamefaced /ʃeɪmˈfɛsɪd/ adj embarrassed and showing that you are ashamed

shameful /ʃeɪmˈfjuːl/ adj extremely immoral or dishonest, causing shame. Synonym disgraceful

shamrock /ˈʃæmrɒk/ noun a small plant with leaves which are heart-shaped (NOTE: The plural is shamrocks.)

shandy /ˈʃændi/ noun a cold drink made by mixing beer and lemonade (NOTE: The plural is shandies.)

shampoo /ʃæmˈpuː/ noun 1. liquid soap for washing your hair or for washing things such as carpets or cars  • There are sachets of shampoo in the bathroom. 2. the action of washing the hair  • She went to the hairdresser’s for a shampoo.  • verb to wash something with shampoo  • The hairdresser shampooed her hair, and then cut it.  • They have a machine for shampooing carpets. (NOTE: shampooing – shampooed)

share /ʃeər/ noun 1. the straight central part of a tool 2. meat from the leg of an animal  • I bought a piece of shank to make a stew. 3. a part of something that is divided between two or more people  • We share an office.

shanty town /ˈʃænti tuːn/ noun a large group of huts belonging to poor people

shape /ʃeɪp/ noun 1. the form of how something looks  • A design in the shape of a letter S. 2. The old table was a funny shape. 3. this pullover’s beginning to lose its shape it is beginning to stretch. 4. in good shape in good physical form  • He’s in good shape for the race. 5. She’s in a very bad shape. 6. to take shape to begin to look as it will do when finished  • After all his hard work, the new garden in beginning to take shape. 7. in any shape or form of any type  • The boss does not tolerate criticism in any shape or form.  • verb to make into a particular form  • He shaped the pastry into the form of a little boat.

shaped /ʃeɪpt/ adj with a particular shape

shapeless /ʃeɪpləs/ adj with no definite shape

shapely /ʃeɪpli/ adj with an attractive shape

shape up /ʃeɪp ʌp/ verb to result, to end up  • Things are shaping up as we expected.  • It’s shaping up to be a fine day.

share /ʃeər/ noun 1. a part of something that is divided between two or more people  • Did he get his share of the prize?  • Take your share of the cake and leave me the rest. 2. She should have paid her share of the food bill. 3. There’s a lot of work to do, so everyone must do their share. 4. to have a share in to take part in, to have a part of  • All the staff should have a share in decisions about the company’s future. 5. She has her share of the responsibility for the accident. 6. one of the many equal parts into which a company’s capital is divided  • He bought 2000 shares in Marks and Spencer. 7. Shares fell on the London Stock Exchange. (NOTE: The usual US term is stock.) 8. verb 1. share, share out to divide up something among several people  • Let’s share the bill. 9. In her will, her money was shared out among her sons. 10. They shared the pencils out amongst them. 11. to use something which someone else also uses  • We share an office. 12. We shared a taxi to the airport.
sharer /ʃeər/ noun a person who owns shares in a company

shareholding /ʃeəhəldɪŋ/ noun a group of shares in a company owned by one owner

a majority shareholding, a minority shareholding a group of shares which are more or less than half the total

He acquired a majority shareholding in the company.

share-out /ʃeə aʊt/ noun the process of dividing something among many people

shareware /ʃeə,wɛə/ noun computer software which you try for a short period before deciding if you want to buy the right to use it

shark /ʃɑːrk/ noun a large dangerous fish which lives in the sea and can kill people

The lifeguards shouted when a shark was spotted in the water.

sharp /ʃɑːp/ adj 1. with an edge or point which can easily cut or pass through something

For injections, a needle has to have a very sharp point. The beach is covered with sharp stones. This knife is useless - it isn’t sharp enough.

2. sudden and great

There was a sharp drop in interest rates.

The road makes a sharp right-hand bend.

He received a sharp blow on the back of his head.

We had a sharp frost last night.

It’s cold, there’s a sharp north wind.

3. quick to notice things

He has a sharp sense of justice. She has a sharp eye for a bargain.

He’s pretty sharp at spotting mistakes.

4. showing criticism or anger

He got a very sharp reply to his fax.

6. (in music) playing at a higher pitch than it should be

That violin sounds sharp. (NOTE: sharper - sharpest)

* adv 1. exactly

The coach will leave the hotel at 7.30 sharp.

2. suddenly, at an angle

The road turned sharp right.

noun (in music) a pitch which is one semitone higher

They played Bach’s Sonata in F sharp major.

He played D sharp instead of D flat.

* adv 1. to a great degree

He felt his mother’s death very sharply.

2. clearly

The two groups are sharply divided on this issue.

3. in a way that criticises

She spoke quite sharply to the poor old lady.

4. suddenly and to a large extent

The temperature fell sharply during the night.

The road turns sharply to the right.

sharp practice /ʃɑːp præktɪs/ noun a way of doing business which is not honest, but not illegal (dated)

sharp tongue /ʃɑːp 'taːŋ/ noun a tendency to criticise people

shatter /ʃeɪtər/ verb 1. to break into little pieces

He knocked the vase with his elbow and it shattered onto the floor.

2. to destroy, to upset violently

His hopes of going to university were shattered when he failed the exam.

A loud sneeze shattered the silence in the library.

shattered /ʃeɪtəd/ adj very upset

She was shattered when the result of the court case was announced.

very tired (informal)

He looked shattered after the marathon.

shattering /ʃeɪtɪŋ/ adj which is very worrying, or which makes you very upset.

Synonym: devastating

* shave /ʃeɪv/ noun the act of cutting off the hair on your face with a razor

* adv 1. to cut off the hair on your face with a razor

He cut himself shaving.

2. to cut the hair on your head or on a part of your body, very short

I didn’t recognise him with his head shaved.

3. to cut a thin piece off something

You need to shave a bit more off to make the door fit the frame.

shaved /ʃeɪvd/ adj

shaver /ʃeɪvə/ noun an electrical tool used for cutting hair off your body

shaving /ʃeɪvɪŋ/ noun the act of cutting hair off your body, especially your face

Shaving only takes me a couple of minutes.

shaving cream /ʃeɪvɪŋ kriːm/ noun a cream which you put on your face before shaving

shavings /ʃeɪvɪŋz/ plural noun small thin slices of something such as wood or cheese, cut off with a knife

They packed the china in a box of wood shavings.

shawl /ʃɔːl/ noun

1. a large square of warm material for wearing around the shoulders or head

Synonym: wrap

* she /ʃi/ pron referring to a person, a female animal and sometimes to cars, ships and countries

She’s my sister.

She and I are going on holiday to France together.

I’m angry with her - she’s been rude to my motorbike.

She’s a sweet little cat, but she’s no good at catching mice.

2. a large pile of papers

He threw a sheaf of papers onto my desk and told me to sort them out.

The jury had to examine sheaves of evidence collected by the fraud squad.

a collection of the stems of
plants such as wheat tied together after cutting ○ They spent all day picking up sheaves and loading them on carts. (NOTE: The plural is sheaves /ˈʃeɪvz/) shear /ʃeə/ verb 1. to cut the wool off sheep ○ The sheep have to be brought into the farmyard to be sheared. ○ The poor sheep look cold now they’ve been shorn. 2. to cut through something ○ The ferry sheared through the nets of the fishing boat. (NOTE: sheared or shorn /ˈʃeət/ Do not confuse with sheer.) shears /ˈʃeəz/ plural noun very large scissors, used for cutting plants or for cutting the wool off sheep ○ He’s cutting the hedge with the shears.
sheath /ʃeθ/ noun 1. a cover for a weapon such as a knife ○ Put your knife back in its sheath. 2. a thin rubber covering put over the penis before having sex, as a protection against infection and to prevent a woman from becoming pregnant (dated). Also called contraceptive sheath (NOTE: The plural is sheaths /ʃeθz/) sheatho /ʃeθoʊ/ verb to put something into its sheath □ to be sheathed in to be covered in something as a protection ○ The cables are sheathed in plastic.
sheath-knife /ʃeθkniːf/ noun a knife which is kept in a sheath (NOTE: The plural is sheath-knives.) sheaves /ʃeɪvz/ noun 3. shed /ʃed/ noun a small wooden building ○ They kept the mower in a shed at the bottom of the garden. ○ She’s in the garden shed putting geraniums into pots. 1. verb, to lose something which you are carrying or wearing ○ In autumn, the trees shed their leaves as soon as the weather turns cold. ○ A lorry has shed its load of wood at the roundabout. ○ We shed our clothes and dived into the cool water. 2. to lose weight, to become lighter ○ He goes on a run every morning to try to shed some weight. ○ By stopping eating potatoes, she managed to shed three pounds. 3. to let something such as blood or tears flow ○ She shed tears of anger as she listened to the speech. ○ She shed tears when her hamster died. ○ Not one drop of blood was shed. 4. □ to shed light on something to make something clearer ○ Can anyone shed any light on what actually happened? ○ The finds in the cave shed a fascinating light on the prehistory of this region. ① she’d /ʃeð/ short form she had, she would sheen /ʃiːn/ noun an extremely shiny surface ○ sheep /ʃiːp/ noun a common farm animal, which gives wool and meat ○ a flock of sheep ○ The sheep are in the field.
covering and which you can eat. (NOTE: no singular: a plate of shellfish, a shellfish restaurant)

Shepherd's pie /ˈʃɛrpɪdʒ/ noun 1. a type of strong wine, made in Spain. 2. a glass of this wine. I'll have a dry sherry, please. Two sherries and a port please. (NOTE: The plural sherries is used to mean types of sherry or glasses of sherry.)

She'll /ʃɛl/ short form she will

Shellfish /ˈʃɛlʃɪʃ/ noun sea animals such as crabs and oysters which have a hard outer covering and which you can eat. (NOTE: no singular: a plate of shellfish, a shellfish restaurant)

She's /ʃɛz/ short form she has, she is

Shh /ʃi/ another spelling of sh

Shelter /ˈʃɛltər/ noun 1. protection. We stood in the shelter of a tree waiting for the rain to stop. On the mountain there was no shelter from the pouring rain. 2. to take shelter to go somewhere for protection. When the gunmen started to shoot we all took shelter behind a wall. 2. a structure or building where you can go for protection. People run to the air-raid shelters as soon as they heard the planes. 3. verb, to give someone protection. 3. The school sheltered several families of refugees. 2. to go somewhere for protection. 4. Sheep were sheltering from the snow beside the hedge.

Sheltered /ˈʃɛltərd/ adj protected from things such as wind, cold or danger

Sheltered housing /ˈʃɛltərd ˈhauzn/ noun small flats provided for old or ill people, often with someone employed to give them help if they need it.

Shelf /ɛlv/ verb 1. to put back to a later date. 2. The project was shelved for lack of money. 2. Discussion of the problem has been shelved. 3. to slope down. 4. The beach shelves gently so it is safe for little children.

Shelves /ɛlvz/ noun 1. rows of shelves 2. I've installed metal shelving in the garden shed. 2. the act of delaying something such as a plan to do something. 3. The shelving of the project has resulted in chaos.

Shenanigans /ˈʃɛnənədʒənz/ plural noun 1. behaviour that is dishonest or immoral, but often in a way that can interesting or funny

Shepherd /ˈʃepəd/ noun 1. a man who looks after sheep. 2. verb, to take people somewhere moving them as a group. 3. The children were shepherded into the building. 4. The police were shepherding the crowds away from the scene of the accident. 5. Synonym usher

Shepherd's pie /ˈʃepədz ˈpi:/ noun same as cottage pie

Sherry /ˈʃɛri/ noun 1. US an official in charge of justice in a particular part of a state. 2. the sheriff of Orange County. 3. (in Scotland) the main judge in a district

Shines /ʃaɪns/ noun 1. the brightness of something or the way that something reflects
light ○ the shine of polished tables 2. the action of rubbing something with a cloth to make it clean and bright ○ Give the brass doorknobs a shine. ■ verb 1. to be bright with light ○ The sun is shining and they say it’ll be hot today. ○ She polished the table until it shone. ○ The wine glasses shone in the light of the candles. ○ Why do cats’ eyes shine in the dark? ○ The moon shone down on the waiting crowd. (NOTE: shining — shone [fon]; 2. to make light fall on something ○ He shone his torch into the cellar. (NOTE: shining — shone [fon]; 3. to rub something with a cloth to make it bright ○ She was shining the silver. ○ Don’t forget to shine your shoes. (NOTE: shining — shined) shiny /ʃaɪn/ noun 1. a mass of small stones on a beach ○ A shingle beach is quite hard to walk on in your bare feet. 2. a small flat piece of something such as wood which is fixed on a wall or roof as a covering ○ I must get up on the roof, some of the shingles need replacing. shingles /ˈʃɪŋɡəlz/ noun a painful medical condition which causes a line of marks to form on the skin, usually mainly on the back or middle of the body, or on the face shining /ˈʃaɪnɪŋ/ adj extremely bright □ a shining example of a very good example of ○ She’s a shining example of how to get on in business. Shinto /ˈʃi.nəʊ/ noun a Japanese religion with many gods and spirits of the natural world Shinto /ˈʃi.nəʊ/ noun a Japanese religion with many gods and spirits of the natural world shine up /ʃaɪn ʌp/ verb to climb up something quickly ○ The sailors shinned up the mast. ◆ ship /ʃ Ip/ noun a large boat for carrying passengers and goods on the sea ○ She’s a fine ship. ○ How many ships does the Royal Navy have? ○ The first time we went to the United States, we went by ship. (NOTE: A ship is often referred to as she or her.) ■ verb 1. to send goods or people somewhere, sometimes but not always on a ship ○ We ship goods all over the country. ○ The consignment of cars was shipped abroad last week. ○ We’ve shipped the children off to my sister’s for two weeks. 2. to take water on board a ship accidentally ○ We shipped a lot of water during the storm. (NOTE: shipping — shipped) ○ to jump ship 1. to leave the ship on which you are working and not come back 2. to leave a project or team to go to work for a competitor shipbuilder /ˈʃ Ip. bldər/ noun a person or business that makes ships shipment /ʃ Ip.mənt/ noun 1. the sending of goods ○ We make two shipments a week to France. 2. goods which are sent somewhere by ship or other means of transport ○ Two shipments were lost in the fire. ○ A shipment of computers was damaged. shipper /ˈʃ Ipər/ noun a person or company that sends goods shipping /ˈʃ Ipɪŋ/ noun 1. the sending of goods ○ Shipping by rail can often work out cheaper. 2. the cost of goods sent ○ Shipping is not included in the invoice. 3. ships ○ They attacked enemy shipping in the Channel. shipping lane /ˈʃ Ipɪŋ lən/ noun a way across the sea which is regularly used by ships shipshape /ˈʃ Ipʃeɪp/ adj tidy and with everything in the right place. Antonym untidy shipwreck /ˈʃ Ipˌrɛk/ noun an accident which sinks a ship shipwrecked /ˈʃ Ipˌrékt/ adj having been on a ship which has sunk shipyard /ˈʃ Ipˌjɑrd/ noun a factory where ships are built shire /ˈʃ är/ noun a county in the UK (NOTE: now used mainly in the names of counties e.g. Berkshire, Hampshire) shires /ˈʃ ärz/ plural noun farming country in the central part of England shirk /ʃ ɝk/ verb to try not to do something, especially work. Synonym evade ○ to shirk responsibility not to do something which you should do ○ She’s very conscientious and never shirks her responsibilities. ○ shirt /ʃ ært/ noun a light piece of clothing which you wear on the top part of the body ○ The teacher wore a blue suit and a white shirt. ○ When he came back from the trip he had a suitcase full of dirty shirts. ○ It’s so hot that the workers in the fields have taken their shirts off. ○ keep your shirt on! don’t get angry (informal) shirtsleeves /ˈʃ ærtslɛvz/ plural noun ○ in your shirtsleeves not wearing a jacket ○ He was sitting at his desk in his shirtsleeves. shirty /ˈʃ ærti/ adj angry (informal) shish kebab /ˈʃ iʃ ˈkeɪbәb/ noun small pieces of meat and vegetables cooked on a skewer shit /ʃ it/ (offensive) noun 1. solid waste matter from the body ○ I’ve stepped in some dog shit. Synonym faeces ○ to scare the shit out of someone to frighten someone ○ He scares the shit out of me! 2. nonsense ○ I’ve never heard such shit in my life! ○ What a load of shit! 3. a very unpleasant person (offensive slang) ■ verb to pass solid waste matter from the body ○ All babies do is eat, shit and sleep. Synonym defecate (NOTE: shitting — shit or shat or shifted) shiver /ˈʃ ir/ noun the action of shaking because of feeling cold or frightened □ to
pleasant surprise

way

of high pressure which comes from some -
thing such as an explosion or earthquake

walked in.

film involving a lot of violence

pital shocked the inspectors.

2.

surprise

reacting badly to a sudden un-
state of shock

2.

him to stay in bed.

coughing and shivering, so the doctor told

shocked

the harbour.

shocking event

make someone very afraid

They're selling off shoddy goods at cheap

wave smashed the windows on our house.

Three seconds after the explosion, the shock

shock-proof

shocking

shocked

shock.

Several of the passengers were treated for

shock
.

drowned.

shock after hearing that her son had

low blood pressure after an illness or injury

( NOTE: 

act

shoddier – shoddiest

The shoddy workmanship of these shoes.

shod

The shock waves from the collapse of the
government will be felt for some time.

shod


send shivers down someone’s spine to make
someone very afraid 

The mere thought of grandfather driving along the
motorway at his age sends shivers down my
spine. ■ verb to shake with cold or fear ■ She
shivered in the cold night air. ■ He was
coughing and shivering, so the doctor told
him to stay in bed.

shoal /ʃəʊl n noun 1. a bank of sand under
the water ○ The shoal ran aground on a shoal.

○ The shoals are clearly marked on the chart
of the harbour. 2. a group of fish swimming
about ○ a shoal of herring 3. a large group of
people or things, taken together ○ Shoals of
tourists visited the ruins. ○ We had a shoal of
complaints after our TV ad.

■ shock /ʃəʊk/ noun 1. a sudden unpleasant
surprise ○ It gave me quite a shock when you
walked in. ○ He’s in for a nasty shock. ○ in a
state of shock reacting badly to a sudden un-
pleasant surprise ○ She was in a state of
shock after hearing that her son had
drowned. 2. a medical condition caused by
low blood pressure after an illness or injury ○
Several of the passengers were treated for
shock. ■ verb to give someone a sudden un-
pleasant surprise ○ The conditions in the hos-
pital shocked the inspectors.

● shocked /ʃəʊkt/ adj having an unpleasant
surprise

shocker /ʃəʊka/ noun 1. a story, book or
film involving a lot of violence ○ His latest
shocker is available in paperback. 2. a
shocking event ○ Finding that the value of
our investments had halved was a real
shocker.

● shocking /ʃəʊkɪŋ/ adj very unpleasant,
which gives a sudden surprise

shockingly /ʃəʊkɪŋli/ adv in a shocking
way

shocking pink /ʃəʊkɪŋ ˈpɪŋk/ adj very
bright pink, which seems to shine

shock-proof /ʃəʊk prʊf/ adj 1. not break-
ing easily 2. not easily shocked

shock wave /ʃəʊk wəʊv/ noun 1. a wave
of high pressure which comes from some-
ting such as an explosion or earthquake ○
Three seconds after the explosion, the shock
wave smashed the windows on our house. 2.
feeling of shock after something has hap-
pened ○ The shock waves from the collapse
of the government will be felt for some time.

shod /ʃɔd/ ʃ shoe

shoddily /ʃɔdli/ adv in a shoddy way

shoddy /ʃɔdɪ/ adj badly done, badly made ○
The shoddy workmanship of these shoes. ○
They’re selling off shoddy goods at cheap
prices.

shoddy trick /ʃɔdɪ ˈtrɪk/ noun an unkind
act (NOTE: shoddier – shoddiest)

shoelace /ʃʊəlɛs/ noun a string for tying
up shoes. Synonym lace

shoestring /ʃʊəstrɪŋ/ noun ○ on a shoe-
string done with only a little money ○ We’re
trying to run this business on a shoestring.

○ They’re living on a shoestring.

● shine /ʃaɪn/ ʃ to shine

shoo /ʃu/ interj go away! (used to small
children, animals or birds) ○ Shoo! Go back
to the pen! ■ verb to make an animal or a
person go somewhere by waving your hands
at them ○ She shoed her group of four-
year-olds into the bus.

● shake /ʃeɪk/ ʃ shake

shoot /ʃuːt/ verb 1. to fire a gun ○ Sold-
diers were shooting into the woods. 2. to hit
or kill by firing a gun ○ One of the robbers
was shot by a policeman who tried to run
away. ○ We went out hunting and shot two
rabbits. 3. to go very fast ○ When the bell
rang she shot down the stairs. ○ He started
the engine and the car shot out of the garage.

● to shoot the rapids to travel in a light boat
through water which is flowing very fast 4.
to make a film ○ They’re shooting a gangster
film in our street. 5. to aim a ball at the goal ○
He shot, and the ball bounced off the post.
(NOTE: shoots – shooting – shot /ʃʊt/)

● to travel in a light boat

● shooting season /ʃuːtɪŋ ˈsiːzn/ noun a
period of the year when you can shoot
birds such as pheasants for sport

● shooting star /ʃuːtɪŋ ˈstɑːr/ noun a small
rock which travels very fast through space
and shines brightly. Synonym meteor
planted them.

area in a factory

have bought in a shop

guns

ping in town.

child but she's really shot up in the last couple of years.

are made or repaired. Synonym

posite the fire station.

and buy things in shops

put their goods in as they go round a

ping on the table.

They went shopping in Ox- ford Street. o Do you ever shop locally?

(NOTE: no plural: baskets of shopping.

in a corner talking shop.

these tomatoes have shot up since i planted them. o She used to be such a small
careful to grow fast o These tomatoes have shot up since i planted

prices shot up during the strike. 2. to grow fast o These tomatoes have shot up since i planted

Prices shot up during the strike.

2. /L50263 shot up

2. /L50263 shoot up

out at the top to make a seat

2. /L50263 shoot up

Prices shot up during the strike.

2. /L50263 shoot up

These tomatoes have shot up since I

Prices shot up during the strike.

2. /L50263 shoot up

These tomatoes have shot up since i planted them. o She used to be such a small

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Prices shot up during the strike.

2. /L50263 shoot up

These tomatoes have shot up since i planted them. o She used to be such a small
had £10 less than we should have had □ short of with not enough □ I can’t offer you any tea as we’re short of milk. □ Can I pay later as I’m rather short of cash at the mo- ment? □ to run short of to have less and less of □ In the hot weather the pubs ran short of beer. □ adv suddenly □ I stopped short when I saw her walking towards me. □ short of without doing something □ short of sucking her, I don’t know what we can do. □ verb to short-circuit something □ He switched on TV and shorted the whole house.

Is missing from a total. Synonym: deficit

complicated by using a simple short cut □ Is shorter than usual □ short-circuit.

was the worn cable which caused the short-circuit. □ shorthand to write using shorthand □ was short-handed □ was short of enough staff. Synonym: excess

on a list chosen from a larger one candidates have been shortlisted. □ to take shorthand to write using shorthand □ He took the minutes of the meeting in shorthand. Compare longhand

short-handed /ʃɔ/lengthmarktd/ adj without enough staff. Synonym short-staffed

shortlist /ʃɔ/lengthmarktlst/ plural noun a list of some of the people who have applied for a job, and who have been chosen to come for an interview □ He’s on the shortlist for the job. □ verb to include someone or someone’s name on a list chosen from a larger one □ Four candidates have been shortlisted. □ If you are shortlisted you will be asked for an interview.

shortlived /ʃɔ/lengthmarktlvrd/ adj which does not last for a long time. Antonym: longlived

There are no short cuts to learning Russian.

verb 1. (informal) to have a shot at something □ to have a shot at something

verb 2. to make a short-circuit □ Is there any way of short-circuiting some of the administrative procedures?

shortcomings /ʃɔ/lengthmarkts/ plural noun faults

short cut /ʃɔ/lengthmarkt/ noun 1. a way which is shorter than usual □ We can take a short cut through the park. 2. a quicker way of doing something □ There are no short cuts to learning Russian

shorten /ʃɔ/lengthmarkten/ verb to make shorter. Synonym cut

shortfall /ʃɔ/lengthmarktfall/ noun an amount which is missing from a total. Synonym deficit. Antonym excess

shorthand /ʃɔ/lengthmarkthend/ noun a quick way of writing using a system of signs □ to take shorthand to write using shorthand □ He took the minutes of the meeting in shorthand. Compare longhand

short-handed /ʃɔ/lengthmarkthendd/ adj without enough staff. Synonym short-staffed

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shortlived /ʃɔ/lengthmarktlvrd/ adj which does not last for a long time. Antonym: longlived

short wave /ʃɔ/lengthmarktwav/ noun a radio communications frequency below 60 metres. □ long wave, medium wave

short noun /ʃɔ/lengthmarkt/ 1. the action of shooting; the sound of shooting □ The police fired two shots at the car. □ Some shots were fired during the bank robbery. □ A neighbour said she’d heard a shot. □ like a shot very rapidly □ He heard a noise and was off like a shot. 2. an attempt □ He passed the test at the first shot. □ to have a shot at something to try to do something (informal) □ I’d like to have a shot at water-skiing. 3. an amount of a medicine put into your body with a needle □ The doctor gave him a tetanus shot. Synonym injection. 4. a small drink of alcohol □ He poured himself a shot of whisky and sat down to wait. 5. a photograph □ I took several shots of the inside of the house. 6. a large heavy ball thrown in a sports competition □
shoulder pads /ʃəʊldər ˈpædz/ plural noun a pair of thick pieces of cloth put inside each shoulder of a coat, to make it look bigger

shout to shoulder /ʃəʊldər tu/ adv side by side

shouldn’t /ʃʊd(ə)n/ short form should not

should’ve /ʃəʊd(ə) v/ short form should have

shot putter 7. a kick or hit to try to score a goal. He kicked but his shot was stopped by the goalkeeper.

shovel /ʃəʊvl/ noun a tool with a long handle and a wide flat part for picking up things such as earth or stones 

should /ʃʊd/ modal verb 1. used in giving advice or warnings, used to say what is the best thing to do. You should go to the doctor if your cough gets worse. You should have been more careful. She shouldn’t eat so much if she’s trying to lose weight. Should I ask for more coffee? Why should I clean up your mess? (NOTE: Ought to can be used instead of should.)

She should eat a healthy diet and not eat too much chocolate.

Shall we go to an Indian restaurant? – I suggested we should go to an Indian restaurant.

shoulder /ʃəʊldər/ noun 1. the part of the body at the top of the arm. The police- man hurt me on the shoulder. He fell and dislocated his shoulder. Look over your shoulder. He’s just behind you. 2. a piece of clothing which covers the part between the top of the arm and the neck. There’s an ink mark on the shoulder of your shirt. A captain has three pips on his shoulders. 3. a piece of meat from the top part of the front leg of an animal. We had a shoulder of lamb and new potatoes.

verb to accept something such as responsibility or blame for the company’s collapse. She was left to shoulder the blame for the accident.

shoulder bag /ʃəʊldər ˈbæg/ noun a bag which can be carried over the shoulder.

shoulder blade /ʃəʊldər ˈbliːd/ noun one of two large flat bones covering the top part of your back. Also called scapula

shoulder-length /ʃəʊldər ˈlɛŋθ/ adj (of hair) reaching down to your shoulders from your head.

shout /ʃaʊt/ verb (informal) 1. to call out. The next time I see you I’ll shout when I see you.

Show off /ʃəʊ-ˈfɒf/ verb (informal) 1. to leave. It is time we showed off. 2. to go away. Show off and let me finish my meal.

show /ʃəʊ/ noun 1. an exhibition, things which are arranged for people to look at. The Hampton Court Flower Show opens tomorrow. She has entered her two cats for the local cat show. 2. on show arranged for everyone to see. Is there anything new on show in this year’s exhibition?

verb 1. to let someone see something. He wanted to show me his holiday photos. 2. to point something out to someone. Show me where the accident happened. 3. to show a film or performance. The US spelling is showing – she showed a film.

show of hands 4. a planned activity or organisation. She’s running the whole show by herself.

[Other words and definitions are also included, but not listed here for brevity.]
work the photocopier.

snow showers this morning, but it is sunny

pair were badly done and it shows.

wound doesn’t show any signs of infection.

date as well as the time.

showed and went down to greet his guests.

ment in information technology.

room and had a shower.

piece of material hanging around a shower

shows at all.

rash has almost disappeared and hardly

showered and went down to greet his guests.

/adj to show some- to show someone the door

We are holding a shower for Liliane

The thieves smashed the showcase and

The salesman showed her how to

to show signs of to have a feature or quality which can be seen

The wound doesn’t show any signs of infection.

when we complained we were shown the door.

business (informal)

show business /ˈʃəʊbɪz/ noun the business of providing entertainment for people

showcase /ˈʃəʊkseɪs/ noun 1. a cupboard with a glass front or top to arrange objects for sale

The thieves smashed the showcase and went off with a tray of rings.

an event which brings things such as new machines or vehicles to public attention

The computer show is a showcase for the latest developments in information technology.

showdown /ˈʃəʊdaʊn/ noun a final argument which will solve a serious disagreement.

Synonym confrontation

a shower /ˈʃɔʊə/ noun 1. a slight fall of rain or snow

In April there’s usually a mixture of sunshine and showers.

There were snow showers this morning, but it is sunny again now.

2. a piece of equipment in a bathroom, usually fixed high up on the wall and which sends out water to wash your whole body

an occasion when you wash your body with a shower

She went up to her room and had a shower.

He has a cold

The curtains were on the floor in the dark.

When I ride my bike at night I wear a close-fitting hat, usually made of plastic and worn to prevent your hair getting wet when taking a shower

shower curtain /ˈʃɔʊər kɜːrt(ə)n/ noun a piece of material hanging around a shower

shower room /ˈʃɔʊər ruːm/ noun a small bathroom with a shower in it

showery /ˈʃɔʊəri/ adj when there is often light rain.

Synonym rainy

see something which you are proud of

He showed off his new car.

Don’t watch her dancing about like that – she’s just showing off.

much better than others you think you are

We invited all our friends to the picnic but it rained and only five of them showed up.

2. to let a lot of people see something which you are proud of

He drove past with the radio on very loud, showing off his new car.

a person who shows off (informal)

to take someone to the door when they are leaving

a horse or rider trained for showjumping

a sport in which horses with riders have to jump over different fences in a short time

an entertainer, especially one who performs in very skilled and exciting way

a new flat or house among a number of similar ones which a company is building with furniture and carpets, so that people can see how the other flats or houses will look when all the building is finished.

verb to bring someone into a room or building

a result which shows how well or badly you are doing

verb to take someone to the door when they are leaving

verb to lead a visitor round a place

noun the most important object in a collection or an exhibition or of its type

noun a room or shop where goods are arranged for sale

noun same as showover

noun, verb to come (informal)

We invited all our friends to the picnic but it rained and only five of them showed up.

2. to do something which shows other people to be worse than you

She dances so well that she shows us all up.

verb to give large amounts of something to someone

She was showered with presents.

verb to come

We invited all our friends to the picnic but it rained and only five of them showed up.

noun to let a lot of people see something which you are proud of

noun a horse or rider trained for showjumping

noun a sport in which horses with riders have to jump over different fences in a short time

noun an entertainer, especially one who performs in very skilled and exciting way

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noun, verb to come (informal)

We invited all our friends to the picnic but it rained and only five of them showed up.

2. to do something which shows other people to be worse than you

She dances so well that she shows us all up.

verb to give large amounts of something to someone

She was showered with presents.

noun to let a lot of people see something which you are proud of

noun a horse or rider trained for showjumping

noun a sport in which horses with riders have to jump over different fences in a short time

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treat or cut paper into long thin pieces, which can then be thrown away or used as packing material. They sent a pile of old invoices to be shredded. She told the police that the manager had told her to shred all the documents in the file. Two, to cut into very thin pieces. Here’s an attachment for shredding vegetables. Add a cup of shredded carrot. (Note: shredding — shredded)

shredder /ʃrɛdə/ noun 1. a machine for shredding paper

shrew /ʃru/ noun 1. a little animal like a mouse with a long nose. Shrews form part of the diet of owls. 2. an unpleasant and angry woman who is always criticizing (old) Shakespeare’s play ‘The Taming of the Shrew’

shrewd /ʃru/ adj clever or wise. Synonym astute. Antonym naive (Note: shrewder — shrewdest)

shrink /ʃrɪŋk/ verb 1. to make the sound of a shrill whistle when I change gear. 2. to make the surface of something become dry and creased, or to shrivel an almost transparent material

den where shrubs grow

shrub /ʃrub/ noun a small plant with stiff stems. Synonym bush

shrubbery /ʃrubərɪ/ noun a part of a garden where shrubs grow

shudder /ʃʌdə/ verb to make someone very afraid

shrew /ʃru/ noun 1. a little animal like a mouse with a long nose. Shrews form part of the diet of owls.

shriek /ʃri/ noun 1. a place which is connected with a holy person.

shrivel /ʃrivəl/ verb to treat something as if it is not something to worry about.

she /ʃi/ noun a person.

sh',//shr/ lengthmarkk

shredder 790

shuffle /ʃʌfl/ verb 1. to walk dragging your feet along the ground. 2. to mix the playing cards before starting a game. 3. to think he must have done something to the cards when he was shuffling them.
shun /ʃʌn/ verb to avoid someone or something (NOTE: shunning – shunned)
shunt /ʃaʊnt/ verb 1. to move a vehicle backwards and forwards
She shunted backwards and forwards until she was parked close to the pavement. 3. to move a person from place to place They moved several times, and the children were shunted from school to school.

shunt /ʃaʊnt/ noun 1. a means of transport which goes frequently from one place to another and back again 2. a shuttle from the hotel to the exhibition grounds.

shut /ʃut/ adj closed, not open Some shops are shut on Sundays, but most big stores are open. 2. to close something which is open
Can you please shut the window – it’s getting cold in here. 2. Here’s your present – shut your eyes and guess what it is.

shut down /ʃaʊt ˈdaʊn/ verb 1. to close completely
The factory shut down for the holiday weekend. 2. to switch off an electrical system They had to shut down the nuclear power station because radiation levels were too high.

shut in /ʃaʊt ˈɪn/ verb to lock inside. Synonym confine
shut off /ʃaʊt ˈɒf/ verb 1. to stop something off Can you shut off the water while I mend the tap? 2. to stop access to We can shut off the water while I mend the tap.

shut out /ʃaʊt ˈaʊt/ verb 1. to lock outside
If the dog keeps on barking you’ll have to shut him out. 2. I was shut out of the house because I’d left my keys inside. 2. to stop light getting inside; to stop people seeing a view Those thick curtains should shut out the light from the children’s room. 3. A high wall shuts out the view of the factory.

shutter /ˈʃʌtər/ noun 1. a folding wooden or metal cover for a window Close the shutters if the sunlight is too bright. 2. the part of a camera which opens and closes very quickly to allow the light to go on to the film. 3. He released the shutter and took the picture.

shuttle /ˈʃætl/ noun 1. a bus or plane service which goes frequently between two places
There’s a shuttle service to go between two places frequently. 2. a small object for holding thread, which takes the thread backwards and forwards when weaving or sewing with a machine
Shuttlecock /ˈʃætlkɔːk/ noun a light little object with feathers stuck in it, which players hit over a net in badminton

shy /ʃai/ adj nervous and afraid to do something He’s so shy he sat in the back row and didn’t speak to anyone. 2. once bitten twice shy once you have had a bad experience you will not want to do it again 3. to fight shy of doing something to avoid getting involved in something

siamese /ˌsaɪəˈmiːz/ adjective referring to Siamese cats (dated Siamese cat /ˌsaɪəˈmiːz ˈkæt/ noun a type of cat with pale fawn fur, dark brown face and blue eyes

sibling /ˈsɪblɪŋ/ noun a brother or sister

sibling rivalry /ˈsɪblɪŋ ˈrævləri/ noun a situation in which there is a lot of argument or competition between brothers or sisters

sick /sɪk/ adjective 1. ill, not well He’s been sick for months. 2. to be sick to bring up food from the stomach into the mouth The last time I ate oysters I was sick all night. 2. to feel sick because you want to bring up food from the stomach

sick /sɪk/ noun 1. vomiting. Synonym vomit 2. the sick
sicken /ˈsɪkən/ verb to make someone feel extremely upset.

sickening /ˈsɪkɪŋ/ adjective which makes you upset or nervous.

something /ˈsʌmθɪŋ/ to be sickening for something to have the first signs of an illness.

informal /ɪnˈfɔːrməl/ She’s looking pale – she must be sickening for something.

sick leave /ˈsɪk lɪv/ noun a period when an employee is away from work because of illness.

sickly /ˈsɪkli/ adjective 1. not healthy

Your plants are looking rather sickly, do they need more fertiliser?

2. He turned a sickly yellow colour, and we rushed him to the doctor.

sickness /ˈsɪknəs/ noun 1. the feeling of wanting to bring up food from the stomach into the mouth.

2. not being well.

There is a lot of sickness about during the winter months.

travel sickness /ˈtrævl sɪknəs/ to travel sickness.

sick up /ˈsɪk ʌp/ verb to bring up food from your stomach into your mouth.

Synonym vomit.

side /sайд/ noun 1. one of the four parts which with the top and bottom make a solid object such as a box.

Stand the box upright – don’t turn it onto its side.

2. one of the two parts which with the front and back make a building.

The garage is attached to the side of the house.

3. one of the surfaces of a flat object.

Please write on both sides of the paper.

4. one of two or more parts or edges of something.

Our office is on the opposite side of the street to the bank.

London Airport is on the west side of the city.

5. The hitch-hikers were standing by the side of the road.

She sat to one side of the fireplace.

6. a sports team.

The local side was beaten 2 – 0.

7. the part of the body between the top of the legs and the shoulder.

I can’t sleep when I’m lying on my right side.

8. The policemen stood by the prisoner’s side.

They all stood side by side.

9. one of the sides of an animal, used as a piece of meat.

A side of bacon.

10. two people or groups of people who oppose each other.

Can you take that bucket round to the side door?

verb to side against someone to disagree with someone in an argument.

I can’t understand why they all are siding against me.

to side against someone to disagree with someone in an argument.

Why do you always side with the bass?

to look on the bright side to be hopeful about the future.

You should look on the bright side – you’ll have plenty of free time now you’ve lost your job.

on the side separate from your normal work, and sometimes hidden from your employer.

Her salary is very low, so the family lives on what she can make on the side.

on the side slightly The car runs well but it’s on the small side.

the book is on the heavy side, the book is fairly heavy.

The book is fairly difficult to read.

to take sides to say who you agree with.

He refused to take sides in the argument.

siderboard /ˈsайдбɔːrd/ noun a large piece of furniture made like a table with a cupboard underneath and used for storing objects such as plates, cups and glasses.

siderboards /ˈsайдбɔːdz/ plural noun hair down the side of a man’s face, in front of the ears.

sider dish /ˈsайд dɪʃ/ noun a small amount of a particular food served on a side plate.

sider effect /ˈsайд ɪˈfɛkt/ noun an effect produced by a medical treatment such as a drug, which is not the main effect intended.

siderkick /ˈsайдkɪk/ noun someone who works as a helper for another person.

siderlight /ˈsайдlaɪt/ noun 1. of a particular food served on a side plate.

2. a piece of information which you find out when you are not expecting to.

a piece of information which you find out when you are not expecting to.

The letters give some interesting sidelights you find out when you are not expecting to.

You have plenty of free time now you’ve lost your job.

sides /ˈsайдz/ plural noun.

white lines along the edge of the playing area in sports such as tennis or football.

to sit on the sidelines not to take part in something.

He gave a sidelong glance at the table full of food.

sider plate /ˈsайд plɛt/ noun a small plate placed next to your dinner plate.
To remove lumps or a substance such as flour through a sieve.

sidestep /ˈsaɪdstrɛp/ verb to avoid something unpleasant (informal) (NOTE: side-step)

side street /ˈsaɪd strɪt/ noun a small street which leads off a main street. Synonym: alley

sieve /ˌsɪv/ noun an object used in the kitchen, made of a frame with a metal or plastic net, used to pour through liquids or substances such as flour, in order to remove lumps or separate some of the parts. "Put the flour through a sieve." "Boil the peas for a few minutes and put in a sieve to strain." "He has a memory like a sieve; he keeps forgetting things." Synonym: sifter

sight /saɪt/ noun 1. one of the five senses, being able to see. "My grandfather's sight isn't very good any more." 2. to lose your sight to become blind. "He lost his sight in the accident." 3. the fact of being able to see something. "He can't stand the sight of blood." 4. We caught sight of an eagle up in the mountains. "She kept waving until the car disappeared from sight." 5. The fog cleared and the mountains came into sight. "They waved until the boat was out of sight." 6. "At first sight" when you see something for the first time. "At first sight I thought he was wearing a wig."

sigh /saɪ/ noun a long deep breath, showing an emotion or that you feel tired. "He sighed and wrote out another cheque." Synonym: moan

sign /sɪgn/ noun 1. a movement of the hand which means something. "He made a sign to us to sit down." 2. something such as a drawing or a notice which advertises something. "The shop has a big sign outside it saying 'for sale'." 3. "A 'no smoking' sign hung on the wall." 4. something which shows that something is happening or has happened. "There is no sign of the rain stopping." 5. "The economy is showing signs of improvement."
signal 794 silent

The police can find no sign of how the burglars got into the office. He should have arrived by now, but there’s no sign of him. 4. a printed character ○ the pound sign (£) ○ the dollar sign ($) ○ the hash sign (#) ○ Signs of the Zodiac 5 verb to write your name in a special way on a document to show that you have written it or that you have approved it ○ Sign on the dotted line, please. ○ The letter is signed by the managing director. ○ A Cheque is not valid if it has not been signed.

significance 874 silent

• significance /ˈsɪɡnɪfɪkəns/ noun 1. a sign or movement which tells someone to do something ○ I’ll give you a signal to start playing ‘Happy Birthday’. 2. a device used to tell someone to do something ○ The signal was at red so the train had to stop. 3. an electronic sound heard on a radio receiver ○ We heard a faint signal coming from the mountains. ■ verb to make signs to tell someone to do something ○ The driver signalled to show that he was turning right. ○ She signalled to me that we were running out of time. (NOTE: signalling – signalled.) ■ adj extremely good or great (formal) ○ The conference was a signal success.

signatory /ˈsɪgnətri/ noun a person who signs a contract (NOTE: The plural is signatories.)

signature /ˈsɪɡnətʃər/ noun 1. a name written in a special way by someone to show that a document has been authorised or accepted ○ He found a pile of cheques on his desk waiting for his signature. ○ Her signature doesn’t look like her name at all. ○ The shopkeeper looked very closely at her signature and compared it with the one on the credit card. 2. a section of a printed book, usually 16, 32 or 64 pages ○ Something has gone wrong with this copy of the book, the first signature is missing.

signature tune /ˈsɪɡnətʃər tuːn/ a tune which is used to identify a radio or TV broadcast

sign for /ˈsɪɡn fɔː/ verb 1. to sign a document to show that you have received something ○ He signed for the parcel. 2. (of a footballer) to move to a new club ○ He signed for Chelsea yesterday.

significance /ˈsɪɡnɪfɪkəns/ noun 1. meaning ○ What is the significance of your logo of a ship? 2. importance ○ There was no significance in the fact that her temperature was higher than usual. ○ of great significance very important ○ The contents of the letter were of great significance. ○ of little significance not very important ○ His remarks were of little significance.

significant /ˈsɪɡnɪfɪkənt/ adj important, full of meaning ○ It is highly significant that everyone else was asked to the meeting; but not the finance director. ○ There has been a significant improvement in his condition.

significantly /ˈsɪɡnɪfɪkəntli/ adv in a significant way

signify /ˈsɪɡnɪfaɪ/ verb 1. to indicate something ○ The letter seems to signify that they have accepted our terms. 2. to be important ○ It doesn’t signify in the least. ○ that signifies that seems reasonable (informal)

signing /ˈsɪŋɪŋ/ noun 1. the action of putting your signature on a document ○ The signing of the peace treaty took place in the Palace of Versailles. 2. a footballer who has just moved to a new club ○ The only goal was by their new signing.

sign language /ˈsɪŋn ˈleɪndʒ/ noun signs made with the hands and fingers, used for communicating by people who are not able to hear or speak very well

sign on /ˈsɪŋ ən/ verb 1. to start work ○ He signed on and started work immediately. 2. to start drawing unemployment benefit ○ She signed on after losing her job.

signpost /ˈsɪŋpəʊst/ noun a post with signs showing directions to places ○ You should have turned right at that signpost. ○ The signpost said it was 20 miles to Bristol. ■ verb to put signposts along a road to show directions ○ The way to the harbour is clearly signposted.

Signs of the Zodiac /ˈsɪŋz əv ˈzɔːdiək/ plural noun the twelve signs used in astrology, each connected to a group of stars and a period of the year

Sikh /ˈsɪk/ adj, noun (referring to) members of a religious group founded in India ○ Do all Sikh men wear turbans? ○ Over 20% of the students in the college are Sikhs.

silence /ˈsaɪləns/ noun a situation which is quiet, without any noise ○ I love the silence of the countryside at night. ○ The crowd of tourists waited in silence. ○ The mayor held up his hand and asked for silence. ○ There was a sudden silence as she came in. ○ There will be a minute’s silence at 11 o’clock. ○ a conspiracy of silence a secret plan to say nothing about something which has happened ○ verb to stop someone saying or writing something ○ He tried to silence his critics by taking out an injunction. ○ She refused to be silenced and continued to write her articles about government corruption.

silencer /ˈsaɪlənsər/ noun 1. an object attached to the exhaust of a car to reduce noise ○ The car is very noisy and needs a new silencer. (NOTE: The US term is muffler.) 2. an object attached to a gun to reduce the noise when it is fired ○ He was killed with a gun fitted with a silencer.

silent /ˈsaɪlənt/ adj not talking, not making any noise ○ He kept silent for the whole
meeting. ◎ She sees rather silent today. ◎ a very silent and reserved young man ◎ The house was cold and silent. ◎ This new washing machine is almost silent. ◎ They showed some old silent films.

silently /ˈsaɪləntli/ adv without any noise, without talking

silent majority /ˈsaɪlənt məˈdʒərəti/ noun the majority of people in society when considered as a group who do not express their opinions or political views publicly

silhouette /ˈsaɪlət/ noun 1. a black shape of a person or thing against a light background ◎ We could see two silhouettes in the background, but couldn’t make out who they were. 2. a picture made of the black outline of someone’s head in profile ◎ I bought an 18th century silhouette. ◦ verb to stand out against a bright background ◎ She stood silhouetted against the burning house.

silhouetted /ˈsaɪlətɪd/ adj standing out against a bright background

silicon /ˈsaɪlɪkən/ noun a chemical element which is used in the electronics industry because of its semiconductor properties

silicon chip /ˈsaɪlɪkən tʃɪp/ noun a small piece of silicon able to store data, used in a computer

silicone /ˈsaɪlɪkən/ noun a chemical compound of silicon used in making various oils or rubber

silicone implant /ˈsaɪlɪkən ˈɪmplænt/ noun a piece of silicone used in medical operations

silk /silk/ noun 1. cloth made from fibres produced by silkworms. ◎ She was wearing a beautiful silk scarf. ◎ I bought some blue silk to make a dress. 2. a Queen’s Counsel (informal) ◦ to take silk to become a Queen’s Counsel

silken /ˈsaɪlkn/ adj soft and shiny like silk

silky /ˈsaɪlkɪ/ adj soft and smooth like silk

silt /silt/ noun a flat shelf below a window, either inside or outside. Synonym ledge

silliness /ˈsaɪlnɪs/ noun being silly ◦ silly /ˈsaɪli/ adj stupid, not thinking ◦ Don’t be silly – you can’t go to the party dressed like that! ◎ She asked a lot of silly questions. ◎ Of all the silly newspaper articles that must be the silliest. (NOTE: The plural is sillos.)

silt /silt/ noun soft mud which settles at the bottom of water ◎ The silt was several inches deep in places.

silt up /sɪlt ˈʌp/ verb (of a harbour or river) to become full of silt, so that boats can no longer use it ◎ The mouth of the river is gradually silting up.

silver /ˈsaɪlvər/ noun 1. a precious white metal ◦ Gold is worth more than silver. ◎ How much is an ounce of silver worth? 2. coins made of white metal ◦ He held out a handful of silver. 3. knives, forks and spoons or ornaments made of silver ◎ She’s in the kitchen polishing the silver. ◎ Don’t worry, all the silver is securely locked away. 4. a shiny white colour, like silver ◦ The car has been resprayed in silver. ◦ adj of a shiny white colour, like silver ◦ The car has been resprayed with silver paint. ◎ She wore silver sandals to match her handbag.

silver-haired /ˈsaɪlvər ˈheəd/ adj with light grey hair

silver medal /ˈsaɪlvər ˈmedəl/ noun the prize given to someone who finishes in second place in a race or competition

silverware /ˈsaɪlvərˌwɛə/ noun silver objects, especially things such as knives and forks

silver wedding /ˈsaɪlvər ˈwɛdɪŋ/ noun an anniversary of 25 years of marriage

silvery /ˈsaɪlvrɪ/ adj 1. shiny like silver ◦ Her hair was silvery in the moonlight. 2. with a light ringing sound ◦ The silvery sound of the temple bells.

SIM card /ˈsɪm kɑːd/ noun a special type of plastic card put into a mobile phone, which contains the personal information relating to the person who owns the phone, including things such as their PIN number or stored phone numbers

similar /ˈsaɪmlər/ adj very much like someone or something but not exactly the same ◦ Here is the old lampshade – do you have anything similar to replace it? ◎ The two cars are very similar in appearance. ◎ Our situation is rather similar to yours. Synonym alike. Antonym dissimilar

similarity /ˈsaɪmlərɪ-ti/ noun being similar. Synonym resemblance. Antonym difference. (NOTE: The plural is similarities.)

similarly /ˈsaɪmlərli/ adv in a similar way ◦ All these infections must be treated similarly. ◦ He always writes a nice thank you letter, and similarly so does his sister.

similar /ˈsaɪmlər/ noun a comparison of one thing to another, using ‘like’ or ‘as’, e.g. ‘as flat as a pancake.’ Compare metaphor

simmer /ˈsaɪmər/ verb 1. to cook by boiling gently ◎ We left the soup to simmer gently. 2. to simmer down to become calmer after being very annoyed ◎ Will you try to simmer down and listen to me, please?

simple /ˈsɪmpəl/ adj 1. easy ◦ The machine is very simple to use. ◎ She described
simple interest

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simple interest /ˈsimpəl ˈɪntrəst/ noun interest calculated on the original amount of money only, and not on interest added to it. Compare compound interest

d. simplicity /ˈsɪmplɪsɪtɪ/ noun the quality of being simple

simplification /ˌsɪmplɪˈfɪkʃən/ noun an act or process of making something simple: oversimplification
d. simplify /ˈsɪmplɪfaɪ/ verb to make something simple. Antonym complicate

d. simplistic /ˈsɪmplɪstɪk/ adj too simple, so simple as to seem foolish
d. simply /ˈsɪmplɪ/ adv 1. in a simple way He described very simply how the accident had happened. She always dresses very simply. 2. only He did it simply to annoy everyone. She gave a new look to the room simply by painting one wall red. 3. used for emphasis Your garden is simply beautiful. It’s simply terrible — what shall we do?
d. simulate /ˈsɪmjʊleɪt/ verb to copy the way something behaves, or the way something happens

d. simulation /ˌsɪmjʊˈleɪʃən/ noun an operation in which a computer is made to copy a real life situation or a machine, showing how something works or will work in the future
d. simulator /ˈsɪmjʊleɪtər/ noun a piece of equipment that simulates something else

d. simultaneously /ˌsɪmplɪˈmətəri/ adv at the same time as something else. Antonym concurrently

d. sin /sɪn/ noun 1. an evil action which goes against the rules of a religion. Greed is one of the seven deadly sins. To live in sin to live together without being married (dated) 2. something bad It would be a sin to waste all that meat. verb to commit a sin, to do something evil The priest told him he had sinned. Synonym transgress (NOTE: sinning – sinned)

d. since /sɪns/ prep during the period after She’s been here since Monday. We’ve been working non-stop since four o’clock — can’t we have a rest? conj 1. during the period after He has had trouble borrowing money ever since he was rude to the bank manager. Since we got to the hotel, it has rained every day. 2. because Since he’s ill, you can’t ask him to help you. Since it’s such a fine day, let’s go for a walk. adv during the period until now She phoned on Sunday and we haven’t heard from her since.

d. sincere /ˈsɪnərə/ adj very honest and real

d. sincerely /ˈsɪnərɪ/ adv really or definitely

d. Yours sincerely. Sincerely yours words used as an ending to a letter addressed to a named person
d. sincerity /ˈsɪnərɪtɪ/ noun honesty. Antonym insincerity

d. sin qua non /ˈsɪn kwə nʌn/ noun something which is necessary, without which something else cannot succeed. Synonym prerequisite

d. sinew /ˈsɪnju/ noun one of the strong fibres in your body which hold together the bones at joints or attach muscles to bones

d. to strain every sinew to work as hard as possible. Straining every sinew they pulled the boat up onto the shore.

d. singe /sɪŋ/ verb to burn the outside of something (NOTE: singeing)

d. singer /ˈsɪŋər/ noun a person who sings.

d. vocalist

d. singing /ˈsɪŋɪŋ/ noun the action of making music with your voice.

d. singles /ˈsɪŋgəlz/ noun a ticket for one journey 1. a ticket for one journey Two singles to Oxford Circus, please. 2. a record with one piece of music on it. The group’s first single went into the top ten. 3. (in cricket) one run He scored a single and won the match.
single /ˈsɪŋ(ə)l/ /ˈsɪŋɡəl/ 'kriːm/ noun liquid cream which contains a small amount of fat

single currency /ˈsɪŋɡəl/ 'kærənsi/ noun one system of money which is shared by several countries

single-decker /ˈsɪŋɡəl/ 'dekə/ noun a bus with only one floor

single-handed /ˈsɪŋɡəl/ 'hændid/ adj, adv all by yourself ○ a single-handed yacht race ○ He sailed single-handed round the world. ○ I can’t do all this work single-handed.

single market /ˈsɪŋɡəl/ 'mɑːktər/ noun the EU countries considered as one large market, with no tariff barriers between member states

single-minded /ˈsɪŋɡəl/ 'mɑːndɪd/ adj thinking only of one thing

single-mindedly /ˈsɪŋɡəl/ 'mɑːndɪdli/ adv with only one aim in mind

single out /ˈsɪŋɡəl/ 'aut/ verb to notice or choose one person or thing among several. Synonym pick out

single parent /ˈsɪŋɡəl/ 'peərənt/ noun one parent who is bringing up a child or children alone ○ singles /ˈsɪŋɡəlz/ noun 1, a tennis game played between two people ○ the men’s singles champion 2, people who are not married ○ They went to a singles bar.

single-sex school /ˈsɪŋɡəl/ 'seks/ 'skɜːrl/ noun a school which takes either girls or boys, not both

single spacing /ˈsɪŋɡəl/ 'speknɪŋ/ noun typing where there is no space between the lines of text

singlet /ˈsɪŋglət/ noun a sleeveless vest worn under a shirt, or when taking part in sports

single ticket /ˈsɪŋɡəl/ 'tɪkɪt/ noun a ticket for a journey in one direction only. Also called one-way ticket, single

single-track railway /ˈsɪŋɡəl/ 'træk/ 'rɛtʃɪv/ noun a railway where trains go up and down the same rails, but with places where two trains can pass

singly /ˈsɪŋɡlɪ/ adv one by one. Synonym individually

singular /ˈsɪŋɡjʊəl/ adj 1, odd, strange ○ We found ourselves in a really singular position, 2, showing that there is only one thing or person ○ She’s is a singular pronoun. ■ noun the form of a word showing that there is only one ○ ‘Child’ is the singular, and ‘children’ is the plural. ○ The singular of ‘they have’ is ‘he or she has’. ○ The singular of ‘bacteria’ is ‘bacterium’.

singularly /ˈsɪŋɡjʊləlɪ/ adv 1, strangely 2, particularly

sinister /ˈsɪnstər/ adj which looks evil, which suggests that something bad will happen. Synonym menacing

sink /sɪŋk/ noun a fixed basin for washing things such as dishes in a kitchen ○ The sink was piled high with dirty dishes. ○ He was washing his hands at the kitchen sink. ■ verb 1, to go down to the bottom of something such as water or mud ○ The ferry sank in 30 m of water. ○ The paper boat floated for a few minutes, then sank. ○ You should tie a piece of lead to your fishing line to make it sink. 2, to make a boat go to the bottom of the water ○ An enemy shell sank the ship. 3, to fall suddenly ○ She was so upset that she just sank into an armchair and closed her eyes. ○ My heart sank when I heard the news. ○ House prices have sunk to an all-time low. 4, to invest money in something ○ He sank all his savings into a car-hire business. (NOTE: sinking – sank /sæŋk/ – sunk /sʌŋk/)

sink in /sɪŋk /ɪn/ verb to become fixed in the mind. Synonym go in

sinking feeling /ˈsɪŋkɪŋ ˈfɪlɪŋ/ noun a sudden feeling of disappointment you get when you realise that something has gone wrong

sink unit /sɪŋk /ˈjuːnt/ noun an arrangement of a cupboard, a sink, taps and waste pipes, forming a single piece of furniture

sinner /ˈsɪnə/ noun someone who does something that is morally wrong

sinuous /ˈsɪnuəs/ adj winding

sinus /ˈsɪnəs/ noun an empty space inside the body, especially the spaces inside your head behind the cheekbone and nose (NOTE: The plural is sinuses.)

sip /sɪp/ noun the act of drinking a small amount ○ She took a sip of water, and went on with her speech. ■ verb to drink taking only a small amount of liquid at a time ○ The girl was sipping her drink quietly. Antonym gulp (NOTE: sipping – sipped)

siphon /ˈsɪfən/ noun 1, a device for making fizzy water ○ The waiter gave him a glass of scotch and put the siphon on the bar next to him. Also called soda siphon 2, a bent tube to allow you to take liquid from one container to another placed at a lower level ○ Using a siphon he removed petrol from the car’s tank. ■ verb to remove liquid by using a siphon ○ Petrol had been siphoned from the tanks of cars parked in the car park. ○ to siphon money off to remove money from a source illegally (informal) ○ The firm’s accountant managed to siphon off the profits into his private bank account.

sir /sɜːr/ noun 1, a polite way of referring to a man (usually used by someone serving in a shop or restaurant) ○ Would you like a drink with your lunch, sir? ○ Please come this way, sir. 2, a way of addressing a male...
siren 798

sit down /sɪtˈdaʊn/ verb to sit on a seat
sit-down /ˈsɪtdaʊn/ noun 1. a strike where the workers stay in their place of work and refuse to work or leave. O The factory has been occupied by workers staging a sit-down.
2. a short rest sitting on a chair (informal). O I've been on my feet all day – I think I deserve a sit-down.
sit-down meal /ˈsɪt daʊn/ noun a meal where you sit at a table
sit-down strike /ˈsɪt daʊn ˈstrʌk/, sit-down protest /ˈsɪt daʊn ˈprəʊtest/ noun a strike where the workers stay in their place of work and refuse to work or leave.

sit /sɪt/ verb 1. to be resting with your head resting on something. O Mother was sitting in bed eating her breakfast.
2. to move into this position. O Could you please sit here?
3. to sit for a picture to pose, to stand or sit still while someone paints or photographs you. O He sat for his portrait. O He sat for her in his uniform.
4. to take a test. O She failed her English exam and had to sit it again.
5. (of Parliament, a council, etc.) to be meeting. O A light shines at the top of Big Ben when the House of Commons is sitting.
6. (of a bird) to be sitting. O A light shines at the top of Big Ben when the House of Commons is sitting.
7. to sit at a table where you sit at a table.
8. to sit down. O Please sit down on the floor.
9. to sit down. O They're trying to locate the site of the old Roman fort.
10. to sit in on. O She sat in on the local choral society's committee for fifteen years.
11. to sit in at a place where people are sitting. O The hotel will be sited between the airport and the new exhibition centre.
sit-in /ˈsɪt ɪn/ noun a protest where a place of work is occupied by people who refuse to leave until their questions or requests have been dealt with (informal). O The plural is sit-ins.
sit on /ˈsɪt ɒn/ verb 1. to be a member of a committee. O She sat on the local choral society's committee for fifteen years.
2. to do nothing about something that should have been dealt with. O They sat on the report for three months.
sitter /ˈsɪta/ noun 1. a person who looks after children. O The factory has a sitter on day.
2. a person who poses, while someone paints or photographs him or her. O The sitter was his mother.
sitting /ˈsɪtɪŋ/ noun 1. a position where a group of people eat together. O Take your seats for the second sitting.
2. a comfortable room for sitting in. Synonym lounge
sitting tenant /ˈsɪtɪŋ ˈtenənt/ noun a person who is living in a property and paying rent for it when the property is sold
sited /ˈsɪtəd/ verb placed in a particular situation (informal).
situated /ˈsɪtjuətɪd/ adj placed in a particular situation (formal).
situation /ˈsɪteʃən/ noun 1. a position, the way in which something is placed. O What's your opinion of the company's present situation?
2. a place where something is发生. O The hotel is in a very pleasant situation by the sea.
3. a job (formal). O I'm looking for a more permanent situation.
period from 500 to 599 AD

sit up /sit ˈʌp/ verb 1. to sit with your back straight ○ Sit up straight! 2. to move from a lying to a sitting position ○ He's too weak to sit up. ○ He sat up in bed to eat his breakfast. 3. to delay going to bed or to go to bed later than usual ○ We sat up playing cards until 2 a.m.
sit-up /ˈsit ʌp/ noun an exercise where you lie on your back on the floor and then sit up keeping your legs on the floor (NOTE: The plural is sit-ups.)

situations vacant /ˈsɪtjuəʃənz ˈvɛrkwənt/ noun a list of job vacancies in a newspaper

six /sɪk/ noun 1. the number 6 ○ He's six years old. ○ We're having some people round for drinks at six (o'clock). ○ There are only six chocolates left in the box – who's eaten the rest? ○ the six hundreds (600s) the years from 600 to 699 AD 2. (in cricket) a score of six runs for sending the ball over the boundary without it touching the ground ○ He scored a century, including four sixes.
six-bottle /ˈsɪks ˈbɔt(ə)l/ noun a pack containing six bottle or cans

six-pack /ˈsɪks ˈpæk/ noun a pack containing six bottle or cans ○ sixteen /ˈsɪksˈtɪn/ noun the number 16 ○ He'll be sixteen next month. ○ The train leaves at seventeen sixteen (17.16). ○ the sixteen hundreds (1600s) the years from 1600 to 1699 ○ sixteenth /ˈsɪksˌtiːnti/ adj, noun referring to 16 ○ She came sixteenth in the race. ○ The sixteenth of July or July the sixteenth (July 16th). ○ Her sixteenth birthday is on Tuesday. ○ the sixteenth century the years from 1500 to 1599 ○ sixth /ˈsɪksθ/ adj referring to 6 ○ His office is on the sixth floor. ○ What is the sixth letter of the alphabet? ○ The sixth of August or August the sixth (August 6th). ○ Tomorrow is her sixth birthday. ○ the sixth century the period from 500 to 999 AD ○ noun one part of six equal parts ○ Ten minutes is a sixth of an hour.
sixth form /ˈsɪksθ fɔːm/ noun the final two years in a secondary school, with students between 16 and 18 years old

sitting /ˈsɪtɪŋ/ noun 1. the ability to feel that something has taken place or will take place, without using any of the five senses. Synonym intuition ○ She's sixty years old. ○ She's sixty (years old). ○ The table cost more than sixty pounds (£60). ○ she's in her sixties she's between 60 and 69 years old ○ the (nineteen) sixties (1960s) the years from 1960 to 1969 ○ size /ˈsɑːz/ noun the measurements of something, how big something is, or how many there are of something ○ Their garage is about the same size as our house. ○ The school has an Olympic size swimming pool. ○ He takes size ten in shoes. ○ What size collars do you take? ○ The size of the staff has doubled in the last two years.
sizable /ˈsɑːzəb(ə)l/ adj quite big

situation comedy /ˈsɪtjuəʃən ˈkɔmədi/ noun full form of sitcom

situation comedy /ˈsɪtjuəʃənz ˈkɔmədi/ noun full form of sitcom

skeletal /ˈskɛltəl/ adj, noun referring to all the bones which make up a body ○ They found the skeleton of a rabbit in the garden shed. ○ He demonstrated joints using the skeleton in the biology lab. ○ the skeleton in the cupboard an embarrassing secret that a family is trying to keep hidden

skeletal key /ˈskɛltəl ˈkiː/ noun a key which will fit several different doors in a building

sketch /skɛtʃ/ noun 1. a rough quick drawing ○ He made a sketch of the church. 2. a short comic situation on TV or radio or a short comic play ○ The show takes the form of a series of short sketches. (NOTE: The plural is sketches.) ○ verb to draw something
sketchbook  800  skip

quickly and roughly ○ She was sketching the old church. ○ He sketched out his plan on the back of an envelope.

sketchbook  /ˈskɛtʃbʊk/ noun a book of drawing paper for sketching

sketchmap  /ˈskɛtʃmæp/ noun a rough map drawn by hand

sketchpad  /ˈskɛtʃpæd/ noun a pad of sheets of paper for sketching

sketchy  /ˈskɛtʃi/ adj not complete, not full. Synonym vague. Antonym detailed (NOTE: sketcher – sketchiest)

skew /skuː/ noun □ on the skew not straight □ verb to make information inaccurate or unbalanced ○ Not using a proper sample has skewed the results of the test. ○ Tax advantages were always skewed towards the highest earners.

skewed /ˈskuːd/ adj unbalanced

skewer /ˈskuːər/ noun a long thin metal or wooden rod for putting through pieces of meat, fish or vegetables when cooking or grilling ○ She put some pieces of chicken and onion on the skewer.

skilful /ˈskɪfl/ adjective showing a lot of skill (NOTE: The US spelling is skillful.)

skilled /ˈskɪld/ adjective 1. being able to do something well, using a particular skill ○ She’s a skilled therapist. ○ We need skilled programmers. 2. needing a particular skill ○ nursing and other skilled professions

skillet /ˈskɪlɪt/ noun US a frying pan

skim /skɪm/ verb 1. to remove things floating on a liquid ○ Skin the soap to remove the fat on the surface. 2. to move quickly over the surface of something ○ Flies skimmed across the surface of the lake.

skimmed milk /skɪmd/ milk/ noun milk from which most of the fat has been removed (NOTE: The US term is skim milk.)

skimp /skɪmp/ verb not to give enough of something. Synonym stint. Antonym lavish

skim on /ˈskɪm ɒn/ verb not to spend much money on something ○ They skimp on food.

skimpily /ˈskɪmplɪ/ adjective, not big enough (NOTE: skimpier – skimpiest)

skinned /ˈskɪnd/ adjective 1. the outer surface of the body ○ The baby’s skin is very smooth. ○ to be just skin and bones to be extremely thin 2. an outer surface of a fruit or vegetable ○ This orange has a very thick skin. ○ You can cook these new potatoes with their skins on.

skinned /ˈskɪnd/ verb to remove the skin from an animal or fish ○ Ask the fishmonger to skin the sole for you. (NOTE: skinning – skinned)

skin-deep /ˈskɪn ˈdiːp/ adjective on the surface, superficial

skin-diver /ˈskɪn ˈdɪvər/ noun a person who goes skin-diving

skin-diving /ˈskɪn ˈdɪvɪŋ/ noun the sport of swimming underwater using breathing apparatus

skinhead /ˈskɪnheid/ noun a young man with very short hair or a shaved head, often considered as behaving in an aggressive manner

skinny /ˈskɪnni/ adjective very thin (NOTE: skinnier – skinniest)

skint /ˈskɪnt/ adjective with no money (informal)

skin-tight /ˈskɪn ˈtaɪt/ adjective fitting very closely to the body

skip /skɪp/ verb 1. to run along partly hopping and partly jumping ○ The children skipped happily down the lane. 2. to jump
over a rope which you turn over your head. The boys played football and the girls were skipping. 3. to miss part of something She skipped the middle chapters and went on to read the end of the story. I'm not hungry. I'll skip the pudding. (NOTE: skipping -- skipped) 4. noun a large metal container for rubbish The builders filled the skip with old bricks and stones.

- skipper /skɪpə/ noun 1. the captain of a ship. We reported to the skipper that there was water in the ship's engine room. 2. the captain of a team He's the youngest skipper ever of the national rugby team. 3. verb to be the captain of a team (informal) 4. the youngest man ever to skipper the English rugby team.

- skipping rope /skɪpɪŋ ˈrəʊp/ noun a rope which you jump over as you swing it over your head and under your feet. (NOTE: Another US term is jump rope.)

- skirmish /ˈskɜːmɪʃ/ noun a minor fight between opposite sides. There were several skirmishes between rival fans, but no serious fighting. (NOTE: The plural is skirmishes.)

- skirt /skɜːt/ noun 1. a piece of clothing worn by women covering the lower part of the body from the waist down. She started wearing jeans to work, but was told to wear a skirt. 2. the lower part of a dress starting at the waist. 3. verb to go round. The main road skirted (round) the town.

- slope /skloʊ/ noun a specially prepared and marked slope for skiing down a mountain.

- skive /skəv/ verb to avoid working (informal)

- skulk /skʌlk/ verb to creep about mysteriously because you are planning something wrong. Synonym lurk

- skull /skuːl/ noun the bones which are joined together to form the head (informal)

- skunk /ˈskʌŋk/ noun a North American mammal with black and white fur, which sends out a liquid with a bad smell when it is attacked.

- sky /skiː/ noun a space above the earth which is blue during the day and where the moon and stars appear at night. What makes the sky blue? It's going to be a beautiful day there's not a cloud in the sky. The wind carried the glider high up into the sky.

- sky-blue /ˈskiːˈbluː/ adj. noun (of) a bright light blue like the sky.

- skydiving /ˈskiːˌdævɪŋ/ noun the sport of jumping out of a plane with a parachute.
slandering 802 sledgehammer

true things about him or her ○ They slandered him at yesterday’s meeting. Compare libel

current or expected things about someone ○ She slammed the door at lunchtime.

case ○ The government was slammed for its handling of the crisis.

hurt someone or something with your hand flat ○ She slapped him on the back to congratulate him.

his hands ○ She slapped his face.

the whole surface ○ She slapped the notes down on the table. ○ She slapped some paint on the wall to cover up the marks. (NOTE: slapping – slapped ○ adv ☞ slap (bang) exactly in or into a particular position (informal) ○ He rode his bike slap into middle of the procession.

useless, not worth your effort ○ He had a nasty slap on his forarm. ○ She took a knife and made a slash across the painting.

at the top of the snow-covered hill ○ to go on a sledge; to play at sliding on the snow on a sledge ○ The children were sledding down the hill. ○ to go sledding to slide fast over snow on sledges as a game ○ We went sledding every day till the snow melted. (NOTE: all senses) The US term is sledge.

a very large heavy hammer ○ to use a sledge-
hammer to crack a nut to use far too much effort in doing something
sleek /ˈslɛk/ adj 1. smooth, shiny and well-kept ○ An enormous sleek limousine drew up outside the hotel. ○ After dinner we walked across the sleek lawns to the river. 2. very confident, but not to be trusted ○ She gave us some sleek sales talk to try to get us interested in buying a mobile phone. ○ Sleek sales staff stood round the stand, handing out leaflets. (NOTE: sleeker – sleekest) □ verb to make smooth ○ He sleeked back his hair.

sleep /slɛp/ verb 1. to sleep soundly usually at night with your eyes closed, when you are not conscious of what is happening ○ I need eight hours' sleep a night. ○ Try to get a good night's sleep – there's a lot of work to be done tomorrow. ○ He always has a short sleep after lunch. □ to go to sleep, to get to sleep to start sleeping ○ Don't make all that noise – Daddy's trying to get to sleep. ○ She put the light out and went to sleep. □ to send someone to sleep to make someone go to sleep ○ Her boring speeches would send anyone to sleep. □ to put someone to sleep to give someone an anaesthetic, before a medical operation ○ to put an animal to sleep to kill an animal that is old or ill ○ my foot has gone to sleep my foot has lost all feeling ○ not to lose any sleep over something not to worry about something ○ It's such a tiny sum that I won't lose any sleep over it. □ verb 1. to rest with your eyes closed not knowing ○ to make a noise – Daddy's trying to get to sleep. ○ to sleep like a log to sleep very soundly (informal) ○ After his 12-mile walk he slept like a log. 2. □ a cottage that sleeps four a cottage with enough beds for four people

sleep around /ˈslɛp əˈraʊnd/ verb to have sexual intercourse with various people (informal)

sleep deprivation /ˈslɛp dɪˈprɪvəʃən/ noun the practice of not allowing someone to have enough sleep

sleepless /ˈslɛpləs/ adj with no sleep
sleeplessness /ˈslɛplənsəs/ noun a lack of sleep, not being able to get to sleep. Synonym: insomnia

sleep off /ˈslɛp ɔf/ verb to get rid of an illness by sleeping

sleep on /ˈslɛp ɑn/ verb □ to sleep on it to sleep, and make an important decision in the morning ○ Let me sleep on it, and I'll give you my answer tomorrow morning.

sleepover /ˈslɛpˌəʊvə/ noun a child's party involving an overnight stay at somebody else's house

electrodes are attached to sleepers to record brain waves ○ he's a heavy sleeper he always sleeps deeply 2. a carriage on a train where passengers sleep on long journeys ○ The last two carriages of the train were sleepers. 3. an overnight train with sleeping cars ○ The Edinburgh sleeper leaves at 11.30 p.m. Synonym: sleeping car 4. a heavy piece of wood on which rails are fixed ○ The track is closed because workmen are laying new sleepers.

sleep in /ˈslɛp ɪn/ verb to sleep later than usual in the morning ○ sleeping /ˈslɛpiŋ/ adj 1. who is asleep ○ The firemen picked up the sleeping children and carried them to safety. 2. referring to sleeping in bed □ we have to decide on the sleeping arrangements we have to decide how the bedrooms are going to be divided between guests ○ noun the state of being asleep or going to sleep ○ I'm always exhausted, so sleeping is never a problem for me.

sleeping bag /ˈslɛpiŋ ˈbæɡ/ noun a comfortable warm bag for sleeping in, often used by campers

electrodes are attached to sleepers to record brain waves ○ he's a heavy sleeper he always sleeps deeply 2. a carriage on a train where passengers sleep on long journeys ○ The last two carriages of the train were sleepers. 3. an overnight train with sleeping cars ○ The Edinburgh sleeper leaves at 11.30 p.m. Synonym: sleeping car 4. a heavy piece of wood on which rails are fixed ○ The track is closed because workmen are laying new sleepers.

sleeper /ˈslɛpər/ noun 1. a person who sleeps ○ Electrodes are attached to sleepers to record brain waves ○ he's a heavy sleeper he always sleeps deeply 2. a carriage on a train where passengers sleep on long journeys ○ The last two carriages of the train were sleepers. 3. an overnight train with sleeping cars ○ The Edinburgh sleeper leaves at 11.30 p.m. Synonym: sleeping car 4. a heavy piece of wood on which rails are fixed ○ The track is closed because workmen are laying new sleepers.

sleep in /ˈslɛp ɪn/ verb to sleep later than usual in the morning
-sleeved

to laugh up your sleeve to laugh in secret at something.

-sleeved /sli:vld/ suffix making adj with no sleeves

sleeveless /slivəls/ adj with no sleeves

sleight /slɛt/ noun a large sledge pulled by horses or reindeer (NOTE: Do not confuse with slay.)

sleight of hand /ˈslɛt ov ˈhænd/ noun the quick movements of a conjurer when performing a card trick. Synonym dexterity

slender /ˈslendə/ adj 1. long and thin 2. a slender stalk 3. tall and slim 4. a girl with a slender waist 5. She’s wants to be slender, without being too skinny. 3. not large 4. The police held out only a slender hope that the killer would be caught. 5. The government won the vote by only the slenderest of margins. (NOTE: slenderer – slenderest)

slept /slɛpt/ sleep

slew /slɛv/ 1. slice /slɛst/ noun 1. a thin piece cut off something to eat 2. Can you cut some more slices of bread? 3. Have a slice of chocolate cake. 4. Would you like another slice of chicken? 2. in sports a way of hitting a ball which makes it go in the wrong direction

verb 1. to cut into slices 2. She stood at the table slicing the joint for lunch. 3. the best thing since sliced bread 4. the most wonderful new invention in the world (informal) 2. to hit a ball so that it spins off to one side 5. He sliced the ball into the net.

sliced bread /ˈslɛst bɛrd/ noun a loaf of bread which has already been cut into slices before you buy it

slick /slɪk/ adj done in a clever way which tricks people 1. The politician was a very slick talker. 2. We didn’t like his slick manner. (NOTE: slicker – slicest)

slid /slɪd/ slide

slide /slɪd/ noun 1. a slippery metal or plastic structure for children to slide down 2. There are swings and a slide in the local playground. 3. a small piece of film which can be projected onto a screen 4. She put the screen up and showed as the slides of her last trip. 5. There will be a slide show in the village hall. 6. a steady fall 7. The government must act to stop the slide in the pound. 4. a clip which goes into the hair to hold it in place 5. She had two red slides in her hair.

verb 1. to move smoothly over a slippery surface 2. The car slid into a stop. 3. The children were sliding on the ice when it broke. 2. to move something smoothly 4. He slid the money over the table. 3. to move down steadily 5. The pound slid after interest rates were lowered. (NOTE: sliding – slid /slɪd/)

sliding scale /ˌslaidɪŋ ˈskɛl/ noun a system of marks or points which vary according to a scale

slight /slɛt/ adj 1. (of people) small and thin 2. Their daughter’s a slight young girl. 2. not very big 3. All you could see was a slight movement of the cat’s tail. 4. There was a slight improvement in his condition during the night. 5. She wasn’t the slightest bit nervous. (NOTE: slighter – slightest) 6. noun an insult 7. I treat that remark as a slight on our reputation. Synonym snub

verb 1. to slightly 2. to slant 1. adv to only a small extent 2. He was only slightly hurt in the car crash. 3. The American bank is offering a slightly better interest rate. 4. I only know him slightly. Synonym somewhat. Antonym considerably

slim /slɛm/ adj 1. thin, not fat 2. a slim, fair-haired boy 3. How do you manage to stay so slim? 4. She looks slimmer in that dress. 2. narrow 5. a slim skirt 6. a slim gold bracelet 3. small 7. Their chances of survival in the snowstorm are slim. (NOTE: slimmer – slimmest) 8. verb to diet in order to become thin 9. She started slimming before her summer holidays. (NOTE: slimming – slimmed)

slime /slɑm/ noun a slippery substance, which covers surfaces

slimmer /slɛmə/ noun a person who is trying to lose weight

slimming /ˈslɛmɪŋ/ noun the process of trying to lose weight, especially by eating less

verb 1. intended to help with losing weight 2. a slimming guide 3. making someone look slimmer 4. That dress is very slimming.

slimy /ˈslɔmɪ/ adj 1. unpleasantly slippery 2. Watch out, the rocks are slimy. 3. What’s this slimy mess at the bottom of the fridge? 2. unpleasant, not to be trusted 3. I wouldn’t trust him an inch, he’s a particularly slimy individual. (NOTE: slimier – slimiest)

sling /slɪŋ/ noun 1. a triangular bandage attached round your neck, used to support an injured arm and prevent it from moving 2. an apparatus made of ropes and pulleys for lifting and carrying goods 3. They arranged a sling to lift the piano into the upstairs flat. 3. a type of leather loop, used for throwing stones 4. David threw a stone with his sling, and killed Goliah. 5. verb 1. to throw 2. Little boys were slinging snowballs at passing cars. 3. He slung his briefcase into the back of the car. 2. to hang something up or to throw something into a place where it hangs 3. They slung the electric cable between the posts. 4. She slung her bag over her shoulder. 5. He slung his jacket over the back of his chair. (NOTE: slinging – slung /slʌŋ/)
slink

slink /slɪŋk/ verb to creep about in order to avoid being noticed (NOTE: slinking – slunk /slʌŋk/)

slip /slɪp/ noun 1. a mistake ○ He made a couple of slips in adding up the bill. ○ a slip of the tongue a mistake in speaking. 2. a small piece of paper ○ As she opened the book a small slip of paper fell out. ○ He handed her the green slip with the reference number on it. 3. a small person ○ She was just a slip of a girl. 4. women’s underwear like a thin dress or skirt, worn under other clothes ○ She bought a black slip. 5. ○ to give someone the slip to escape from someone ○ Somehow the escaped prisoners managed to give the police the slip. ○ verb 1. to slide and fall by mistake ○ He slipped and dropped all his shopping. ○ He was using the electric saw when it hit something hard and slipped. 2. to slide out of something which is holding you tight ○ The dog slipped its lead and ran away. 3. to push something without being seen ○ The postman slipped the letters through the letter box. ○ He slipped the keys into his pocket. 4. to go down to a lower level ○ Profits slipped badly last year. ○ The pound slipped on the foreign exchanges. 5. to go quickly ○ I’ll just slip down to the post office with this letter. (NOTE: slipping – slipped)

slip into /slɪp ɪntu/ verb to put on clothes quickly

slip on /slɪp ɒn/ verb 1. to slip because you step on something ○ He slipped on the wet leaves and broke his ankle. 2. to put clothes on quickly ○ She slipped on her dressing gown and ran into the street.

slip on /slɪp ɒn/ adj, noun a shoe which can be put on easily, and has no laces

slipped disc /slɪpt ‘drɪsk/ noun a painful state where one of the discs in the spine has moved out of place

slipper /slɪpər/ noun a soft indoor shoe

slippery /slɪp(ə)rɪ/ adj so smooth that one can easily slip and fall

slippery slope /slɪpərɪ sləʊp/ noun a dangerous situation that can get very bad if it is not stopped

slip road /slɪp rɔʊd/ noun a small road which leads to or from a motorway

slipshod /slɪpʃɔd/ adj badly done, careless

slip up /slɪp ‘ʌp/ verb to make a silly mistake (informal)

slip-up /slɪp ʌp/ noun a silly mistake (informal) Synonym blunder (NOTE: The plural is slip-ups.)

slipway /slɪpwɔː/ noun a smooth slope on which ships are built or repaired

slit /slɪt/ noun a long cut or narrow opening ○ She peeped through a slit in the curtains. ○ verb to cut a slit ○ He slit open the envelope with a kitchen knife. ○ They robbed him of all his money and then slit his throat. (NOTE: sitting – slit)

slither /slɪðər/ verb 1. to slide about in various directions ○ Cars were slithering all over the place on the icy streets. 2. to move over a surface like a snake ○ He slithered under a bush to hide.

sliver /slɪvə/ noun a long thin piece

slob /slɒb/ noun a lazy, dirty person (insult)

slobber /slɒbər/ verb to let saliva come out of your mouth

slog /slɒɡ/ noun a difficult job ○ Building the wall was quite a slog. ○ It’s a hard slog from here to the top of the mountain. ○ verb to work hard at something difficult ○ He slogged away at his Latin and passed the exam.

sloppy /slɒpi/ verb (of liquid) to spill (NOTE: slopping – slopped)

slope /sləʊp/ noun 1. a slanting surface or slanting piece of ground ○ The land rises in a gentle slope to the church. ○ They stopped halfway down the slope. 2. the angle at which something slopes ○ The hill has a slope of 1 in 10, so put the car in low gear. ○ noun a path slopes upwards. Synonym incline

slopping /sləʊpɪŋ/ adj which slopes

sloppy /slɒpi/ adj 1. untidy ○ He’s such a sloppy eater, he’s made a mess all over his pullover. 2. loose and untidy ○ She was wearing a sloppy jumper. 3. badly done ○ They said her work was sloppy and had to be done again. 4. stupidly sentimental ○ She’s a sloppy old dog, she’s no good at guarding. ○ What a sloppy film! (NOTE: slapper – sloppiest)

slosh /slɒʃ/ verb 1. to splash ○ We sloshed through the mud to get to the cottage. 2. to hit someone or something (informal) ○ She suddenly sloshed him with her umbrella.

slot /slɔt/ noun 1. a long thin hole ○ A coin has got stuck in the slot of the parking meter. ○ Put the system disk into the slot on the front of your computer. 2. a set time available for doing something ○ The airline has asked for more takeoff and landing slots at the airport. ○ verb ○ to slot into to fit into a slot ○ The car radio slots easily into the dashboard.

sloth /slɔθ/ noun 1. laziness 2. a South American mammal, similar to a bear, which moves very slowly
slot machine /slɔt mAjb/ noun 1. a machine for gambling 2. a machine which provides something such as drinks, food or cigarettes when you put a coin into a slot.
slouch /slou3t/ verb to stand or to sit in a bad position, with bent shoulders ◊ to slouch along to walk bending forwards
slough /slou3/ noun a marshy place (literary) ◊ The guns were bagged down in the slough of the battlefield. ◊ verb (of a snake) to lose its skin ◊ A snake sloughs its skin each year.
slowly /slou3vənli/ adj untried and dirty (offensive) Synonym careless ◊ slow /slou3/ adj 1. needing a long time to do something ◊ Luckily, the car was only going at a slow speed. ◊ She is the slowest walker of the group. ◊ The company is very slow at answering my letters. ◊ Sales got off to a slow start but picked up later. 2. showing a time which is earlier than the right time ◊ The office clock is four minutes slow. 3. not quick to learn ◊ He’s the slowest in the class, so he gets extra tuition. ◊ to be slow on the uptake not to understand something quickly (informal) ◊ verb to go slowly ◊ The procession slowed as it reached the cathedral. ◊ adv not fast ◊ to go slow (of workers) to protest by working slowly or driving slowly ◊ They are threatening to go slow if their demands are not met.
slowcoach /slou3kau3t/ noun a person who is slower than the others (informal) (NOTE: The US term is slowpoke.)
slow down /slou3 daun3/ verb 1. to go more slowly ◊ The van had to slow down as it came to the traffic lights. ◊ Please slow down, I can’t keep up with you. 2. to make something go more slowly ◊ The snow slowed the traffic down on the motorway. 3. to work less hard ◊ You should slow down a bit – you’re doing too much.
slowdown /slou3daun3/ noun a slowing down of business activity
slowly /slou3vli/ adv at a slow speed ◊ Luckily, the car was going very slowly when it hit the fence. ◊ The group walked slowly round the exhibition. ◊ Speak more slowly so that everyone can understand. Antonym quickly ◊ slowly but surely gradually
slow motion /slou3 maun3vən/ noun showing a film at a slower speed than it was filmed at, so that the action seems to have slowed down
slowly /slou3vli/ adj 1. soft, muddy material in a liquid ◊ There’s some black sludge at the bottom of the petrol tank. 2. the thick soft part of sewage
slug /slou3g/ noun 1. a common garden animal like a snail with no shell ◊ Slugs have eaten all my lettuces. 2. a small bullet (informal) ◊ A slug from the rifle hit the wall above my head. ◊ verb to hit someone a heavy blow with your fist (informal) ◊ He slugged her and she fell to the ground. (NOTE: slugging – slugged)
sluggish /slou3ʃ(ə)/ adj 1. reacting slowly 2. slow-moving ◊ a sluggish stream. Antonym fast-flowing
sluice /slau3v/ noun a gate which closes a channel for water, especially through a dam ◊ They opened the sluices to release the water behind the dam. ◊ verb to wash something with lots of water ◊ You’ll have to sluice out the pig sty. ◊ She sluiced the dirty bucket under the tap.
slum /sloum/ noun a crowded, dirty district inside a large town. ◊ shanty town slumber /slou3mber/ (literary) noun sleep ◊ His peaceful slumbers were rudely disturbed by the telephone. ◊ verb to sleep ◊ The three little children were slumbering peacefully in their beds.
slump /sloam/ noun 1. a rapid fall ◊ There has been a slump in sales. 2. a period of economic collapse with high unemployment and loss of trade ◊ Economists argued about the reasons for the slump. ◊ the Slump the world economic crisis of 1929–33 ◊ verb 1. to lose value fast or reduce suddenly ◊ The pound slumped on the foreign exchange markets. 2. to sit or lie down clumsily or heavily ◊ He sat slumped on a chair doing his homework. ◊ At the end of the day, she just slumped down onto the sofa.
slug /slau3g/ ◊ slung
slur /slau3/ noun 1. an insult ◊ The report cast a slur on his integrity. 2. (in music) the action of running several musical notes together 3. a mark on a musical score to show that notes should run into each other ◊ verb 1. to speak words indistinctly ◊ You could tell he had been taking drugs by the way he slurred his words. 2. (in music) to play several notes without a break between them ◊ The series of notes should be slurred here. (NOTE: slurring – slurred)
surp /slau3p/ verb to drink and make a noise
slush /slau3ʃ/ noun 1. melting snow ◊ The snow has started to melt and the roads are covered with slush. 2. sentimental writing (informal) ◊ Her latest novel is just slush. (NOTE: no plural)
slush fund /slau3 fænd/ noun money kept secretly to give to people as bribes, to persuade them to do what you want
slushy /slau3ʃ/ adj 1. covered with melting snow ◊ The path is slushy and slippery. 2. very sentimental (informal) ◊ She sits on the sofa all day reading slushy novels. slurry /skra/ noun slurry
sly /slai/ adj cunning and slightly dishonest ◊ on the sly without anyone knowing ◊ She transferred all the money to her Swiss account on the sly.
silyly /ˈsɪliː/ adj in a sly way
smack /smæk/ noun 1. an act of hitting someone, especially a child, with your hand flat ○ If you pull the cat’s tail you’ll get a smack. 2. a loud kiss (informal) ■ verb 1. to hit someone with your hand flat ○ She smacked the little girl for being rude. 2. to put something down noisily ○ She smacked the report down on the table and walked out smack.

small /smɔ/ adj 1. little ○ Small cars are more economical than large ones. ○ The house is too big for us, so we’re selling it and getting a smaller one. ○ She only paid a small amount for that clock. ○ The guidebook isn’t small enough to carry in your pocket. ○ These trousers are already too small for him.

small of the back (informal people) the small of his back

small amount for that clock.
small of my back.

small change noun money from cash machines or buying things

smart /smɑ/ adj 1. well-dressed or elegant ○ A smart young man asked me if he could use my mobile phone. ○ He looked very smart in his uniform. 2. clever ○ It was smart of her to note the car’s number plate. ○ He’s the smartest of the three brothers. 3. of a blow sharp ○ She gave a smart knock on the door. 4. rapid ○ The horse set off at a smart pace. ○ Look smart! hurry up! (informal) ■ verb to hurt with a burning feeling ○ The place where I burnt my hand is still smarting.

smart hit /smɑt/ hit/ noun a smart card with a microchip, used for withdrawing money from cash machines or buying things

smart card /smɑt kɑrd/ noun a credit card with a microchip

smarten up /smɑtən/ verb to make someone or something look tidier or more attractive ○ To smarten yourself up ○ You’d better smarten yourself up for the interview.

smartly /ˈsmaʊtlɪ/ adv 1. in a smart way ○ a smartly dressed young man ○ He dresses very smartly. 2. with a sharp blow ○ She knocked smartly on the door and went in.

smash /smɑʃ/ verb 1. to break into pieces ○ He dropped the plate and it smashed to pieces. 2. to break something to pieces ○ Demonstrators smashed the windows of police cars. 3. to break a record, to do better than a record ○ She smashed the world record. ○ Six records were smashed at the Olympics. 4. to go violently ○ The train smashed into the car. ○ The crowd smashed through the railings. 5. (in games like tennis) to play a fast stroke, sending the ball down to the ground (NOTE: smashing – smashed) ■ noun 1. the sound of something breaking into pieces ○ We could hear the smash of crockery from the restaurant. 2. a bad accident ○ Six people are feared killed in the train smash. 3. (in games like tennis) a fast stroke, sending the ball down to the ground

smash hit /smɑʃ ˈhɪt/ noun a play, film or song which is very popular

smashing /ˈsmaʊʃ/ adj very good, fantastic (dated informal) Synonym wonderful. Antonym dreadful

smash up /smɑʃ/ verb to break everything in a place. Synonym wreck
smeared /smeərd/ verb 1. to spread something roughly over a surface. 2. to make dirty marks. 3. to smear test. 4. to make a smear. 5. to smear something with paint?

smear /smɛə/ noun, plural smears 1. a dirty mark. 2. a small amount of something put on glass for examining under a microscope. 3. words about someone which are not true but which are meant to harm his or her reputation. 4. The report about my wife was just a dirty smear.

smear campaign /smɛə ˈkɛrn,pɛrm/ noun a campaign to discredit someone by spreading gossip about his or her private life.

smear test /smɛə ˈtest/ noun a test for cancer of the passage leading to a woman's womb.

smell /smɛl/ noun 1. one of the five senses, which you can feel through your nose. 2. something which you can sense with your nose. 3. a nasty smell in the shed. 4. to smell - smelled a way of showing that something has a nasty smell. 5. to smell a rat. 6. to smell - smelled to sense something which you cannot see or hear. 7. to smelt - smelted to make dirty marks.

smelly /ˈsmɛli/ adjective which has a nasty smell.

smoker /ˈsmokiə/ noun a person who smokes.

smoke /ˈsməʊk/ 1. a white, grey or black product formed of small particles, given off by something that is burning. 2. to smoke - smoked to give off smoke. 3. to smoke - smoked to give a smirk.

smoke detector /ˈsməʊk ˈdɛktər/ noun a device for examining under a microscope.

smoke screen /ˈsməʊk,skrɪn/ noun something said or done to mislead somebody.

smoky /ˈsməʊki/ adjective the action of smoking cigarettes, cigars or a pipe.

smokescreen /ˈsməʊk,skrɪn/ noun the 'no smoking' part of the restaurant.
smoky /ˈsmɒki/ adj. 1. full of smoke ♦ a smoky bar 2. of the colour of smoke ♦ The carpet was smoky grey.

smooth /smuːθ/ adj. 1. with no bumps, with no uneven surface ♦ The smooth surface of a polished table. ♦ The baby’s skin is very smooth. ♦ Velvet has a smooth side and a rough side. Antonym rough 2. with no jolts or sudden movements ♦ Dirt in the fuel tank can disrupt the smooth running of the engine. ♦ We had a very smooth ride. 3. too polite and attentive, in a way that makes you distrust someone (NOTE: smoother – smoothest) ♦ to verb 1. to make something smooth with a tool or with your hand ♦ The edge of the table needs smoothing, it’s still quite rough. ♦ She smoothed the sheets and adjusted the pillows. ♦ to smooth the way for someone or something to make things easy for someone or something ♦ The retiring president cut taxes to smooth the way for his successor. ♦ to smooth things over to settle an argument ♦ After the quarrel, I called round at her house to try and smooth things over. 2. to spread something gently over a surface ♦ Smooth the lotion over your face and let it dry.

smoother /ˈsmʌθər/ noun 1. a charming man who is good at persuading people to do what he wants 2. a drink made with milk, fruit, yoghurt or ice cream

smoothly /ˈsmʌθli/ adv. in a smooth way.

smoother /ˈsmʌθə/ verb 1. to kill someone by stopping them from breathing ♦ They took the kittens and smothered them. ♦ Never put a pillow over someone’s face – you may smother them! 2. to cover something completely ♦ a chocolate cake simply smothered in cream ♦ The firemen put out the fire by smothering it with foam. ♦ to smother someone with affection or love to show too much love towards someone, especially your children ♦ As a child he was brought up by his aunts, who smothered him with affection. 3. ♦ to smother a yawn to hide the fact that you are yawning, so that people will not think you are bored

smoother /ˈsmʌθə/ verb 1. to burn slowly ♦ The incense sticks smouldered in the entrance to the temple. 2. (of emotion) to be strong but hidden to be smouldering with rage to be extremely angry but try not to show it (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is smolder.)

SMS noun a system for sending text messages between mobile phones

smudge /ˈsmʌdʒ/ noun a dirty mark ♦ There is a smudge on the top corner of the photograph. ♦ He had a smudge of lipstick on his cheek. ♦ verb to make a dirty mark, such as by rubbing ink which is not dry ♦ Don’t touch the artwork until it’s dry, otherwise you’ll smudge it.

smug /ˈsmʌɡ/ adj. satisfied with yourself (NOTE: smugger – smuggest)

smuggle /ˈsmʌɡl/ verb 1. to take goods into or out of a place illegally ♦ They tried to smuggle cigarettes into the country. ♦ We had to smuggle the spare parts over the border. 2. to take something into or out of a place illegally ♦ The knives were smuggled into the prison by a someone visiting a prisoner. ♦ We’ll never how they smuggled the letter out.

smuggler /ˈsmʌɡlə/ noun a person who smuggles

smuggling /ˈsmʌɡlɪŋ/ noun taking goods illegally into a country

smugly /ˈsmʌɡli/ adv. in a smug way

smut /ˈsmʌt/ noun 1. a small piece of black dirt ♦ She hung the sheets out to dry and they got covered with smuts. ♦ I got a smut in my eye from standing close to the bonfire. 2. stories about sex, considered as unpleasant (NOTE: The newspaper seems to be full of smut these days. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning)) 3. a disease of plants, which covers the plants with black spots ♦ You need to spray the wheat against smut. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning)

smutty /ˈsmʌtɪ/ adj. referring unpleasantly to sex (NOTE: smuttier – smuttiest)

smack /smæk/ noun 1. a light meal, a small amount of food ♦ We didn’t have time to stop for a proper lunch, so we just had a snack on the motorway. ♦ verb to eat a snack ♦ She never eats proper meals, she just snacks all the time.

snack bar /ˈsnæk bɑːr/ noun a small simple restaurant where you can have a light meal

snag /snæg/ noun 1. a little problem, a thing which prevents you from doing something ♦ We’ve run into a snag: there are no flights to the island on Sundays. ♦ The only snag is that he’s not a very good driver. 2. a place where a piece of clothing has been caught on a sharp point ♦ There’s a snag in your jumper. 3. a sharp point sticking out of something ♦ She tore her coat on a snag in the fence. ♦ verb to catch and tear your clothes on a sharp point ♦ She snagged her coat getting through the hedge. (NOTE: snagging – snagged)

snail /snɛl/ noun a common small animal that has a spiral-shaped shell on its back and moves very slowly ♦ at a snail’s pace extremely slowly ♦ Negotiations over the sale of the flat have been progressing at a snail’s pace.

snail mail /ˈsnɛl meɪl/ noun mail sent using the postal system, rather than being sent electronically as email
snail /snæl/ noun 1. a tangle or knot ○ Her hair is so full of snails that it is difficult to comb. 2. verb to growl angrily ○ The leopard snarled as he approached its cage. ○ Take your money, and get out!’ he snarled.

snarl up to make something tangled ○ He managed to snarl up all the computer cables.

snatter /snætə/ noun 1. a photograph taken quickly without special equipment (informal) ○ She showed me an old black-and-white snap of the house. ○ He took a lot of snaps of his children. 2. a card game where you shout ‘snap’ if two similar cards are played at the same time ○ Do you want a game of snap? ○ They played snap all afternoon. 3. adj sudden ○ They carried out a snap check or a snap inspection of the passengers’ luggage. ○ The government called a snap election. 4. verb 1. to break sharply with a dry noise ○ The branches snapped as he walked through the wood. 2. to move or be moved with a sudden sharp noise ○ to snap your fingers to make a clicking noise with your middle finger and thumb ○ They sat snapping their fingers in time to the music. 3. to snap into place to make a click when fitting together ○ Push gently on the surface until it snaps into place. 4. to snap out of it to stop being depressed (informal) ○ He came beside her on his bike and snatched her handbag. ○ I didn’t have time for a proper meal, but I snatched a sandwich.

snaps /snæps/ plural noun US soft sports shoes with rubber soles ○ She came to work in sneakers.

sneakers /′snεkəz/ plural noun US sports shoes with rubber soles ○ She came to work in sneakers.

sneak /′snik/ verb 1. to go quietly without being seen ○ She sneaked into the room. ○ The burglar sneaked up to the house, hidden by the trees. ○ to sneak up on someone to creep up behind someone without being noticed 2. to tell an adult that another child has done something wrong (informal) ○ He promised not to sneak on me to my mum. ○ noun a person who tells an adult what another child has done ○ He sneaked up to the house, hidden by the trees. ○ to sneak up on someone to creep up behind someone without being noticed 3. ○ He promised not to say anything, you little sneak! Synonym informer.

sneak fastener /′snækfæstər/ noun a little metal fastener for clothes, in two parts which you press to attach together. Also called popper, press stud

snappy /′snæpi/ adj 1. sharp and fashionable (dated informal) ○ She’s wearing a very snappy outfit. 2. ○ make it snappy! look snappy! do it quickly! (informal) ○ Make it snappy, there’s a policeman coming! 3. ○ He was tired and irritable, and snapped at the children. ○ The manager snapped at the shop assistant, but it wasn’t her fault.

snap decision /′snæp dɪˈsə(r)ʒən/ noun a decision taken hurriedly

snap fastener /′snækfæstər/ noun a little metal fastener for clothes, in two parts which you press to attach together. Also called popper, press stud

snapper /′snæpə/ noun 1. a trap for catching animals made with a loop of wire which is pulled tight ○ He caught a rabbit in the snare. 2. a trap ○ His offer of a well-paid job in Luxembourg was just a snare. 3. verb to catch with a snare ○ We snared three rabbits.

snarl /′snɔrəl/ noun 1. an angry growl ○ As she opened the door of the cage she heard a

snare /′snɔrə/ noun 1. a trap ○ She showed me an old black-and-white snap of the house. ○ He took a lot of snaps of his children. 2. a card game where you shout ‘snap’ if two similar cards are played at the same time ○ Do you want a game of snap? ○ They played snap all afternoon. 3. adj sudden ○ They carried out a snap check or a snap inspection of the passengers’ luggage. ○ The government called a snap election. 4. verb 1. to break sharply with a dry noise ○ The branches snapped as he walked through the wood. 2. to move or be moved with a sudden sharp noise ○ to snap your fingers to make a clicking noise with your middle finger and thumb ○ They sat snapping their fingers in time to the music. 3. to snap into place to make a click when fitting together ○ Push gently on the surface until it snaps into place. 4. to snap out of it to stop being depressed (informal) ○ He came beside her on his bike and snatched her handbag. ○ I didn’t have time for a proper meal, but I snatched a sandwich.

snatch /′snæʧ/ verb to grab something rapidly ○ He came beside her on his bike and snatched her handbag. ○ I didn’t have time for a proper meal, but I snatched a sandwich.

snatch-up /′snæʧp/ noun a complicated traffic jam

snicker /′snɪkə/ verb to laugh quietly in an unpleasant way ○ She sneered at her clothes – they’re by the best designer and are very expensive.

sniff /′snɪf/ verb 1. to give a nose because of an irritation inside your nose ○ The smell of roses made me sneeze. ○ He has hayfever and can’t stop sneezing. ○ It’s not to be sneezed at you should not refuse it (informal) ○ It’s a good offer and not to be sneezed at.

snitch /′snɪtʃ/ noun a quiet unpleasant laugh ○ I heard a little snicker behind my back. 2. verb to laugh quietly in an unpleasant way ○ They snickered as the teacher came into the room.

snake /′snkeɪ/ noun 1. a long thin animal which has no legs and moves along the ground by wriggling ○ Is this snake safe to handle? 2. verb to bend and twist ○ The Great Wall of China snakes over the mountains.

snakes and ladders /′neɪks ənd ˈlædəz/ noun a children’s board game, played with dice, in which landing on a ladder moves you forward and landing on a snake moves you back

snaps /′snæps/ plural noun US soft sports shoes with rubber soles ○ She came to work in sneakers.

sneak /′snik/ verb 1. to go quietly without being seen ○ She sneaked into the room. ○ The burglar sneaked up to the house, hidden by the trees. ○ to sneak up on someone to creep up behind someone without being noticed 2. to tell an adult that another child has done something wrong (informal) ○ He promised not to sneak on me to my mum. ○ noun a person who tells an adult what another child has done ○ He sneaked up to the house, hidden by the trees. ○ to sneak up on someone to creep up behind someone without being noticed 3. ○ He promised not to say anything, you little sneak! Synonym informer.

sneakers /′snεkəz/ plural noun US soft sports shoes with rubber soles ○ She came to work in sneakers.

sneaking /′snɪknɪŋ/ adj secret and not very certain

sneaky /′snɪki/ adj deceitful and secret. Synonym sly

sneeze /′snɪzi/ noun a reflex action to blow air suddenly out through your mouth and nose because of an irritation inside your nose ○ Coughs and sneezes spread diseases. 1. verb to make a sneeze ○ The smell of roses makes me sneeze. ○ He has hayfever and can’t stop sneezing. ○ It’s not to be sneezed at you should not refuse it (informal) ○ It’s a good offer and not to be sneezed at.

snicker /′snɪkə/ noun a quiet unpleasant laugh ○ I heard a little snicker behind my back. 2. verb to laugh quietly in an unpleasant way ○ They snickered as the teacher came into the room.
snidle /ˈsnidl/ adj unkind, often in a clever or indirect way
sniff /nɪft/ noun the act of breathing in through your nose ○ The dog gave a sniff at the plate before licking it. ○ He gave a little sniff and walked out of the shop. verb 1. to breathe in through your nose ○ He sniffed and said ‘I can smell fish and chips’. ○ The customs inspection is very strict, a dog is taken round to sniff (at) each bag and suitcase. ○ It is not to be sniffed at you should not refuse it (informal) ○ A free ticket with Air Canada is not to be sniffed at. ○ to sniff something out to discover something by smelling ○ The dogs sniffed out drugs hidden in her bag. 2. to breathe in through your nose when you have a cold ○ He’s coughing and sniffling and should be in bed. 3. to breathe in vapour from solvent or glue ○ The police caught them sniffling glue.

sniffer dog /ˈsnɪfər dɒɡ/ noun a dog which has been trained to smell things such as drugs

sniffle /ˈsnɪfl/ verb 1. to have a slight cold ○ He’s coughing and sneezing, especially when you keep on sniffing, especially when you have a cold or have been crying ○ You could hear the sniffles from the girls at the back of the room. Synonym sniffle to have the sniffles to have a slight cold ○ to sniffle at something to laugh unpleasantly at something ○ What are you sniffling about? 2. verb to laugh quietly in an unpleasant way ○ They sniffled as the teacher came into the room. ○ to sniffle at something to laugh unpleasantly at something ○ Sniffles are contagious. 3. verb to have a cold ○ or indirect way

case. 2. (NOTE: no plural) 3. (NOTE: no plural)

snip /snɪp/ noun a bargain, something much cheaper than usual (informal) ○ They are a snip at £50. 2. verb to cut something quickly with scissors ○ She snipped two inches off the hem of the dress. (NOTE: snipping — snipped)

snipe /snɪp/ verb 1. to shoot at someone from a hiding place ○ Gunmen sniped at the soldiers from the rooftops. 2. to criticise someone continuously ○ The MPs kept sniping at the minister. 3. verb a large marsh bird with a long beak ○ We saw several snipes on the marshes. (NOTE: no plural)

sniper /ˈsnɪpər/ noun a hidden soldier who shoots at the enemy

sniper fire /ˈsnɪpər fɜːr/ noun gunfire from snipers

snippet /ˈsnɪpt/ noun a little bit of information

snivel /ˈsnɪvl/ verb to cry or complain in an annoying way

snob /ˈsnɒb/ noun 1. a person who likes people who are of a higher social class than himself or herself ○ Don’t ask him to your party, he’s such a snob. 2. a person who thinks he or she knows much more about a particular thing or is better-educated than other people ○ an art snob ○ an intellectual snob

snobbish /ˈsnɒbɪʃ/ adj referring to a snob

snog /nɒɡ/ verb to kiss and hug someone (slang)

snooker /ˈsnʊkər/ noun a game for two players, similar to billiards, played on a table with twenty-two balls of different colours

snooker table /ˈsnʊkər tæbl/ noun a table on which snooker is played

snoop /ˈsnʊp/ verb to investigate something or someone secretly (informal)

snoseez /ˈsnʌzɪ/ (informal) noun a short sleep ○ I had a little snooze after lunch. Synonym doze 1. verb to sleep lightly for a short time ○ The dog was snoozing on the rug in front of the fire. Synonym doze

snores /ˈsnɔrəz/ noun a loud noise produced in the nose and throat when asleep ○ His snores kept her awake. 2. verb to make a snore ○ I can’t get to sleep because my husband snores.

snooping /ˈsnʌpɪŋ/ noun the action of snooping

snorkel /ˈsnɔrkəl/ noun a tube which allows an underwater swimmer to breathe in air ○ She could still see Brian’s snorkel on the surface of the water. 2. verb to swim with a snorkel ○ The water isn’t clear so we can’t snorkel here.

snorkeling /ˈsnɔrkəlɪŋ/ noun swimming with a snorkel ○ to go snorkelling to go swimming with a snorkel for pleasure (NOTE: The US spelling is snorkeling.)

snort /nɔːrt/ noun 1. a noise made when you blow air through your nose ○ The horse gave a snort and reared up on its hind legs. ○ Judging by the snorts coming from the beast, the newspaper, I think he has found something he doesn’t agree with. 2. an amount of a powdered drug such as cocaine which you breathe through the nose ○ They had a snort or two during the evening. 2. verb 1. to make a loud noise blowing air out through the nose ○ The horses snorted and pawed the ground. 2. to take a powdered drug such as cocaine by breathing it in through the nose ○ She has been snorting cocaine for some years.

snout /ˈsnɔt/ noun mucus in the nose (offensive informal)

snotty /ˈsnɒti/ adj 1. covered with mucus (offensive informal) 2. looking down on oth-
ers who you think are inferior (informal) ○ Don’t be so snotty! I know how to do it, just as much as you do!
snout /ˈsnɔːt/ noun the nose and mouth of some animals such as pigs □ to have your snout in the trough to get rich on government money (informal) ○ All these officials have their snouts in the trough.
□ snow /ˈsnɔː/ noun water which falls as light white flakes of ice crystals in cold weather ○ Two metres of snow fell during the night. ○ The highest mountains are always covered with snow. ○ Children were out playing in the snow. ○ We went for a skiing holiday and there was hardly any snow. (NOTE: The verb snow is always used with the subject it.)
snowball /ˈsnɔʊbɔ/ noun a ball made with snow ○ They were throwing snowballs at passing cars. ○ I tried to make a snowball but the snow was too dry. □ verb to get steadily bigger ○ The protests started slowly and then snowballed into mass demonstrations.
snowboarding /ˈsnɔʊbədɪŋ/ noun the sport of sliding down a snow-covered slope while standing on a board with both feet
snowbound /ˈsnɔːbɔʊnd/ adj unable to go out or to travel because of snow. Synonym snowed in, snowed up
snowcapped /ˈsnɔʊkæpt/ adj with the top covered with snow
snowdrift /ˈsnɔʊdrɪft/ noun snow which has been blown into a heap by the wind
snowdrop /ˈsnɔʊdrɒp/ noun a bulb with little white bell-shaped flowers in the early spring
snowed in /ˈsnɔʊd ɪn/ ‘m’ adj blocked by snow and unable to travel
snowed under /ˈsnɔʊd ʌndər/ adj overwhelmed
snowed up /ˈsnɔʊd ʌp/ ‘p’ adj blocked by snow, so that you cannot travel
snowfall /ˈsnɔʊfɔl/ noun the amount of snow which has fallen
snowflake /ˈsnɔʊflɛk/ noun a small piece of snow formed of a number of ice crystals
snowman /ˈsnɔʊmən/ noun a model of a man made of snow (NOTE: The plural is snowmen.)
snowmobile /ˈsnɔʊməbl/ noun a vehicle specially designed for driving on snow
snowplough /ˈsnɔʊplaʊ/ noun a heavy vehicle with a plough on the front used to clear snow off roads and railway tracks (NOTE: The US spelling is snowplow.)
snowshoes /ˈsnɔʊʃuːz/ plural noun two frames shaped like tennis rackets with a light web, which are tied under your boots for walking on snow
snowstorm /ˈsnɔʊstɔːm/ noun a storm when the wind blows and snow falls. Synonym blizzard
snow tyres /ˈsnɔʊ tɜːz/ plural noun special tyres with thick treads, used when driving on snow
snow-white /ˈsnɔʊ ˈwɛt/ adj pure white
snowy /ˈsnɔʊ/ adj 1. with a lot of snow, covered with snow ○ I remember walking through the snowy streets to school. 2. when there is snow ○ This is the snowiest winter I can remember. (NOTE: snowier – snowiest)
snowy white /ˈsnɔʊ ˈwɛt/ noun a pure white colour
snub /ˈsnʌb/ noun behaviour which shows you want to insult someone ○ Not shaking his hand was a deliberate snub. Synonym rebuff □ verb to insult someone by refusing to speak to them or by not paying any attention to them ○ He snubbed all her attempts to be friendly. Synonym rebuff (NOTE: snubbing – snubbed)
snub nose /ˈsnʌb ˈnɔʊz/ noun a small nose which is turned up at the end
snuck /ˈsnʌkt/ US ○ sneak /ˈsnɛk/ verb to make a sudden escape (NOTE: snooker – snook)
snuff /ˈsnʌf/ noun powdered tobacco which is sniffed into the nose □ verb 1. to put out a candle ○ Before going to bed, remember to snuff the candles. 2. □ to snuff it to die (slang) ○ Just when he thought his father was going to make a fortune, the old man snuffed it.
snuffle /ˈsnʌfl/ noun a loud sniff, especially when you have a cold ○ I could hear coughs and snuffles from the audience. Synonym sniffle □ verb to sniff noisily ○ The pigs were sniffing about in the mud. Synonym sniff
snug /ˈsnʌg/ adj warm and comfortable (NOTE: snugger – snuggest)
snuggle /ˈsnʌgɡl/ verb 1. to curl yourself up to be warm ○ They snuggled under their blankets. 2. □ to snuggle up to someone to curl up close to someone else to be warm ○ She snuggled up next to her mother. ○ so /ˈsoʊ/ adv 1. showing how much ○ It’s so cold that the lake is covered with ice. ○ We liked Greece so much that we’re going there again on holiday next year. ○ The soup was so salty that I couldn’t eat it. 2. very ○ She was so kind to us when we were children. ○ The film was not so boring after all. 3. also ○ She was late and so was I. ○ The children all caught flu and so did their teacher. ○ I like apples – So do I. ○ He’s a good cook and so is his wife. ○ The teacher will be late and so will everyone else. 4. showing that the answer is ‘yes’ ○ Does this train go to London? – I think so. ○ Was your car completely
smashed? – I'm afraid so. ○ Will you be coming to the party? – I hope so! ○ Are they going to be at the meeting? – I suppose so. ○ cony 1, and this is the reason why ○ It was snowing hard so we couldn't go for a walk. ○ She's got flu so she can't come to the office. 2. so, so that in order that ○ People riding bikes should wear bright clothes so that drivers can see them easily. 3. used to avoid repeating an adjective ○ He's very busy, and his wife is even more so. ○ so as (not) to in order (not) to ○ They had to run to the station so as not to miss the train. ○ so far until now ○ so there that's my opinion, and it's none of your business ○ so what what does it matter? ○ soak /sɔık/ noun the action of lying in a bath for a long time ○ After a game of rugby it is good to have a soak in a hot bath. ■ verb 1. to put something in a liquid for a time ○ Dry beans should be soaked in cold water for 24 hours. 2. to get or to make very wet ○ I forgot my umbrella and got soaked. ○ The rain soaked the soil. soaked /sɔık/ adj very wet soaking /sɔıkɪŋ/ adj, adv wet through ○ Don't let the dog into the kitchen – he's soaking or he's soaking wet. soak up /sɔık 'ʌp/ verb to take in liquid so-and-so /sɔ, seɪ n ə sou/ noun 1. an unpleasant person 2. a person whose name is not mentioned ○ It's the usual story – Mrs So-and-so buys a green hat, and the next thing you know, everyone in the village wants green hats. soap /sɔp/ noun a substance which you wash with, made from oils and usually with a pleasant smell ○ There's no soap left in the bathroom. ○ I've put a new bar of soap in the kitchen. ○ There is a liquid soap dispenser in the gents' toilets. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning; some soap, a bar or a cake or a piece of soap) ■ verb to cover with soap ○ There's no need to soap yourself all over, just your legs and feet. soapbox /sɔp'boks/ noun a box used by a politician to stand on when making an informal speech outdoors to passers-by soap opera /sɔp 'əpərə/ noun a serial story on television about the daily lives of a set of characters soap powder /sɔp ,pauðə/ noun soap in the form of powder, used in washing machines or dishwashers. Synonym detergent soapy /sɔpi/ adj full of soap soar /sɔr/ verb 1. to go up very quickly ○ Food prices soared during the cold weather. 2. to fly high up into the sky ○ The rocket went soaring into the night sky. 3. (of a bird) to glide high in the sky without beating its wings ○ We watched the gulls soaring on air currents beside the cliffs. (NOTE: Do not confuse with sore.) soaring /sɔrɪŋ/ adj rising rapidly sob /səb/ noun a short breath like a hiccup, made by someone who is crying ○ You could hear the sobs as she lay on her bed. ○ He gave a sob, and put the phone down. ■ verb to cry, taking short breaths like hiccups ○ She lay sobbing on the bed. ○ The little girl sobbed herself to sleep. (NOTE: sobbing – sobbed) sober /sʌbər/ adj 1. not drunk ○ I wasn't drunk after the party – I was stone cold sober. 2. serious, not frivolous ○ The sober truth is that we can't afford it. ○ It was a very sober gathering, nobody laughed or made a joke. 3. dark with no bright colours ○ She was wearing a sober dark grey suit. sobering /sʌbərɪŋ/ adj which makes you think seriously sober up /sʌbər 'ʌp/ verb 1. to recover from being drunk ○ I'll talk to you again when you've sobered up a little. 2. to make someone sober again who has been drunk ○ We gave him several cups of black coffee to sober him up. sobriety /səb'rɪəti/ noun 1. the state of not being drunk ○ Sobriety is unusual among his friends. 2. serious behaviour ○ We weren't suitably dressed for the sobriety of the occasion. so-called /sə 'kɔld/ adj called by a wrong name soccer /sɒkə/ noun a game played between two teams of eleven players with a round ball which can be kicked or hit with the head, but not carried. Compare rugger (NOTE: The game is called football in most countries, but is generally called soccer in the USA to distinguish it from American football) sociable /ˈsəʊʃəb(ə)l/ adj friendly, liking the company of other people social /səˈʃəl/ adj 1. referring to people as a group, to human society ○ Inequality leads to social conflict. ○ an area with very serious social problems 2. referring to friendly contact with other people ○ We are organising some social events for the visiting students. ○ Not being able to make conversation is a terrible social handicap. ■ noun a party for the members of an organisation ○ The sports club is holding a social next Saturday. social democracy /səˈdʒəmərəki/ noun a belief that changes should be made to the structure of society to make it more egalitarian, with some state involvement in industry and welfare, without removing private capitalism
social democrat /ˈsoʊʃ(ə)l deməkrət/ noun a person who believes in social democracy

Social Democrat /ˈsoʊʃ(ə)l deməkrət/ noun a person who supports or belongs to a party that believes in social democracy

social exclusion /səˈskjuːəl / noun a situation in which some people feel left out of the rest of society because they are poor, lack useful skills or have disabilities

socialise /səˈsoʊlɪz/, socialize verb to meet people for friendly talk and activities

socialism /ˈsoʊʃ(ə)liz(ə)m/ noun 1. the ideas and beliefs of socialists, that the means of production and distribution should belong to the people, that people should be cared for and that all wealth should be shared equally — His book explains the principles of socialism. 2. a political system where the state is run on socialist principles — Under socialism, this factory was owned by the state.

socialist /ˈsoʊʃ(ə)lɪst/ adj believing in socialism, being in favour of social change, wider sharing of wealth and of state-run industry and welfare — a person who believes in socialism — He’s been a socialist all his life.

social life /ˈsoʊʃ(ə)l laɪf/ noun activities involving being friendly with other people outside working hours, and doing such things as going to parties

socially /ˈsoʊʃ(ə)lɪ/ adv 1. in a friendly way, outside work — I know her from work but I’ve never met her socially. 2. They get on very well socially.

social order /ˈsoʊʃ(ə)l ˈɔrəd/ noun the arrangement of society, and the classes within it.

social science /ˌsoʊʃ(ə)l ˈsɑːnsəs/ noun the study of people and the society they live in, including such subjects as sociology, history and economics.

social sciences /ˌsoʊʃ(ə)l ˈsɑːnsəsiz/ plural noun academic studies referring to society and people such as anthropology, sociology and politics.

social security /ˈsoʊʃ(ə)l ˈsɛkrətɪərɪ/ noun money or help provided by the government to people who need it

social services /ˌsoʊʃ(ə)l ˈsɜːvəsɪz/ plural noun government services to help people with family problems — The children are being looked after by social services.

social strata /ˌsoʊʃ(ə)l ˈstrætə/ noun different levels of society.

social system /ˈsoʊʃ(ə)l ˈsɪstəm/ noun the way in which a society is organised

social work /ˈsoʊʃ(ə)l wɜːk/ noun work done to help people with family or financial problems

social worker /ˈsoʊʃ(ə)l wɜːkə/ noun a person who works to help people with family or financial problems.

society /ˈsəʊsəti/ noun 1. a large group of people, usually all the people living in a country, considered as an organised community — a free and democratic society. 2. a club or association of people who have the same interests. — He belongs to the local drama society. — building society (NOTE: The plural is societies.)

socio-economic /ˌsoʊʃ(ə)l ˈɛsəmənɪk/ adj referring to social and economic conditions.

socio-economic group /ˌsoʊʃ(ə)l ˈɛsəmənɪk ˈɡrʊp/ noun one of the groups in society divided according to income and position — They don’t belong to any of the socio-economic groups as defined in this textbook.

sociological /ˌsoʊsɪəˈlɒgɪk(ə)l/ adj referring to people and society, and the way in which society changes.

sociologist /ˌsoʊsɪəˈlɒdʒɪst/ noun a person who studies people and society and the way society changes.

sodden /ˈsɒdən/ adj wet through.
soft landing /soft 'lændɪŋ/ noun 1. a process by which something such as a plane or spacecraft lands in a gentle and controlled way 2. a way of fighting inflation, which does not cause unemployment or a fall in the standard of living  ○ The government is still hoping for a soft landing in a year’s time.

softly /'softli/ adv 1. in a gentle way  ○ I touched her arm softly. 2. quietly, not loudly  ○ She spoke so softly that we couldn’t hear what she said.  ○ The burglars crept softly up the stairs. 3. not brightly  ○ The lights were shining softly across the lawn.

soft palate /soft 'pælæt/ noun the part back of the palate which leads to the uvula. Compare hard palate

soft-spoken /soft 'spoukən/ adj having a quiet gentle voice

soft touch /sɒft 'tʌtʃ/ noun a person who can be easily persuaded to do something for you

software /sɒftweə/ noun computer programs which are put into a computer to make it work, as opposed to the machine itself  ○ What word-processing software do you use? Compare hardware (NOTE: no plural)

soft water /sɒft 'wɔtə/ noun water with little calcium in it

softwood /sɒftwʊd/ noun 1. wood from pine trees and other conifers which can be cut easily  ○ We used softwood panels for the walls of the study. 2. a fast-growing tree such as a pine or other conifer which produces softwood  ○ the softwood forests of Finland Compare hardwood

soggy /sɔgjɪ/ adj wet and soft (NOTE: soggier – soggiest)

soft /sɒft /adj 1. not hard, which moves easily when pressed  ○ There are big soft armchairs in the lobby of the hotel.  ○ I don’t like soft seats in a car.  ○ Do you like soft ice cream? 2. not loud  ○ When she spoke, her voice was so soft that we could hardly hear her.  ○ Soft music was playing in the background. 3. not bright  ○ Soft lighting makes a room look warm. 4. ○ soft up lenient towards  ○ Judges were accused of being soft on crime.  ○ to have a soft spot for to like very much  ○ She has a soft spot for the PE instructor. (NOTE: softer – softest)

soft-boiled /sɒft 'bɔld/ adj (of an egg) which has been cooked in boiling water for a short time so that the yolk is hot but still liquid

soft copy /sɒft 'kepi/ noun data stored on a computer, rather than being printed on paper

softcover /sɒftkəvər/ noun a book bound in paper, as opposed to a hardcover edition. Synonym paperback

soft currency /sɒft 'kærənsɪ/ noun the currency of a country with a weak economy, which is cheap to buy and difficult to exchange for other currencies. Compare hard currency

soft drink /sɒft 'drɑŋk/ noun a drink which is not alcoholic

soften /sɒftən/ verb to make something soft, to become soft  ○ to soften someone up to make someone weaker before asking for something, or before launching an attack  ○ Can you try and soften him up a bit before I ask to borrow the car?  ○ Bombing raids were made to soften up the enemy defences.

soft fruit /sɒft 'fruːt/ noun a small fruit such as currants, raspberries or strawberries which do not have hard skins

soft furnishings /sɒft 'fɜːnɪʃɪŋz/ plural noun things such as curtains and cushions as opposed to tables and other pieces of furniture

soft-hearted /sɒft 'hɑːrtɪd/ adj not strict, too kind. Synonym sympathetic

softie /sɒftɪ, sɒftɪ/ noun a person who is too kind and generous, and who can easily be persuaded to do what you want

sodium /səʊdiəm/ noun a soft white metal, which can catch fire, and is only found combined with other substances

sodium bicarbonate /səʊdiəm bɪkarənət/ noun baking soda

sodium chloride /səʊdiəm 'klaɪərd/ noun salt

sofa /sɔʊfə/ noun a long comfortable seat with a soft back. Synonym settee

sofabed /sɔʊfəbed/ noun a type of sofa which can be folded out to form a bed

soil /sɔɪl/ noun 1. the earth in which plants grow  ○ Put some soil in the plant pot and then sow your flower seeds.  ○ This soil’s too poor for growing fruit trees.  ○ The farm has 150 hectares of rich black soil. ■ verb to make something dirty  ○ His overalls were soiled by black oil and rust.  ○ Use more washing powder if the clothes are heavily soiled. ■ shop-soiled

sojourn /sɒʊdʒərn/ (literary) noun a short stay  ■ verb to stay somewhere for a short time

solace /sɒləs/ noun comfort  ○ to be a solace to someone to comfort someone  ○ His daughter has been a considerable solace to him.

solar /sɔlər/ adj referring to the sun (NOTE: The similar word referring to the moon is lunar and to the stars is stellar.)

daylight /sɒldətʃ/ clips noun a situation when part or all of the sun disappears, because the moon passes between the earth and the sun
solar energy 816

solar energy  /ˈsɔːlər ˌɛnərəji/ noun electricity produced from the radiation of the sun.

solar panel  /ˈsɔːlər ˈpæn(ə)l/ noun a group of special electric cells used to turn the sun’s energy into electricity.

solar system  /ˈsɔːlər ˈsɪstəm/ noun the sun and the planets which orbit round it.

sold  /səld/ verb 1. to sell
2. a solid lump of fat
3. a solid lump of fat or a solid food.
4. made only of one material
5. used in a solemn way

soldier  /ˈsɔːldʒər/ noun a person serving in the army:
2. to continue doing something, in spite of difficulties.
3. one who runs a business by himself but has not registered it as a company.

soldiers  /ˈsɔːldʒəz/ noun singular soldier
3. a hard substance which is not liquid.
5. Many solids melt when heated and become liquids.
2. a, as opposed to a drink.

solid  /ˈsɔləd/ adjective 1. a hard substance
2. made only of one material
3. extremely firm and strong

solidify  /ˈsɔlədɪf/ verb to make something solid.

solidly  /ˈsɔlədli/ adverb 1. extremely firmly
2. to make something solid.

solidness  /ˈsɔlədnis/ noun the state of being solid.

sold out  /səld əʊt/ adjective no longer in stock, because all the stock has been sold.

sole  /səul/ adjective only; belonging to one person
1. Their sole aim is to make money.
2. the only person allowed to use it.
3. He ordered grilled sole.

solemn  /ˈsɔlmən/ adjective 1. serious and formal
2. At the most solemn moment of the ceremony someone’s mobile phone rang.
3. that should be treated as very serious.

solemnity  /ˈsɔləmni/ti/ noun being solemn.

solemnize  /ˈsɔləmnaiz/ verb to perform a marriage or other religious ceremony.

solemnly  /ˈsɔlmənli/ adverb in a solemn way.

sole trader  /səul ˈtreidər/ noun a person who runs a business by himself but has not registered it as a company.

solicitation  /səˈlɪstɪʃən/ noun 1. to ask someone for something such as business or financial support.
2. a person serving in the army.

solicitor  /ˈsʌlɪstər/ noun a qualified lawyer who gives advice to members of the public and acts for them in legal matters.

solid  /ˈsɔldʒər/ noun a person serving in the army.

solidify  /ˈsɔldəfi/ verb to turn a new sole on a shoe.

sold  /səld/ noun a solid lump of fat.

solidness  /ˈsɔldəns/ noun the state of being solid.

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soldiery  /ˈsɔldəri/ noun being a soldier.

soldier on  /ˈsɔldʒər ən/ verb to continue doing something, in spite of difficulties.

soldiers  /ˈsɔldʒəz/ noun 1. a hard substance which is not liquid.
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soul  /səul/ noun 1. a part of a person that is living.
2. a person.
3. a tablet of soluble aspirin.

souls  /səulz/ noun 1. a part of a person that is living.
2. a person.

souvenir  /soʊˈvɪərɪn/ noun something such as business or financial support.

soulless  /ˈsɔləslis/ adjective 1. having no soul.
2. being alone.

soulmate  /ˈsɔlmaʊt/ noun a person who is the only person allowed to use it.

solvable  /ˈsɔləbl/ adjective 1. which can be dissolved.
2. which can be

soluble  /ˈsɔləbl/ adjective 1. which can be dissolved.
2. which can be

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2. solar energy.

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2. a person.
3. a tablet of soluble aspirin.

souls  /səulz/ noun 1. a part of a person that is living.
2. a person.

souvenir  /soʊˈvɪərɪn/ noun something such as business or financial support.

soulless  /ˈsɔləslis/ adjective 1. having no soul.
2. being alone.

soulmate  /ˈsɔlmaʊt/ noun a person who is the only person allowed to use it.

solvable  /ˈsɔləbl/ adjective 1. which can be dissolved.
2. which can be

soluble  /ˈsɔləbl/ adjective 1. which can be dissolved.
2. which can be
The problem is simply not solvable. The difficulties are solvable, given a little money.

solution /ˈsəluʃən/ noun 1. the action of solving a problem 2. The solution of the problem is taking longer than expected 2. an answer to a problem 3. The programmer came up with a solution to the computer problem. 4. We think we have found a solution to the problem of where to stay on holiday. 5. The solutions to the quiz are at the back of the book. 3. a mixture of a solid substance dissolved in a liquid 4. Bathe your eye in a weak salt solution.

solve /səlv/ verb to find an answer to 1. The loan will solve some of his financial problems. 2. He tried to solve the riddle. Antonym resolve 3. to solve a crime 4. to find out who committed a crime

solvent /ˈsəlvənt/ noun 1. A liquid in which a solid substance can be dissolved. 2. A strong glue used for sticking plastics

solvent abuse /ˈsəlvənt əˈbjuːs/ noun the dangerous practice of breathing in the gas from a type of glue. Also called glue sniffing

sombre /ˈsɒmbr/ adj dark and gloomy (NOTE: The US spelling is somber.)

some /sʌm/ adj, pron 1. a certain number of 2. We’ve just picked some strawberries. 3. Some young drivers drive much too fast. 4. Some books were damaged in the fire. 5. Some days it was so hot that we just stayed by the swimming pool all day. 6. Can you cut some more slices of bread? 7. She bought some oranges and bananas. 8. some of a few 9. Some of the students are ill. 10. Some of these apples are too green. 2. a certain amount 3. Can you buy some bread when you go to town? 4. Can I have some more coffee? 5. Her illness is of some concern to her family. 6. referring to a person or thing you cannot identify (followed by a singular noun) 7. Some man just knocked on the door and tried to sell me a magazine. 8. I read it in some book I borrowed from the library. 9. We saw it in some shop or other in Regent Street. 10. referring to a period of time or a distance 11. Don’t wait for me, I may be some time.

somewhere /ˈsʌmərri/ adv 1. in or at a place which is not specified 2. Somewhere around, somewhere between, somewhere in the region of approximately 3. Somewhere between 50 and 60 people turned up for the meeting. 4. He has collected somewhere in the region of 25,000 books. 5. somewhere else in some other place, in a different place.
Please phone the office as soon as possible.
They have a large family – two sons and four daughters. Their youngest son is in hospital.

sonor /ˈsʌnər/ noun a device that uses sound waves to measure the depth of water or to find objects under water

sonata /ˈsɒnətə/ noun a piece of music in three or four movements for one or more instruments, accompanied by an orchestra, piano, harpsichord, etc.

son et lumières /sɔn ə lumiˈʁẽ/ nouns entertainment consisting of sound and lighting effects, shown in the open air at night. The setting is usually a castle, cathedral or similar historic building, and the lighting is complemented by voices of actors speaking as if they were the former inhabitants of the place.

song /sɒŋ/ noun 1. words which are sung ○ She was singing a song in the bath. ○ The group’s latest song has just come out on CD. ○ The soldiers marched along, singing a song.

2. for a song for very little money (informal) ○ She bought it for a song in a flea market. ○ to make a great song and dance about something to make a great fuss about something ○ They made a terrible song and dance about having to wait for a taxi.

3. the musical sound made by some birds ○ I’m sure that’s the song of a robin – look, he’s over there!

songwriter /ˈsɒŋrɪtə/ noun a person who writes popular songs

sonic /ˈsɒnik/ adj referring to sound that can be heard by the human ear

sonic boom /ˈsɒnik ˈbʊm/ noun a loud noise made by an aircraft travelling through the air or faster than the speed of sound

son-in-law /ˈsɑːn ɪn lɔw/ noun the husband of a daughter (NOTE: The plural is sons-in-law.)

sonnet /ˈsɒnɪt/ noun a poem with fourteen lines and one of several rhyming patterns

song /sɒŋ/ noun a way of addressing a boy (informal)

soon /sʊn/ adv 1. in a short time from now ○ Don’t worry, we’ll soon be in Oxford. ○ It will soon be time to go to bed. ○ The fire started soon after 11 o’clock. 2. quickly ○ How soon can you let me know? ○ as soon as immediately ○ Please phone the office as soon as you get to the hotel. ○ As soon as I put the phone down it rang again. ○ The boss wants to see you as soon as possible.

sooner /ˈsʌnər/ earlier ○ Can’t we meet any sooner than that?

sooner or later at some time in the future ○ Sooner or later, they will realise that they need to save as much money as possible. ○ She drives so fast that sooner or later she’ll have an accident. ○ sooner rather than later quickly rather than taking a long time ○ It would be wise to reduce the staff sooner rather than later.

soot /sut/ noun a black deposit of carbon which rises in the smoke produced by burning coal, wood and oil and which collects on the inside surfaces of chimneys

soothe /ˈsuːð/ verb to make something less painful or to calm

soothing /ˈsuːθɪŋ/ adj which relieves pain or which calms. Antonym irritating

sop /sɒp/ noun 1. something given as a bribe to make someone keep quiet ○ The budget was just a sop to the left wing of the party. 2. a piece of bread dipped in liquid (old) ■ verb to soak in liquid or to soak up a liquid (NOTE: sopping – sopped)

sophisticated /ˌsɒfəˈstɪkatɪd/ adj 1. knowing a lot about the way people behave, and what is stylish or fashionable ○ They think smoking makes them look sophisticated.

2. cleverly designed and complicated ○ His office is full of the latest and most sophisticated computer equipment.

sophistication /ˌsɒfɪˈstɪkeɪʃn/ noun 1. a cultured way of life ○ The sophistication of life in the later Roman Empire disappeared under the attacks of the barbarians.

2. advanced ideas behind the construction of a machine ○ The sophistication of some of these early surgical instruments seems astonishing nowadays.

sophomore /ˌsɒfəˈmoʊr/ noun 1. US a student in his or her second year at college.

2. a tenth-grade high school student

sopping /ˈsɒpɪŋ/ adj very wet

soppy /sɒpi/ adj silly and sentimental (informal)

soprano /ˈsɒprənəʊ/ noun 1. a woman with a high-pitched singing voice ○ The sopranos are too feeble – I can hardly hear them. (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is sopranos.)

2. a high-pitched woman’s singing voice ○ She sings soprano in the local choir.

sorbet /ˈsɔrbeɪ/ noun a soft refreshing dessert made by freezing fruit juice to which the white of an egg is added (NOTE: The US term is sherbet.)

sorcerer /ˈsɒsərər/ noun (in fairy tales) a man who uses sorcery

sorceress /ˈsɒsərəs/ noun (in fairy tales) a woman who uses sorcery
sorcery /sərˈsəri/ noun (in fairy tales) wicked magic. Synonym witchcraft
sordid /sɔrdɪd/ adj unpleasant or dirty
sore /sɔr/ adj 1. rough and inflamed or painful
2. He can’t play tennis because he has a sore elbow.
sore throat an infected throat, which hurts when you swallow or
speak
sorely /sɔrˈli/ adv very much (formal) Synonym deeply
sorcery /səˈsɛrri/ noun US a student association for women. Compare fraternity (NOTE: The plural is sororities.)
sorrow /sərˈoʊ/ noun sadness
sorrowful /sɔrˈəfl/ adj very sad
sore /sɔr/ adj feeling unhappy, ashamed or disappointed about something
sore to feel sorry for someone
sore throat an infected throat, which hurts when you swallow or
speak
sort /sɔr/ noun 1. a type or kind
2. There were all sorts of people at the meeting.
sort of rather, more or less (informal) She was sort of
sorcery /sərˈsəri/ noun 1. wicked magic. Synonym witchcraft
sort out /sɔrt/ verb 1. to settle a problem
2. to put things in order or in groups
sort out the papers in this drawer.
sort of things that you are working on
sort of people that you are working with
sort out all the blue folders and bring them to me, please.
sorting office /sərtɪŋ ˈɒfɪs/ noun a department in a post office where letters are put
in order according to their addresses
sought /sɔt/ verb 1. wanted by many people. Synonym sought
sought-after /sɔt əˈfɔr/ adj wanted by many people. Synonym desirable. Antonym unpopular
soul /sou/ noun 1. the spirit in a person, the part which is believed by some people to
go on existing after a person dies
soul destroying /sɔʊl dɪˈstrʌŋ/ adj which is very dull, or does not allow you to
soul searching /səʊl ˈsɜːtʃɪŋ/ noun an examination of your own motives or conscience
sound /səʊnd/ noun 1. a noise, something which you can hear
2. Sounds of music came from the street.
soundly /səʊndli/ adv with a sound
sour /sɔr/ adj 1. vinegar
soured up to be very sad because of something (literary or formal) We sorrow at or over the
suffering of the refugees.
sourness /sɔrˈnəs/ noun 1. the unpleasant taste of sour
sourpuss /sɔrˈpʌs/ noun 1. a person who
sours /sɔrz/ past tense of sour
sourly /sɔrˈli/ adv in a sour or bitter way
sourly to be the life and soul of a party
sourpuss /sɔrˈpʌs/ noun 1. a person who
sours /sɔrz/ past tense of sour
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sourly to be the life and soul of a party
sourpuss /sɔrˈpʌs/ noun 1. a person who
sound on the TV when I’m on the phone? ○ She crept out of her bedroom and we didn’t hear.
the speed of sound the rate at which sound travels ○ Concorde flies faster than the speed of sound. ○ I don’t like
the sound of that I do not think that is a very good idea. ■ verb 1. to make a noise ○ Sound
your horn when you come to a corner. ○ They sounded the alarm after two prisoners escaped. 2. to seem ○ It sounds as if he’s made an unfortunate choice. ○ The book sounds interesting according to what I’ve heard. ○ That sounds strange to me. ■ adj 1. in good condition and not damaged ○ Most of the walls of the house are sound. ○ sound mind able to be responsible for decisions. 2. sensible and trustworthy ○ He gave us some very sound advice. 3. (of sleep) deep ○ I was awoken from a sound sleep by the ringing of the doorbell. (NOTE: sounder – soundest) ■ adv deeply ○ The children were sound asleep when the police came. ○ to sound like 1. to be similar to the way someone talks ○ On the phone, he sounds just like John. 2. to think you can hear someone or something ○ That sounds like the taxi now. 3. to be typical of the way someone usually behaves ○ That sounds like my father! 4. to seem to ○ That sounds like a good idea.

soundbite /′sɔnbdıːt/ noun a short phrase, usually spoken by a politician, especially made so as to be good to broadcast on radio or TV.
sound card /′sɔnd kɑːd/ noun a circuit board that allows a computer to produce sound.
sound effects /′sɔnd ɛfɛkts/ plural noun the artificial sounds used to give an impression of the real thing ○ All the sound effects for the film were produced electronically.
soundless /′sɔndliːs/ adj which does not make any noise. Synonym silent. Antonym noisy.
soundly /′sɔndli/ adv deeply or thoroughly

sound off /′sɔnd ɒf/ verb to start talking loudly about something (informal)
sound out /′sɔund əʊt/ verb to ask someone’s opinion about something ○ I’ll sound out the other members of the committee to see what they think. ○ Sound her out about joining.
soundproof /′sɔndprəuf/ adj which does not allow sound to pass through ○ The radio commentators sit in a soundproof cabinet. ■ verb to make a building soundproof ○ All the bedrooms in the hotel are soundproofed.
soundtrack /′sɔndtræk/ noun the track of a film on which the sound is recorded.
south-easterly

South-East Asia is an important trading area.  ○ The river runs south-east from here.  ○ House prices are higher in the south-east than anywhere else in England.

south-easterly adj /souθˈistəli/ referring to a wind which blows from the south-east, or something which is in or towards the south-east  ■ noun a wind blowing from the south east

south-eastern /souθˈiːstərn/ adj referring to the south-east or situated in the south-east

southerly /ˈsoʊðəli/ adj 1. referring to a wind from the south, or something which is in or towards the south  ○ I drove in a southerly direction with the sun shining full in my face.  ■ noun a wind blowing from the south 2. southern /ˈsoʊθərn/ adj of the south  ○ The southern part of the country is warmer than the north.

southerner /ˈsoʊθənər/ noun a person who comes from or lives in the south

southernmost /ˈsoʊθərnmoʊst/ adj furthest south

South Pole /ˈsoʊθ pɔl/ noun the furthest point at the south of the earth

southward /ˈsoʊθwɔrd/ adj towards the south

southwards /ˈsoʊθwɔrdz/ adv towards the south

south-west /ˈsoʊθwɛst/ adj, adv  ○ noun a direction between south and west  ○ We need to head south-west for two miles.  ○ Arizona is in the south-west of the United States.

south-western /ˈsoʊθwɛstərn/ adj referring to a wind which blows from the south-west or something which is in or towards the south-west

south-western /ˈsoʊθwɛstərn/ adj referring to the south-west or situated in the south-west

souvenir /ˌsoʊvərˈnɪər/ noun a thing bought to remind you of the place where you bought it. Synonym memento

sovereign /ˌsoʊvərˈiːn/ noun 1. a king or queen  ○ The sovereign is not supposed to become involved in party politics. Synonym monarch 2. a former British gold coin worth one pound

sovereign state /ˌsoʊvərɪnˈstεt/ noun a self-governing country

sovereignty /ˌsoʊvərəˈntɪ/ noun the total power of a government

Soviet /ˈsoʊvɪt/ adj of the former Soviet Union its people, culture, or political system

sow verb /soʊ/ to put seeds into soil so that they germinate and become plants  ○ Peas and beans should be sown in April.  ○ Sow the seed thinly in fine soil. (NOTE: Sowing—sowed—has sown /ˈsoʊn/. Do not confuse with sew.)  ■ noun /soʊ/ a mature female pig  ○ Our son has had eight piglets.

soya bean /ˈsoʊə bi/ noun a bean from a plant used for food and oil (NOTE: The US term is soybean.)

spa /spla/ noun 1. a place where mineral water comes out of the ground naturally and where people go to drink or bathe in it because of its medicinal properties  ○ He spends two weeks every summer at a French spa. 2. an exercise and health centre in a hotel

space /speɪs/ noun 1. an empty place between other things  ○ There’s a space to park your car over there.  ○ Write your name and reference number in the space at the top of the paper. 2. an area which is available for something  ○ His desk takes up too much space. 3. space, outer space the area beyond the earth’s atmosphere  ○ The first man in space was the Russian Yuri Gagarin.  ○ This is a photograph of the earth taken from space.  ○ Could someone be sending messages from outer space?  ■ verb space, space out to arrange things at intervals, with gaps between them  ○ Repayments can be spaced over a period of ten years.  ○ Make sure the text is evenly spaced out on the page.

space bar /ˈspeɪsbær/ noun the long bar at the bottom of a keyboard which puts a single space into text

space probe /ˈspeɪsbroʊ/ noun a spacecraft sent into space for scientific purposes

space shuttle /ˈspeɪʃətʃ/ noun a type of plane which is launched by a rocket, flies in space and then returns eventually to earth so that it can be used for another trip

space station /ˈspeɪs stəˈʃən/ noun a satellite which orbits the earth in which people can live and carry out scientific experiments

spacing /ˈspeɪsɪŋ/ noun the amount of space between things, e.g. between characters or lines in printing

spacious /ˈspeɪʃəs/ adj very large, with plenty of space. Synonym roomy. Antonym cramped

spade /speɪd/ noun 1. a tool with a wide square blade at the end of a long handle, used for digging or moving something such as soil or sand  ○ to do the spade work to do the uninteresting work before the main work is done  ○ I get my assistant to do most of the spade work.  ○ to call a spade a spade to say exactly what you think without trying to hide your opinions by being polite  ○ If she’s not satisfied, she’s not afraid to call a spade a spade. 2. a small spade, used by children  ○ The children took their buckets and spades to the beach.

spades /ˈspeɪdz/ plural noun one of the black sets in a pack of cards (NOTE: The
other black set is clubs; hearts and diamonds are red sets.

spaghetti /spəˈgetti/ noun long thin strips of pasta, cooked and eaten with a sauce

spam /spæm/ noun unwanted commercial e-mails

span /spən/ noun 1. the width of wings or of an arch ○ Each section of the bridge has a span of fifty feet. 2. a length of time ○ over a span of five years or over a five-year span. verb to stretch across space or time ○ Her career spanned thirty years. ○ A stone bridge spans the river. (NOTE: spanning – spanned)

Spaniard /ˈspanjəd/ noun a person from Spain

spaniel /ˈspæniəl/ noun a type of dog with large ears that droop down ○ a type of dog ○ Spanish /ˈspænɪʃ/ adj referring to Spain ○ I want to change my pounds into Spanish money. ■ noun the language spoken in Spain and many countries of Latin America ○ He’s studying French and Spanish as part of his business course.

spank /spæŋk/ verb to hit a child’s bottom as a punishment

spanking /ˈspæŋknɪŋ/ adj very (dated) ○ spanking new very new ○ a spanking new sports car noun the action of being spanked ○ If I catch you again you’ll get a spanking

spanner /spænər/ noun a metal tool with an opening which fits round a nut and which can be twisted to undo the nut or tighten it ○ to throw a spanner in the works to stop things happening or to make things difficult by causing problems ○ His illness threw a spanner in the works.

spar /spər/ noun 1. the main beam running along the wing of an aircraft. 2. a ship’s mast or a wooden beam for holding the sails ○ Two spars were broken in the gale. ■ verb to practise boxing with someone ○ He sparred every morning before the fight. (NOTE: sparring – sparred)

spare /spɛər/ adj extra, not being used ○ I always take a spare pair of shoes when I travel. ■ verb 1. asking someone if they can do without something ○ Can you spare your assistant to help me for a day? ○ Can you spare about five minutes to talk about the problem? ○ If you have a moment to spare, can you clean the car? ○ Can you spare 50p for a cup of tea? 2. not to show or give ○ The driving test was awful, but I’ll spare you the details. ○ to be spared the embarrassment to avoid being embarrassed ○ Luckily the restaurant took credit cards, so I was spared the embarrassment of asking my colleague to pay. 3. ○ to spare someone or someone’s life not to kill someone ○ He pleaded with the soldiers to spare his life. ○ No one was spared, all the inhabitants of the village were killed.

spare parts /spaʊər pɑːts/ plural noun pieces used to put in place of broken parts of a car, etc.

spare ribs /ˈspɛər riːz/ plural noun pork ribs cooked in a savoury sauce

spare room /ˈspɛər ruːm/ noun 1. an unused space ○ The car is full, we have absolutely no spare room. 2. a bedroom which a family does not use ○ We can put you up in the spare room.

spares /ˈspɛəriz/ plural noun spare parts or pieces used to mend broken parts of a car or other machine

spare time /ˈspɛər tʌɪm/ noun the time when you are not at work

spare tyre /ˈspɛər tɪər/ noun 1. an extra wheel and tyre carried in a car in case you have a puncture. 2. a roll of fat round the waist ○ He needs to cut down on his lunches, he’s developed quite a spare tyre.

spare wheel /ˈspɛər wɛl/ noun a fifth wheel carried in a car to replace one that has a puncture

sparking /ˈspaʊrɪŋ/ adj limited ○ to be sparing with something not to use very much of something ○ Be sparing with the wine, we’ve only got three bottles.

sparingly /ˈspaʊrɪŋli/ adv using little

spark /spɑːrk/ noun a little flash of fire or of light ○ Sparks flew as the train went over the junction. ■ verb 1. to send out sparks or to make electric sparks. 2. spark, spark off to make something start ○ The proposed closure of the station sparked anger amongst travellers. ○ The shooting of the teenager sparked off a riot.

sparkle /ˈspɑːrk(ə)l/ noun a bright light. ■ verb 1. to shine brightly ○ Her jewels sparkled in the light of the candles. ○ His eyes sparkled when he heard the salary offered. 2. (of a person) to be lively ○ She was sparkling with enthusiasm.

sparkler /ˈspɑːklər/ noun a type of little firework which you can hold in your hand and which sends out bright sparks

sparkling /ˈspɑːklɪŋ/ adj shining with little lights ○ a necklace of sparkling diamonds. 2. which has bubbles in it, which is fizzy ○ a bottle of sparkling water ○ sparkling wine which has little bubbles in it ○ Champagne is a sparkling wine from France.

spark plug /ˈspɑːk plʌg/ noun a part of an engine which produces sparks that ignite the fuel.

sparky /ˈspɑːkɪ/ adj bright and energetic.

Synonym lively

sparring partner /ˈspærɪŋ ˈpɑːtnər/ noun 1. a person who a professional boxer prac-
sparrow

tises with ○ He has a session with his sparring partner every morning. 2. a person with whom you often have discussions or arguments ○ They were old sparring partners from the time when they were MPs together.

sparse /spar/ adj not thick or not in large quantities (NOTE: sparser – sparsest) sparsely /sparli/ adv with very few; thinly

spasmodic /sparəmɒdɪk/ adj happening from time to time. Antonym continuous

spat /spæt/ or spit

spate /spæt/ noun 1. a sudden rush of something ○ We had a spate of inquiries after our ad in ‘the Times’. 2. a river in spate a river in that is flooding

spatulate /spætjuələt/ adj referring to space

spatter /spætər/ verb to splash with little spots of liquid

spawn /spɔn/ noun a mass of eggs of a fish or a frog ○ The children could see the frog spawn floating on the surface of the pond. ■ verb 1. (of fish) to produce a mass of eggs ○ Salmon swim up the river to spawn. 2. to produce a mass of things ○ The meetings of the committee sparrowed a huge amount of documents.

○ speak /spik/ verb 1. to say words ○ She spoke to me when the meeting was over. ○ He walked past me without speaking. ○ He was speaking to the postman when I saw him. ○ The manager wants to speak to you about sales in Africa. 2. to speak your mind to say exactly what you think ○ speak for yourself that’s what you think, I don’t agree ○ We both think the decision is crazy. – Speak for yourself. 2. to be able to say things in a particular language ○ We need someone who can speak Russian. ○ He speaks English with an American accent. ○ You will have to brush up your Japanese as my mother speaks hardly any English. 3. to make a speech ○ Do you know who is speaking at the conference? 4. ○ so to speak as you might say ○ He’s a very close friend, we’re like brothers, so to speak.

○ speaker /spekr/ noun 1. a person who speaks ○ We need an Arabic speaker to help with the tour. ○ he is a popular speaker many people come to hear him give speeches at meetings 2. a loudspeaker ○ One of the speakers doesn’t work. ● loudspeaker 3. (in Parliament) a person who presides over a meeting of Parliament ○ The Speaker called on the Prime Minister to speak.

speaking /ˈspɪkiŋ/ noun the action of talking ○ she and I are not on speaking terms we have quarrelled and don’t speak to each other any more

spoke out /ˈspaut/ verb to make your opinions or feelings known strongly

special /ˈspɛʃəl/ adj 1. to speak louder; to say what you have to say in a louder voice ○ Can you speak up please — we can’t hear you at the back! 2. to make your opinions known strongly ○ He’s not afraid to speak up when he thinks someone’s been unfairly treated. ■ to speak up for to show your support for ○ He was the only person who spoke up at the inquiry. ■ verb to push something sharp into something to catch it ○ Spearfish is not easy. ○ She managed to spear a sausage on the barbecue with her fork. ○ They served little pieces of cheese speared on toothpicks. Synonym impale

specialisation /ˌspɛʃəlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ noun 1. the study of a particular subject 2. a subject which you specialise in
specialise

verb 1. to study one particular subject at university, she specialised in marine biology 2. to produce one thing in particular the company specialises in electronic components.

specialised /speʃəlaɪzd/, specialized /speʃəlaɪzd/ adj which deals with one subject in particular, Antonym generalised

special field an area of study which is very restricted

special needs, such as blind or autistic children, require special schooling.

special needs (NOTE: [all senses] The US term is special needs)

specialist /speʃəlist/ noun 1. a person who knows a lot about something o you should go to a tax specialist for advice. 2. a doctor who specialises in a certain branch of medicine o he was referred to a heart specialist.

specialisation a dictionary referring to one subject only

speciality /speʃəlɪti/ noun 1. a thing you are very good at doing o the speciality of the restaurant is its fish soup. o finding the right partners for people is my speciality. 2. a particular interest, knowledge or study o the company’s speciality is computer programming for schools. o his speciality is the history of Wales in the 15th century.

(NOTE: [all senses] The US term is specialization.)

specially /speʃəlɪ/ adv in particular or more than usual, Synonym especially, particularly.

Antonym generally

special needs /speʃəl/ ‘nidzld/ plural noun the needs of a person with mental or physical disabilities, which are different from the needs of most people o children with special needs, such as blind or autistic children, require special schooling.

special offer /speʃəl/ ‘ōfer/ noun goods put on sale at a specially low price

specialty /speʃəlti/ noun US same as speciality

species /spiːʃɪz/ noun a group of living things such as animals or plants which can breed with each other o several species of butterfly are likely to become extinct.

specific /spəˈsɪfɪk/ adj referring precisely to something o can you be more specific about what you’re trying to achieve? o i gave specific instructions that i was not to be disturbed. o is the money intended for a specific purpose?

specifically /spəˈsɪfɪkli/ adv particularly o specifically said i didn’t want a blue door. o the advertisement is specifically aimed at people over 50.

specification /speʃəˈfɪkeɪʃ(ə)n/ noun detailed information about what is needed.

specify /ˈspiːʃəɪ/ verb to give clear details of what is needed

specimen /ˈspiːsmən/ noun 1. a sample of something taken as standard o the bank asked for a specimen signature for their records. 2. an example of a particular kind of creature or thing o he has some very rare specimens in his butterfly collection. o this is a fine specimen of this kind of fossil.

spend /spend/ noun a tiny spot

spackle /spekl/ ‘əl/ noun a small spot of colour, Synonym flick

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speculation

take a risk in business which you hope will bring profit. He made a lot of money by speculating on the Stock Exchange.
noun 1. trying to guess what will happen. There's been a lot of speculation in the press about who might get the job. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 2. a risky deal which may produce a short-term profit. She lost all her money in Stock Exchange speculations.

speed /spid/ 1. adj very fast (NOTE: speedier – speediest) 2. verb to write or say correctly the letters that make a word. He spelled 'worry' clearly. How do you spell your surname? We spell his name wrong on the envelope. noun 1. a short period. There was a spell of cold weather at the spring bank holiday. The warm spell will last until Thursday. 2. words which the person speaking hopes will have a magic effect. The wicked witch cast a spell on the princess.

spellbinding /ˈspelbændɪŋ/ adj referring to something which is so interesting it holds your attention completely. Synonym captivating

spellbound /ˈspelbaʊnd/ adj not interested in something that it holds your attention completely.

speculative /ˈspekjʊlətɪv/ adj referring to something which is so interesting it holds your attention completely.

speedboat /ˈspɪdboʊt/ noun a small fast motorboat.

speeding /ˈspɪdnɪŋ/ noun the offence of driving a vehicle faster than the speed limit.

speed limit /ˈspɪdlɪmɪt/ noun the fastest speed at which vehicles are allowed to go legally.

speedometer /ˈspɪdəmətər/ noun an instrument which shows how fast a vehicle is travelling.

speed trap /ˈspɪd træp/ noun a device by the side of a road which senses and notes details of vehicles which are travelling too fast.

speed up /ˈspɪd ʌp/ verb 1. to go faster. She speeded up because she was late. 2. to make something happen faster. Can't we speed up our delivery times.

spent /spent/ noun a male sex cell which fertilises female eggs. Out of millions of sperm only one will fertilise an egg. (NOTE: The plural is sperm.)
spew /spju/ verb to pour out ○ Gallons of toxic waste spewed into the river. ○ He spewed out a stream of racial abuse.

SPF /es piː/ ‘spí/ noun the amount of protection from the sun a sun cream or other sunscreen will give to your skin. Full form sun protection factor.

sphere /ˈsfɪər/ noun 1. an object which is perfectly round like a ball ○ The earth is not quite a perfect sphere. 2. a general area ○ It’s not a sphere of activity that we know very well. ○ sphere of influence an area of the world where a strong country can influence smaller or weaker countries ○ Some Latin American countries fall within the USA’s sphere of influence.

spherical /ˈsɛrɪk(ə)l/ adj shaped like a sphere, perfectly round

spinx /ˈspɪŋks/ noun in ancient Egyptian and Greek mythology, a creature with a lion’s body and the head of a man

spice /ˈspɪs/ noun 1. a substance made from the roots, flowers, seeds or leaves of plants, which is used to flavour food ○ Cloves, cinnamon and nutmeg are the main spices I use. ○ You need lots of spices for Indian cookery. 2. a thing which excites interest ○ I included a murder scene to add a bit of spice to the story. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning)

spiced /ˈspɪst/ adj which has had spices added to it

spice up the scene where the hero and heroine meet in the rain.

spick-and-span /ˈspɪk ənˈspæn/ adj very neat and clean

spicy /ˈspɪsɪ/ adj 1. with a lot of spices ○ He loves spicy Indian food. ○ Mexican cooking is hot and spicy. 2. including something which excites sexual interest (informal) ○ The paper published a spicy story about the MP and two girls. (NOTE: spicier – spiciest)

spider /ˈspɪdər/ noun a small animal with eight legs, which makes a web and eats insects

spiderweb /ˈspɪdərwɛb/ noun US a web made by a spider. (NOTE: The British term is cobweb.)

spidery /ˈspɪdərɪ/ adj referring to writing which is thin, untidy and irregular

spike /ˈspɑːk/ noun a sharply pointed piece of metal or wood ○ The wall was topped with a row of metal spikes. ○ verb to add drugs or alcohol to someone’s food or drink ○ They spiked his drink but won’t admit it.

spiked /ˈspærkt/ adj with sharp points. Synonym: spiky

spikes /ˈspɪks/ plural noun running shoes with sharp points on the soles

spiky /ˈspærki/ adj standing up in sharp points or ending in sharp points (NOTE: spikier – spikiest)

spill /spɪl/ verb 1. to pour a liquid or a powder out of a container by mistake ○ That glass is too full – you’ll spill it. ○ He spilled soup down the front of his shirt. ○ She dropped the bag and some of the flour spilled out onto the floor. 2. □ to spill the beans to reveal a secret (informal) ○ noun the pouring of a liquid by accident ○ The authorities are trying to cope with the oil spill from the tanker.

spin /spɪn/ verb 1. to move round and round very fast ○ The earth is spinning in space. ○ The plane was spinning out of control. 2. to make something turn round and round ○ The washing machine spins the clothes to get the water out of them. ○ He spun the wheel to make sure it turned freely. ○ to spin a coin to make a coin turn round and round, so as to decide which team plays first in a competition by guessing which side of the coin will end up on top 3. to twist raw wool or cotton to form a thread 4. (of a spider) to make a web ○ The spider has spun a web between the two posts. (NOTE: spinning – spun /ˈspɔːn/) □ noun 1. the turning movement of a ball as it moves ○ He put so much spin on the ball that it bounced sideways. 2. the turning movement of a car out of control ○ He jammed on the brakes and the car went into a spin. ○ in a flat spin in a complete state of confusion (informal) 3. □ to put a spin on something to give something a special meaning (informal) ○ The PR people have tried to put a positive spin on the sales figures. □ spin doctor 4. a short ride in a car ○ Let’s go for a spin in my new car.

spinach /ˈspɪnək/ noun an annual plant grown for its green leaves eaten raw as salad or cooked as a vegetable (NOTE: no plural: some spinach; a spoonful of spinach)

spinal /ˈspɪnəl/ adj referring to the spine ○ He suffered spinal injuries in the crash.

spinal column /ˈspɪnəl kəlmən/ noun same as spine

spinal cord /ˈspɪnəl kɔrd/ noun a part of the central nervous system which runs down the centre of the spine

spinal nerves /ˈspɪnəl nɜːvz/ plural noun nerves leading from the spinal cord

spindle /ˈspɪnl/ noun 1. a central pin round which something turns ○ The spindle in the wheel broke. 2. a pin used for twisting thread in a spinning machine ○ She was spinning wool, and winding it round a spindle. 3.
spindly /"spindli/ adj long, thin and weak. Antonym sturdy (NOTE: spindlier – spindliest)

spindled /'spindli/ noun a person who flattens news in a way that makes it flatter to the person or organisation employing him

spine /'spain/ noun 1. a series of bones linked together to form a flexible support from the base of the skull to the pelvis. ○ He injured his spine playing rugby. Also called spinal column, backbone (NOTE: The bones in the spine are the vertebrae.) 2. a sharp part like a pin, on a plant, animal or fish ○ The porcupine has dangerous spines. ○ Did you know that lemon trees have spines? 3. the back edge of a bound book, usually with the title printed on it ○ The title and the author’s name are printed on the front of the book and also on the spine.

spine-chiller /'spain,tʃəla/ noun a film or story which makes you excited and very afraid. Synonym thriller

spine-chilling /'spain,tʃɛlɪŋ/ adj which makes you excited and very afraid. Synonym bloodcurdling

spineless /'spainləs/ adj 1. who is weak and cowardly ○ He’s so spineless – he should say what he thinks to the manager himself. 2. with no spine ○ Insects and molluscs are spineless.

spinner /'spainə/ noun 1. a person who spins thread 2. (in cricket) a bowler who spins the ball ○ The captain has taken off the fast bowler and put on the spinners.

spinning /'spainɪŋ/ noun a useful thing which comes from a process, but is not the main aim of the process

spin out /'spain,aʊt/ verb to make something last as long as possible

spiny /'spaini/ adj covered with spines

spiral /'spærəl/ noun 1. a shape which is twisted round and round like a spring ○ He drew a spiral on the sheet of paper. 2. a thing which turns, getting higher or lower all the time ○ Smoke was rising in spirals from the top of the chimney. ○ A spiral staircase leads to the top of the tower. ○ A spiral staircase leads to the top of the tower. 1. to move up or down in a spiral ○ The firework spiralled up into the air. ○ The leaves dropped off the tree and spiralled down to the ground. 2. to move rapidly upwards ○ Prices of imported goods are spiralling.

spiralling /'spærəlɪŋ/ adj rapidly increasing ○ spiralling inflation

spire /'spaiə/ noun a pointed top of a church tower

spirit /'spirt/ noun 1. the mental attitude which controls how someone acts or responds to other people ○ She has a great spirit of fun. ○ He had an independent spirit. 2. energy and determination ○ I like her because she has got such spirit. ○ She fought her case with great spirit. ○ A good salesman needs to have the spirit of competition. 3. the real intention of something ○ That’s not really in keeping with the spirit of the agreement. ○ to enter into the spirit of to take part in something with enthusiasm ○ The managing director entered into the spirit of the party. 4. the part of a person that is said to still exist after death. 5. a ghost of someone dead. ○ the spirits of the departed ○ He was an imaginary being which is believed to harm people. 6. alcohol (NOTE: usually plural) ○ verb to remove someone or something without it being noticed ○ They spirited her away before the photographers could get to her.

spirited /'spɜːtrightd/ adj very lively

spirit level /'spirt,lɪvəl/ noun a device for testing if something is level using a glass tube filled with liquid containing an air bubble

spirits /'spɜːtɪs/ plural noun 1. strong alcoholic drink like whisky or gin ○ The club is licensed to sell beers, wines and spirits. 2. mood ○ The news had an excellent effect on our spirits. ○ Their spirits sank when they realised they had no chance of winning. ○ in high spirits in a very excited mood ○ She’s been in high spirits since she passed her test.

spiritual /'spɜːtrəl/ adj referring to the spirit or the soul ○ to minister to someone’s spiritual needs ○ The church’s main task is to give spiritual advice and comfort to its members. Antonym physical

spiritualism /'spɜːtrəlɪzəm/ noun the belief in the possibility of communication with people who have died

spit /'spit/ noun 1. a metal rod pushed through meat over a fire, which is turned so that the meat is evenly cooked ○ a spit-roasted lamb ○ They roasted pieces of lamb on spits. 2. a thin piece of land which goes out into the sea ○ The nature reserve is sited at the end of a spit of land. 3. the liquid which forms in your mouth (informal). Synonym saliva ○ spit and polish strenuous cleaning (informal) ○ the (dead) spit of an exact copy of ○ verb 1. to push liquid or food out of your mouth ○ He took a mouthful and immediately spat it out. 2. to send liquid out of the mouth to show contempt ○ He spat on the car as it drove away. 3. to rain a little ○ It isn’t really raining – it’s just spitting. (NOTE: spitting – spat /'spət/)
spite /ˈspæt/ noun 1. bad feeling  ○ They sprayer his car with white paint out of spite. 2. in spite of although something happened or was done  ○ In spite of all his meetings, he still found time to ring his wife.  ○ We all enjoyed his company in spite of the awful weather.  ■ verb to annoy someone on purpose  ○ He did it purely to spite his sister.  spiteful /ˈspætfəl/ adj full of nasty feelings or thoughts  ○ In a spiteful way  spitefully /ˈspætfəli/ adv in a spiteful way  spiteing image /ˈspætɪŋ ˈɪmɪdʒ/ noun someone who is exactly like someone else (informal)  ○ He’s the spitting image of his father.  spittle /ˈspɪtl/ noun liquid which forms in your mouth (old). Synonym saliva  splash /ˈsplæʃ/ noun 1. a sound when something falls into a liquid or when a liquid hits something hard  ○ She fell into the pool with a loud splash.  ○ Listen to the splash of the waves against the rocks. 2. a sudden show  ○ The red flowers make a bright splash of colour in the front garden. 3. to make a splash to do something which attracts a lot of publicity (informal)  ○ His new show made a splash on Broadway.  ■ verb 1. (of liquid) to make a noise when something is dropped into it or when it hits something  ○ I missed the ball and it splashed into the pool.  ○ The rain splashed against the windows. 2. to make someone wet by sending liquid on to him  ○ The car drove past through a puddle and splashed my trousers. 3. to move through water, making a noise  ○ He splashed his way through the shallow water to the rocks.  ○ The little children were splashing about in the paddling pool.  splash out /ˈsplæʃ/ verb to spend a lot of money at one time  splatter /ˈsplætə/ verb to splash drops of liquid  spay /ˈspleɪ/ verb to spread fingers or legs apart  spleen /ˈsplɛn/ noun 1. an organ in the top part of the abdominal cavity behind the stomach  ○ The spleen cleans the blood and helps fight infection. 2. to vent your spleen on someone to get very angry with someone (formal)  ○ He vented his spleen on his poor assistant.  splendid /ˈsplɛndəd/ adj which impresses. Synonym magnificent  splendidly /ˈsplɛndɪdli/ adv in a splendid way  splendidour /ˈsplɛndər/ noun magnificence (NOTE: The US spelling is splendor.)  splice /ˈsplɛs/ verb to join two pieces of rope or film together  splint /ˈsplɪnt/ noun a stiff bar tied to a broken part of the body to prevent the bone from moving  splinter /ˈsplɪntər/ noun a tiny thin piece of wood or metal which gets under the skin and irritates, causing infection  ○ I got a splinter in my finger from cutting wood.  ○ Can you try and get this splinter out of my thumb for me?  ■ verb to split into thin pointed pieces  ○ The wooden door splintered as the firemen hit it with hammers and axes.  splinter group /ˈsplɪntər ˈgrʊp/ noun a group of people who have separated from a main group  ○ The protesters are from a splinter group which broke away from the party some years ago.  split /ˈspɪlt/ verb 1. to divide something into parts  ○ He split the log into small pieces with an axe.  ○ to split the difference to agree on a figure which is half way between two figures suggested  ○ You are offering £20 and he wants £40, so why don’t you split the difference and settle on £30? 2. to divide or to come apart  ○ My trousers were too tight – they split when I bent down.  ○ After they lost the election, the party split into various factions.  ■ noun 1. a division  ○ They are trying to hide the split between the two factions of the party. 2. to do the splits to put yourself on the floor, with your legs spread in opposite directions  adj which has been broken in half  ○ to have a split personality a mental condition where you react from time to time in two totally different and opposing ways  split ends /ˈspɪlt ˈɛnds/ plural noun a hair problem, when the end of each hair splits into different strands  split infinitive /ˈspɪlt ɪnˈfɪnɪtɪv/ noun a supposed mistake in English, where it is considered wrong to put another word between the ‘to’ and the rest of the verb  split-level /ˈspɪlt ˈlevəl/ adj with some rooms on different floors to others  split peas /ˈspɪptz/ plural noun dried peas split in half  split second /ˈspɪlt ˈsɛknɔd/ noun a very short space of time. Synonym instant  ○ for a split second for a very short moment  ○ For a split second he didn’t move.  ○ in a split second very rapidly  ○ Everything happened in a split second.  splitting /ˈspʌtɪŋ/ adj a splitting headache a very bad headache  split up /ˈspʌt ʌp/ verb 1. to divide  ○ We must try to split up the class into groups of three or four. 2. to start to live apart  ○ They had a row and split up.  splutter /ˈsplʌtə/ verb 1. to speak rapidly, using very short phrases, especially when angry  ○ ‘what, what, what … do you mean by that?’ he spluttered in fury. 2. to make a hiss-
spoil 829

spoil /spɔl/ verb 1. to ruin something which was good ○ We had such bad weather that our camping holiday was spoilt. ○ Half the contents of the warehouse were spoiled by floodwater. ○ to spoil your appetite to make you not want to eat ○ Don’t eat so many crisps – they’ll spoil your appetite for lunch. 2. to be too kind to someone, especially a child, so that he or she sometimes becomes badly behaved ○ You’ll spoil that child if you always give in to him. ○ Grandparents are allowed to spoil their grandchildren a little. 3. to be spoiling for a fight to be eager to get into a fight ○ The socialists were spoiling for a fight with the liberals. 4. to go bad ○ If we don’t eat this meat today it will spoil. (NOTE: spoil – spoilt /spɔːlt/ or spoiled)

spoil /spɔl/ plural noun 1. goods taken by soldiers from a defeated enemy ○ Their spoils filled several train wagons. Synonym killjoy

spoil /spɔl/ adj (of a child) who has been treated in a way which is too kind, and so is badly behaved

spoke /spək/ noun a rod which connects the axle of a wheel to the rim ○ The wheel wobbles because one of the spokes is bent. ○ verb speak

spoken /spəkən/ & speak

sponge /spʌŋk/ noun 1. a sea animal with a skeleton which is full of holes ○ Diving down into the Red Sea you could see sponges on the sea floor. 2. the dried soft skeleton of this sea animal, or a block of soft material full of small holes, which soaks up water and is used for washing ○ Real sponges are very expensive. ○ I use a large sponge to wash the car. ○ to throw in the sponge to admit you have been beaten (informal) ○ Don’t throw in the sponge so soon, you’ve got several other chances. 3. a soft material full of small holes used to make things like cushions ○ The sofa has sponge cushions. ○ verb to wipe clean with a sponge ○ He sponged the kitchen table.

sponge bag /spʌŋkbæg/ noun a bag used to hold toiletries

sponge cake /spʌŋk kɛk/ noun a light soft cake

sponge on /spʌŋk ɒn, sponge off /spʌŋk əf/ verb to live by begging for money from someone (informal) ○ He has no proper job and lives by sponging off his wife’s parents.

sponge pudding /spʌŋdʒ ‘pudɪŋ/ noun a light soft pudding

sponger /spʌŋər/ noun a person who does not work but asks for money from friends (informal)

spongy /spʌŋʒi/ adj soft and full of holes

sponsor /spɒnsər/ noun 1. a person or company that pays to financially help a sport, an exhibition or a music festival, in return for the right to advertise at sporting events, on sports clothes or programmes ○ The company is the sponsor for premier division football. 2. company which pays part of the cost of making a TV or radio programme by advertising on the programme ○ a person who pays money to a charity when someone else walks, swims, or runs a certain distance ○ He’s taking part in the school cross-country and wants sponsors. 4. a person who takes responsibility for someone ○ She acted as his sponsor when he applied for membership of the club.

sponsorship /spɒnsəʃip/ noun the action of sponsoring

spontaneity /spɒntəˈnɪti/ noun behaving in a natural way. Synonym constraint

spontaneous /spɒntəˈneɪsɪəs/ adj which happens of its own accord, which is not forced or prepared in advance. Synonym impulsive

spontaneously /spɒntəˈneɪsli/ adv in a spontaneous way

spoon /spuːn/ noun an amusing imitation to trick someone

spook (spɔk) /spuːk/ noun (informal) 1. a ghost ○ A TV cartoon about spooks who haunted an office block 2. a spy ○ The spooks planted bugs in the ambassador’s car.

spooky /spuːkɪ/ adj frightening and which makes you think there may be ghosts around (informal) (NOTE: spookier – spookiest)

spool /spuːl/ noun a cylinder round which you wind something

spoon /spuːn/ noun 1. a utensil with a handle at one end and a small bowl at the other, used for eating liquids and soft food, or for stirring food which is being cooked ○ Use a spoon to eat your pudding. ○ We need a big spoon to serve the soup. 2. an amount held in a spoon ○ Add two spoons of sugar. ○ verb to move something with a spoon ○ She spooned jam onto her plate. ○ They were spooning soup out into each bowl.
spoon-feed /'spɔn fiːd/ verb 1. to give someone food with a spoon 2. to teach students by giving them answers to questions and not allowing them to work by themselves 3. to provide everything for people so that they need do nothing to help themselves
spoonful /'spɔnfl/ noun an amount which a spoon can hold
sporadic /spərˈdɪk/ adj which happens at irregular intervals
spore /spɔr/ noun a reproductive body of some plants and bacteria
sport /spɔrt/ noun a game or games involving physical activity and competition 1. Do you like watching sport on TV? 2. The world of sport is mourning the death of the racing driver. 3. The only sport I play is tennis. 4. She doesn’t play any sport at all. 5. a good sport a person who doesn’t mind being teased 6. He’s a good sport. 7. verb to wear something proudly (informal) 8. He was sporting a red and orange tie.
sporting /spɔrtɪŋ/ adj referring to sport 1. a big sporting weekend on TV, with tennis matches, the World Cup and a golf tournament 2. pleasant and willing to help, especially when playing a sport 3. He’s a very sporting chap.
sporting chance /spɔrtɪŋ 'tʃæns/ noun a quite good chance that something will happen
sportingly /spɔrtɪngli/ adv in a pleasant and helpful way
sportive /spɔrtɪv/ adj liking to play. Synonym: playful
sports car /spɔtrz kɑ/ noun a fast open car
sports centre /spɔts 'sɛntə/ noun a place where several different sports can be played
sportsman /spɔtsmən/ noun a man who plays a sport (NOTE: The plural is sportsmen.)
sportsmanship /spɔtsmənʃip/ noun fair and polite behaviour when playing sport
sportswear /spɔtsweə/ noun clothes worn to play sport (NOTE: no plural)
sportswoman /spɔts'wʊmən/ noun a woman who plays a sport (NOTE: The plural is sportswomen.)
sporty /spɔrti/ adj interested in sport and enjoying sport
spot /spɔt/ noun 1. a particular place 2. This is the exact spot where Anne Boleyn was executed. 3. on the spot at a particular place where something happens 4. I happened to be on the spot when the incident took place. 5. We had twenty policemen on the spot to make sure there was no trouble. 6. a coloured mark, usually round 7. Her dress has a pattern of white and red spots. 8. He wore a blue tie with white spots. 9. to knock spots off someone to be easily better than someone (informal) 10. She sang a little song which knocked spots off all the others. 11. a small amount (informal) 12. Would you like a spot of lunch? 13. We had a spot of luck. 14. He’s had a spot of bother with the tax authorities. 15. A short period in a TV or radio programme 16. She had a spot on the breakfast news programme. 17. same as spotlight 18. verb to notice 19. The teacher didn’t spot the mistake. 20. We spotted him in the crowd. (NOTE: spotting – spotted)
spot check /spɔt tʃek/ noun a check made suddenly and at random. Synonym: inspection
spotless /'spɔtləs/ adj very clean
spotlight /'spɒtlɪt/ noun 1. a bright light which shines on one small area 2. She stood in the spotlights on the stage. 3. to turn the spotlight on something to draw attention to something 4. The TV programme turns the spotlight on the plight of refugees. 5. verb to draw attention to something clearly 6. We want to spotlight the dangers of riding bicycles without lights. Synonym: highlight
spot-on /'spɒt ən/ adj absolutely correct (informal) 8. His analysis of the situation was spot-on.
spotted /'spɔtɪd/ adj covered with spots
spotty /'spɔtɪ/ adj covered with pimples (NOTE: spottier – spottiest)
spouse /spɔs/ noun a husband or wife
spout /spɔt/ noun 1. a tube which projects out of a container, shaped specially for pouring liquid 2. You fill the kettle through the spout. 3. Cut here and pull out to form a spout. 4. a tube for sending rainwater away from the wall of a building 5. Water was gushing out of the spout. 6. up the spout lost or ruined (informal) 7. verb to come out like a jet of water 8. Blood spouted out of his neck. 9. spout on to go on speaking about something too much (informal) 10. She was spouting on about women’s rights.
sprain /spreɪn/ noun a condition where the ligaments in a joint are torn because of a sudden movement 1. He is walking with a stick because of an ankle sprain. 2. verb to tear the ligaments in a joint such as an ankle 3. He sprained his ankle jumping over the fence.
sprang /'spreŋ/ verb 1. to lie with your arms and legs spread out 2. He sprang in his armchair and turned on the TV. 3. The boy on the bike hit her and sent her sprawling. 2. to spread out in an irregular way 3. The housing sprawl /'spreɪkl/ noun a short period in a TV or radio programme
spray /spreɪ/ noun 1. a mass of tiny drops of liquid ○ The waves crashed against the sea wall sending spray over the road. ○ An aerosol sends out a liquid in a fine spray. ○ She uses a nasal spray to clear her catarrh.
2. a little branch of a plant with flowers on it ○ The room was decorated with sprays of lilac. ○ verb to send out liquid in fine drops ○ He sprayed water all over the patio with the hose. ○ They sprayed the room with disinfectant.
spread/spreɪd/ verb 1. to arrange over a wide area ○ Spread the paper flat on the table. 2. to move over a wide area ○ The fire started in the top floor and soon spread to the roof. ○ The cholera epidemic has spread to the main towns. 3. to cover with a layer of something ○ She spread a white cloth over the table. ○ He was spreading butter on a piece of bread. 4. to spread payments over several months ○ to spread one’s debt over several months.
spreadeagled /ˈspredɪdʒəld/ adj lying flat with arms and legs stretched out
spread out /ˈspred ˈaʊt/ verb 1. to arrange things over a wide area ○ She spread out the clothes on her bed. ○ He spread out the plans on the MD’s desk. 2. to move away from others over a wide area ○ The rioters spread out across the square. ○ The policemen spread out to search the woods.
spreadsheet /ˈspredʃɪt/ noun 1. a computer program which allows calculations to be done in columns of figures ○ You can use a spreadsheet to do your household accounts. 2. a printout of columns of figures on wide computer stationery
spreè /ˈspriː/ noun a short time of doing something enjoyable. Synonym jaunt ○ to go on a spending spree ○ to go on a shopping spree to have a happy time spending money
sprig /ˈspriɡ/ noun a little branch
sprightly /ˈsprɪtli/ adj lively and energetic. Antonym lethargic (NOTE: sprightlier – sprightliest)
spring /sprɪŋ/ noun 1. the season of the year between winter and summer ○ In spring all the trees start to grow new leaves. ○ We always go to Greece in the spring. ○ They started work last spring or in the spring of last year and they still haven’t finished. 2. a wire which is twisted round and round and which goes back to its original shape after you have pulled it or pushed it ○ The mattress is so old the springs have burst through the cover. ○ There’s a spring to keep the door shut. 3. a strong cord or disc of special metal which absorbs energy and allows a vehicle to travel smoothly over uneven surfaces ○ The springs in the car are starting to squeak. 4. a place where a stream of water rushes out of the ground ○ The town of Bath was built in Roman times around hot springs. 5. a quick jump into the air ○ A little spring and he had reached the window sill. ○ verb to move suddenly ○ Everyone sprang to life when the officer shouted. ○ The door sprang open without anyone touching it. ○ to spring from to come suddenly from ○ Where on earth did you spring from?
springboard /ˈsprɪŋboʊd/ noun 1. a long flexible board used to dive or jump off 2. a thing used to help you start something ○ He bought a small company and used it as a springboard to enter the US market.
springbok /ˈsprɪŋbɒk/ noun a type of small deer found in Africa
Springboks /ˈsprɪŋbɒks/ plural noun the South African international rugby team
spring-clean /ˈsprɪŋ ˈkliːn/ verb to clean a house thoroughly ○ It took me a week to spring-clean the house. ○ noun the action of cleaning a house thoroughly ○ The house needs a complete spring-clean.
spring onion /ˈsprɪŋ ˈɑːnən/ noun a very small onion with long green leaves, used in salads and in cooking (NOTE: The US term is scallions.)
spring roll /ˈsprɪŋ rʊl/ noun a Chinese snack, made of vegetables or fish rolled in a light pancake and fried
springtime /ˈsprɪŋtaɪm/ noun the time of year when it is spring. Synonym spring
springsy /ˈsprɪŋsi/ adj 1. a springy step quick, light and flexible step ○ She walked with a springy step into the room. 2. which is very soft to walk on ○ We walked across the springy lawn. (NOTE: springier – springiest)
sprinkle /ˈspɹɪŋkl/ verb to scatter around
sprinkler /ˈspɹɪŋklər/ noun a device for sprinkling water
sprinkling /ˈspɹɪŋklɪŋ/ noun a small or thin scattering
sprint/sprɪnt/ noun a fast run, especially at the end of a race ○ He must save some energy for the final sprint. ○ verb to run very fast over a short distance ○ I had to sprint to catch the bus. ○ She sprinted down the track.
sprinter /ˈspreɪntə/ noun a runner who runs in sprint races
sprout /ˈspraut/ noun 1. a new shoot of a plant ○ The vine is covered with new sprouts. ■ verb to produce new shoots ○ Throw those old potatoes away, they're starting to sprout.

spruce /ˈspruːs/ noun a softwood tree growing in cold forests ○ a forest of spruce (NOTE: The plural is spruce or sometimes spuces.) ■ adj smart and clean ○ She looks spruce and elegant in her new uniform. Antonym scruffy ■ verb ○ to spruce yourself up to make yourself neat and tidy ○ The soldiers spruced themselves up before the general arrived.

sprung /ˈsprɔːŋ/ ○ spring spry /ˈspraɪ/ adj agile and lively

spud /ˈspʌd/ noun a potato (informal)

spun /ˈspʌn/ ○ spin

spur /ˈspɜːr/ noun 1. a sharp metal point attached to the heel of a rider's boot which jabs the horse to make it go faster ○ The cowboy put on his spurs and went to saddle up his horse. 2. □ to win your spurs to show your qualities for the first time ○ It's a chance for this young player to win his spurs at international level. 3. a thing which stimulates ○ The letter from the university was the spur that encouraged him to work harder. 4. ○ on the spur of the moment without being planned in advance ○ We decided on the spur of the moment to go to France. 5. a hill which leads from a higher mountain ○ The hill we climbed was a spur of the Rockies. 6. a minor road or railway line leading off a main one ○ A spur runs off from the road to the power station. ■ verb to urge someone on ○ The runners were spurred on by the shouts of the crowd. (NOTE: spur – spurred)

spurious /ˈspjʊəriəs/ adj not based on facts. Synonym false

spurn /ˈspɜːrn/ verb to reject an offer scornfully

spurt /ˈspɜːt/ noun 1. a strong jet of liquid ○ They tried to block the spurt of water coming out of the pipe. 2. a sudden sudden effort ○ He put on a spurt and won the race. ■ verb 1. ○ to spurt out to come out in a strong jet ○ Oil spurted out of the burst pipe. 2. to run fast suddenly ○ He spurted past two runners and came in first.

sputter /ˈspʌtə/ verb to send out sparks or small drops

spy /ˈspiː/ noun a person who is paid to try to find out secret information about the enemy or a rival group. ○ He was executed as a Russian spy. Synonym secret agent (NOTE: The plural is spies.) ■ verb to work as a spy ○ to spy on someone to watch someone in secret, to find out what they are planning to do ○ We discovered that our neighbours had been spying on us. ○ to spy for someone to find out secret information and pass it back to someone ○ He was accused of spying for the Americans.

spyhole /ˈspɪəˌhɑːl/ noun a small hole in a door for looking through to see who is there spying ○ The activity of trying to find out information secretly

sq. abbreviation square

squabble /ˈskwɔːbl/ noun an argument, especially about something unimportant ○ He got involved in a squabble between the taxi drivers over whose taxi he would take. ■ verb to argue ○ They spent the whole evening squabbling over money.

squad /ˈskwɔːd/ noun 1. a small group of soldiers who perform duties together ○ Corporal, take your squad and guard the prisoners. 2. a department in the police service ○ He's the head of the drags squad. ○ She's investigating on behalf of the fraud squad. 3. a group of players from whom a sports team will be chosen ○ The England squad for the World Cup has been selected.

squad car /ˈskwɔːd kær/ noun a police car on patrol duty

squadron /ˈskwɔːdrɒn/ noun a group of aircraft or of naval ships

squall /ˈskwɔːl/ adj unpleasant or dirty

squall /ˈskwɔːl/ noun a sudden gust of wind ○ A sudden squall capsized the boat. ■ verb to cry loudly ○ She came with her three squalling children.

squallor /ˈskwɔːlor/ noun dirty conditions or surroundings

squander /ˈskwɔːndər/ verb to waste money, energy or opportunity

square /ˈskwer/ noun 1. a shape with four equal sides and four right-angled corners ○ A chessboard is made up of black and white squares. ○ Graph paper is drawn with a series of small squares. ○ back to square one to start again from the point you originally started from (informal) ○ The test plane crashed, so it's back to square one again. 2. an open space in a town, with big buildings all round ○ The hotel is in the main square of the town, opposite the town hall. ○ Red Square is in the middle of Moscow. 3. (in mathematics) the result when a number is multiplied by itself ○ 9 is the square of 3. ■ adj 1. shaped like a square, with four equal sides and four right-angled corners ○ You can't fit six people round a small square table. ○ An A4 piece of paper isn't square. □ a square peg in a round hole someone whose character does not fit easily into a particular situation 2. making a 90° angle ○ There's not one corner in the room that is square. ○ honest and fair ○ Are you being square with me? □ square deal honest treatment in business ○ They didn't get a square deal from the tax office. ○ we're all square

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we do not owe each other anything (informal)
4. multiplied by itself ① square metre (in mathematics) the area of one metre multiplied by one metre ② verb 1. to make something square 2. to pay someone what is owed or to pay someone a bribe ③ They had to square a couple of local officials before the deal went through. 3. ① to square it with someone to see that someone gives approval (informal) ② Let me deal with it – I’ll square it with the inspector. 4. (in mathematics) to multiply a number by itself ③ squared is 9.

square brackets [ ] printing symbols used to enclose certain types of text

square dance /skweə dɑ/ noun a form of North American country dance, where sets of four couples dance forming a square

square dancing /skweə ˈdɑːnɪŋ/ noun the activity of doing a square dance

squarely /skweəli/ adverb in a direct and straightforward way ① He looked her squarely in the face. ② fairly and squarely directly, without any mistakes ③ They put the blame fairly and squarely on the bank.

square meal /skwɛl/ noun a large meal. Antonym snack

square (noun) /skwɔ/ noun a number which, multiplied by itself, will produce a square root ① the activity of doing a square dance ② a drink made of concentrated fruit juice to which water is added ③ a large vegetable similar to a marrow or pumpkin ④ a fast game for two players played in an enclosed court, with a small, squashy rubber ball and light, long-handled rackets ⑤ He plays squash to unwind after a day at the office. ⑥ Let’s play a game of squash. (NOTE: no plural)

squat /skwɔt/ verb 1. to crouch down, sitting on your heels ① She squatted on the floor, trying to get the stains out of the carpet ② to occupy an empty unused house belonging to another person, without permission and without paying rent ③ She squatted for a time with other students from the college. (NOTE: squatting – squatted) ④ adj short and thick ⑤ A squat lady in her sixties sat next to me on the bus. ⑥ The table looks too squat and doesn’t fit in here. Antonym slender (NOTE: squatter – squatting) ⑥ noun an empty house which people occupy illegally ⑥ The police raided the student squat.

squeak /skwiːk/ noun a short harsh cry of a bird ① There was a sudden squawk on the bushes, and a very angry pheasant ran out. ② verb to make short harsh cries ③ The eagle brought back some food for her squawking chicks.

squeaky /ˈskwiːki/ adjective which squeaks ① He spoke in a little squeaky voice. ② These squeaky hinges need oiling.

squeaky clean /ˈskwiːki kliːn/ noun 1. extremely clean ① All the work surfaces have to be squeaky clean. 2. morally pure ① The minister’s squeaky clean image has been tarnished by the scandal.

squeal /ˈskwiːl/ noun a loud high-pitched noise ① Angry squeals came from the pigsty. ② The children let out squeals of delight when they saw the presents under the Christmas tree. ③ verb 1. to make a loud high-pitched noise ② She squealed when she heard she had won first prize. ③ As the car turned the corner its tyres squealed. ④ to give the police information about someone (informal) ⑤ He squealed on his partners.

squeamish /ˈskwiːməʃi/ adjective likely to be upset by nasty things ① squeeze /skwiːz/ noun 1. the act of pressing or crushing ① I gave her hand a squeeze. 2. a situation where there is very little space to get into or through ① You can get through the hole, but it’s a tight squeeze. ② an amount pushed out ③ He put a squeeze of toothpaste on his brush. ④ a squeeze of lemon a few drops of lemon juice ⑤ verb 1. to press on something or to press or crush something like a fruit or a tube to get something out of it ② She squeezed my arm gently. ③ She squeezed an orange to get the juice. ④ She squeezed some toothpaste out onto her brush. ⑤ to force into a small space ⑥ You can’t squeeze six people into that little car. ⑥
More people tried to squeeze on the train even though it was full already. The cat managed to squeeze through the window.

squelch /skwel/ noun a noise similar to that made when walking in a wet sticky substance. verb to make a wet sucking noise. He squelched through the mud.

squid /skwɪd/ noun a sea animal with eight long arms or tentacles, smaller than an octopus. (NOTE: The plural is squid.)

squiggle /skwɪɡ(ə)/ noun a curvy, irregular line or mark.

squint /skwɪnt/ noun 1. a state where your two eyes look in different directions. He has a noticeable squint. 2. a look or glance. Let’s have a squint at that letter. verb 1. to have eyes which look in different directions. He squints badly, which makes it difficult to know who he is looking at. 2. to half-close your eyes to look at a something. He squinted through the keyhole but couldn’t see anything.

squirm /skwɜːm/ verb 1. to wriggle about. It makes me very embarrassed to feel very embarrassed. 2. to feel very embarrassed. It makes me very embarrassed.

squirrel /ˈskwɪr(ə)/ noun 1. a small red or grey wild animal with a large bushy tail which lives in trees and eats nuts. The squirrel sat up on a branch nibbling a nut. Squirrels hoard nuts for the winter. verb squirrel, squirel away to keep something safely so that you can use it later.

squirt /skwɜːrt/ noun 1. a thin jet of liquid. Just put a squirt of washing-up liquid in the bowl. 2. an annoying or small unpleasant person. (rude) That little squirt – you can beat him at tennis any day! verb to send out a thin jet of liquid. Don’t squirt so much washing-up liquid into the bowl. She squeezed the tube hard and masses of toothpaste squirted out. Synonym spurt.

squish /skwɪʃ/ verb to press, squeeze or crush something soft (informal). squishy /ˈskwɪʃi/ adj soft, squashy and wet (informal).

ssh /ʃ/ [inter] another spelling of sh

stab /stæb/ noun a deep wound made by the point of a knife. He died of stab wounds. verb to wound by jabbing with a sharp knife. He was stabbed in the chest. to stab someone in the back to do something nasty to someone who thinks you are his friend. She was stabbed in the back by people who owed their success to her.

stabilise /ˈstiːbləˌziː/ stabilise verb 1. to make firm. We need more weight on this side of the boat to stabilise it. The United Nations is sending in troops to try to stabilise the situation. 2. to become steady. Prices have stabilised.

stability /ˈstæbələti/ noun being stable or steady. Antonym instability.

stabiliser /ˈstiːblɪzər/ stabiliser noun 1. small wheels attached to a child’s bike to stop it falling over. She says she can ride without stabilisers now. 2. a piece put on the hull of a ship to prevent it from rolling. The crossing is much smoother in a ship fitted with stabilisers.

staff /stæf/ plural noun a place where horses are kept for breeding or racing. Stack /stæk/ noun a pile or heap of things. We need more weight on this staff appraisal.

staff appraisal noun 1. a series of short sharp feelings. He had stabbing pains in his chest. noun an attack where someone is stabbed

The stabbing of the young nurse shocked everyone.

staff /stæf/ noun.

staff appraisal noun 1. a series of short sharp feelings. He had stabbing pains in his chest.
tion, with some leaving and new people coming
2. a long stick ○ They attacked the beggars and beat them with staffs.
3. a set of five lines on which music is written. Also called \textit{stave} | \textbf{verb} to provide workers for an organisation ○ They are planning to staff the bar with part-timers. ○ The shop is staffed by idiots.

\textbf{staffer} /\textit{staffə}r/ \textbf{noun} US a member of the permanent staff (informal)

\textbf{staffing} /\textit{staffɪŋ}/ \textbf{noun} the process of providing workers for an organisation ○ staffing levels the number of members of staff required in a department for it to work efficiently

\textbf{staff room} /\textit{staff rʊm}/ \textbf{noun} a room for teachers in a school

\textbf{stag} /\textit{stæg}/ \textbf{noun} 1. an adult male deer ○ Don’t approach the stags in the autumn – they can be very dangerous. (NOTE: Female deer are does.) 2. a person who buys a new issue of shares and sells them immediately to make a profit ○ to stag an issue to buy a new issue of shares not as an investment, but to sell immediately at a profit ○ \textbf{stage} /\textit{stædʒ}/ \textbf{noun} 1. a raised floor, especially where the actors perform in a theatre ○ The pop group came onto the stage and started to sing. 2. \textbf{the stage} the profession of actor ○ She is planning to go on the stage. ○ He has chosen the stage as a career.

3. one of several points of development ○ The first stage in the process is to grind the ore to powder. ○ the different stages of a production process ○ \textbf{the contract is still in the drafting stage} the contract is still being drafted ○ in stages in different steps ○ The company has agreed to repay the loan in stages.

4. a section of a long journey ○ Stage one of the tour takes us from Paris to Bordeaux. ○ \textbf{in easy stages} not doing anything very difficult ○ We did the walk in easy stages.

5. The tour will cross India by easy stages. 5. each of the parts of a rocket ○ \textbf{verb} 1. to put on or arrange a play, a show, a musical or other performance or event ○ \textbf{The exhibition} is being staged in the college library. 2. to do or make something ○ \textbf{to stage a recovery} to recover ○ She has staged a remarkable recovery after her accident.

\textbf{stagecoach} /\textit{stædʒkəʊtʃ/ \textbf{noun} (in the 18th and 19th centuries) a horse-drawn passenger coach which used to run regularly along certain routes

\textbf{stage direction} /\textit{stædʒ dɪˈrekʃən}/ \textbf{noun} a note in the script of a play showing what the actors have to do

\textbf{stage fright} /\textit{stædʒ frɪt/ \textbf{noun} nervousness which actors feel before going onto the stage

\textbf{stage-manage} /\textit{stædʒ ˈmændʒ/ \textbf{verb} 1. to arrange something carefully so that it appears natural or easy. 2. (in the theatre) to organise a performance.

\textbf{stage manager} /\textit{stædʒ ˈmændʒə/ \textbf{noun} a person who organises a performance of a play, opera or other performance

\textbf{stage whisper} /\textit{stædʒ ˈwɪspa/ \textbf{noun} a loud whisper which everyone can hear

\textbf{stagger} /\textit{stæɡə/ \textbf{verb} 1. to walk unsteadily, almost falling down ○ She managed to stagger across the road and into the police station. ○ Three men staggered out of the pub. 2. to surprise someone enormously ○ I was staggered at the amount they charged for service. 3. to arrange something such as holidays or working hours, so that they do not all begin and end at the same time ○ We have to stagger the lunch hour so that there is always someone on the switchboard. ○ a noun an unsteady movement when someone walks ○ He walked with a noticeable stagger.

\textbf{staggered} /\textit{stæɡəd}/ \textbf{adj} 1. shocked or very surprised at something 2. not in a consecutive sequence or in a straight line

\textbf{staggering} /\textit{stæɡərɪŋ}/ \textbf{adj} very surprising. \textbf{Synonym astounding

\textbf{stagnant} /\textit{stægnənt/ \textbf{adj} 1. (of water) which does not flow, which is not pure enough to drink ○ The marsh was full of stagnant pools of brown water. ○ Mosquitoes breed in stagnant water. 2. (of business) not active, not increasing ○ Turnover was stagnant for the first half of the year. ○ There is a danger of the economy becoming stagnant.

\textbf{stagnate} /\textit{stæɡneɪt/ \textbf{verb} not to increase, not to make progress

\textbf{stain} /\textit{stɛɪn}/ \textbf{noun} serious and solemn. \textbf{Synonym sedate. \textbf{Antonym exciting

\textbf{stain} /\textit{stɛɪn}/ \textbf{noun} 1. a mark which is difficult to remove, such as ink or blood ○ It is difficult to remove coffee stains from the tablecloth. ○ There was a round stain on the table where he had put his wine glass. 2. a liquid paint used to give a different colour to wood ○ We bought some dark green stain for the furniture in the conservatory. ○ \textbf{verb} 1. to make a mark of a different colour on something ○ If you eat those blueberries they will stain your teeth. ○ The tablecloth was stained with strawberries jam. ○ His shirt was stained with blood. 2. to colour something with a stain; to put a stain on a surface ○ \textbf{The door will be stained light brown.

\textbf{stained} /\textit{stɛnt/ \textbf{adjective} coloured with a liquid ○ \textbf{He went to change his stained shirt. \textbf{Suffix which has been coloured with a liquid ○ his ink-stained fingers ○ her blood-stained clothes

\textbf{stained glass} /\textit{stɛntd ˈglaɪs/ \textbf{noun} glass which has been coloured, used for making church windows
stainless steel

stainless steel /ˈstɜːnləs ˈstɛl/ noun a type of steel with a high percentage of chromium in it, which makes it less likely to rust.

stair /steɪər/ noun one step in a series of steps, going up or down inside a building. 

class: He was sitting on the bottom stair. 

staircase /stɛərkeɪs/ noun a set of stairs which go from one floor inside or outside a building to another.

stairway /ˈstɛərweɪ/ plural noun steps which go up or down inside a building. Synonym staircase

stake /ˈstɛik/ noun 1. a strong pointed piece of wood or metal, pushed into the ground to mark something, or to hold something up.  
2. to stake money on something to say in public that you have the right to own something.  
As soon as we arrived at the hotel she staked her claim to the only room with a view of the sea. 
2. to risk something.  
He staked his reputation on the libel action. 
I'd stake my life on it, he's not guilty.

stall /ˈstɔːl/ plural noun 1. seats on the ground floor in a theatre or cinema. 
2. a compartment for animals in a building such as a stable. 
Each horse had its own stall with its name on it.

stallion /ˈstɔːlʃən/ noun an adult male horse, especially one kept for breeding.

stall /ˈstɔːl/ plural noun 1. rows of seats for the choir in a church

stalwart /ˈstɔːrwt/ adjective strong, vigorous or brave  
He has a stalwart defence of basic human rights.

stamina /ˈstæmənə/ noun the strength to do something over a long period.

stammer /ˈstæmər/ verb to hesitate and repeat sounds when speaking.  
He stammers badly when making speeches. 
She rushed into the police station and stammered out ‘he’s – he’s – he’s after me, he’s got – got – a knife.’

stallholder /ˈstɛkhaʊldə/ noun a person who has a trade in a building, such as a shareholding, an employee or a supplier, etc.

stalactite /ˈstɛləkətət/ noun a long pointed growth of mineral from the ceiling of a cave, formed by the continuous dripping of water which is rich in minerals.

stalagmite /ˈstɛləgmaɪt/ noun a long pointed growth of mineral growing from the floor of a cave, formed by the continuous dripping of water from the end of a stalactite.

stalemate /ˈstɛlmət/ noun 1. (in chess) a situation where neither player can make any move permitted by the rules, and so no one wins.  
2. a situation where neither side will compromise.  
The discussions have reached a stalemate. 
Negotiations are continuing to try to break the stalemate or to find a way out of the stalemate.

stall /ˈstɔːl/ noun the stem of a plant which holds a leaf, a flower or a fruit.  
Cherries are often sold attached to stalks in pairs.

stake /stɛk/ verb 1. to walk proudly or angrily.  
She stalked into the committee room. 
2. to stay near and watch someone all the time, especially in a way that they find threatening.  
The photographers stalked the film star.

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stall /ˈstɔːl/ plural noun 1. seats on the ground floor in a theatre or cinema. 
2. a compartment for animals in a building such as a stable. 
Each horse had its own stall with its name on it.

stallion /ˈstɔːlʃən/ noun an adult male horse, especially one kept for breeding.

stall /ˈstɔːl/ plural noun 1. rows of seats for the choir in a church

stalwart /ˈstɔːrwt/ adjective strong, vigorous or brave  
He has a stalwart defence of basic human rights.

stamina /ˈstæmənə/ noun the strength to do something over a long period.

stammer /ˈstæmər/ verb to hesitate and repeat sounds when speaking.  
He stammers badly when making speeches. 
She rushed into the police station and stammered out ‘he’s – he’s – he’s after me, he’s got – got – a knife.’

stall /ˈstɔːl/ plural noun 1. a small moveable stand in a market, where a trader displays and sells his goods.  
He has a flower stall at Waterloo Station. 
We wandered round the market looking at the stalls. 
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A machine for making a mark on something

A mark made on something

The invoice has the stamp 'received with thanks' on it.

The customs officer looked at the stamps in his passport.

A mark on a letter or parcel

All the envelopes need to be sealed and stamped.

They stamped my passport when I entered the country.

To walk heavily, banging your feet on the ground

They stamped on the ants to kill them.

He was so angry that he stamped out of the room.

To make a noise by banging your feet on the ground

The audience stamped on the floor in time to the music.

An uncontrolled movement of many animals or people

After the film finished there was a stampede for the doors.

To move in an uncontrolled way

The herd of buffalo stampeded down the valley.

To stamp someone into (doing) something

They tried to stampede us into voting for their proposal.

To stop something

Spread the word

The standard of service in this restaurant is very high.

A large official flag

The royal standard flies over Buckingham Palace.

A tree or bush grown with a tall trunk

Do you prefer an ordinary rosebush or a standard?

A standard unit

A standard test book

A standard English

The standard of service in this restaurant is very high.

This piece of work is not up to your usual standard.

An excellent quality which is set as a target

This product does not meet our standards.

She has set a standard which it will be difficult to match.

A large official flag

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The standard of service in this restaurant is very high.
day at the exhibition is very tiring.

Several people just stood by and made no attempt to help.

We have several fire engines standing by.

give help

She stood by him while he was in prison.

standing by

something which is good to have ready in case you need it

something which is painted pink.

The picture would stand out better against a white wall.

Two of the young musicians stood out for their interpretations of Bach.

We have a doctor on standby.

Several fire engines standing by.

The children should stand up.

The children should stand up.

No one would stand up straight and face forward.

We were going to take back items we don’t want.
of the Chinese diet. **adj** main **vb** to fasten papers together with a staple or with staples. **vb** Don’t staple the cheque to the order form. **vb** to staple papers together to attach various papers with a staple or with staples. **vb** All these papers need to be stapled together and filed.

**staple diet** /step(ə)l/ *dast/ **n** the main part of what you eat
**staple product** /step(ə)l/ *prədʌkt/ **n** the main product of a country or town

**stapler** /steplər/ *prələr/ **n** a device used to attach papers together with staples

**star** /stɑːr/ **n** 1. a bright object which can be seen in the sky at night like a very distant bright light. **vb** On a clear night you can see thousands of stars. **vb** The pole star shows the direction of the North Pole. 2. **vb** thank your lucky stars consider yourself very lucky (informal) **vb** Thank your lucky stars that you were not on that train. 3. a shape that has several points like a star. **vb** Draw a big star and colour it red. 4. a printing symbol shaped like a star. **vb** A star next to a word refers you to the footnotes. Also called asterisk. 5. a classification sign for hotels and restaurants. **vb** We stayed in a two-star hotel and found it perfectly comfortable. 6. a famous person who is very well known to the public. **vb** the Chelsea football star. **vb** Who is your favourite film star? **vb** 1. to appear as a main character in a film or play. **vb** She starred in 'Gone with the Wind'. **vb** He has a starring role in the new production of 'Guys and Dolls'. 2. to include a famous actor or actress. **vb** The film stars Bette Grable and John Wayne. 3. to mark a text with a star. **vb** Read the starred instructions carefully. **vb** (NOTE: starring – starred)

**starboard** /stɑːrboʊrd/ **n** the right-hand side of a ship or aircraft when facing the front. Antonym port

**starch** /stɑːrʃ/ **n** 1. the usual form in which carbohydrates exist in food, especially in bread, rice and potatoes. **vb** To get a balanced diet you need to eat both protein and starch. 2. a white powder mixed with water to make cloth stiff **vb** to make cloth stiff with starch. **vb** She starched his shirt collars.

**starchy** /stɑːrʃɪ/ **adj** 1. (of food) which contains a lot of starch. **vb** Children eat too much starchy food. 2. very formal **vb** His starchy manner put everyone off.

**stardom** /stɑːdəm/ **n** the state of being a film star, a football star etc. Synonym fame. Antonym anonymity

**stare** /stɑːr/ **vb** 1. to look at someone or something for a long time. **vb** She stared sadly out of the window at the rain. 2. **vb** to stare someone in the face to be very obvious (informal) **vb** He couldn’t find the answer even if it was staring him in the face. **n** a long fixed look. **vb** He gave her a stare and walked on.

**starfish** /ˈstɑːrʃɪʃ/ **n** a flat sea animal, with five arms branching like a star from a central body. (NOTE: The plural is starfish.)

**staring** /ˈstɑːrɪŋ/ **adj** which looks steadily for a long time. **vb**

**stark** /stɑːrk/ **adj** 1. complete **vb** He stared at the figures in stark disbelief. 2. bare and simple **vb** a stark lunar landscape. **vb** the stark outline of the rocks. (NOTE: starker – starkest)

**vb** adv completely **vb** I don’t usually walk round the house stark naked. **vb** stark staring mad. **vb** stark raving mad. completely mad. **vb** You must be stark staring mad even to think of swimming in the North Sea on Christmas Day.

**starlet** /ˈstɑːrlɛt/ **n** a young film actress who hopes to become famous one day

**starlight** /ˈstɑːrlaɪt/ **n** the light from the stars

**starling** /ˈstɑːrlɪŋ/ **n** a common dark European bird with a green gloss to its feathers

**starlith** /ˈstɑːrlɪθ/ **adj** lit by the light of the stars

**starry** /ˈstɑːrɪ/ **adj** covered with stars

**starry-eyed** /ˈstɑːrɪ ɪd/ **adj** unrealistically optimistic about your future life or career

**Stars and Stripes** /ˈstɑːrzn ˈstrɑːps/ **n** the flag of the United States. (NOTE: takes a singular or plural verb)

**star sign** /ˈstɑːr sɛn/ **n** the sign of the zodiac which marks your birth

**star-studded** /ˈstɑːr stʊdɪd/ **adj** including many film or stage stars

**vb** start /stɑːt/ 1. the beginning of something. **vb** Building the house took only six months from start to finish. **vb** Things went wrong from the start. **vb** Let’s forget all you’ve done up to now, and make a fresh start. **vb** for a start as the first point. **vb** For a start, tell me the exact time when you made the phone call. 2. **vb** leaving for a journey. **vb** We’re planning on a 6 o’clock start. **vb** let’s make an early start tomorrow. **vb** let’s leave early. 3. a place where a race begins. **vb** The cars were lined up at the start. 4. **vb** being in advance of other competitors. **vb** We’ll never catch them, they have three hours’ start on us. **vb** I’ll give you four yards’ start. 5. a sudden jump of surprise. **vb** She gave a start when he put his hand on her shoulder. **vb** verb. 1. to begin to do something. **vb** When you learn Russian, you have to start by learning the alphabet. **vb** The babies all started to cry or all started crying at the same time. **vb** He started to eat or he started eating his dinner before the rest of the family. **vb** Take an umbrella – it’s starting to rain. **vb** to start with first of all. **vb** We have lots to do but to start with we’ll do the washing up. 2. **vb** to leave on a
starter /ˈsteɪtər/ noun 1. a person who starts doing something ○ There were sixty starters at the beginning of a car race.
2. a gun fired to start a race.
3. a piece of clothing which you fire to start a race.
4. a place where something begins.

startled /ˈstɑːrtəld/ verb to make someone suddenly surprised.

statement /ˈsteɪtmənt/ noun 1. a section of the US government dealing with foreign affairs (NOTE: In the UK, the equivalent is the Foreign Office.)
2. a written or spoken description of something that happened.
3. a written or spoken description of something that happened ○ She made a statement about her experiences.

starving /ˈstɑːrving/ adj who do not have enough to eat ○ Relief workers tried to bring supplies to the starving people.

starved /ˈstɑːrvd/ verb 1. not to have enough food ○ Many people starved to death in the desert.
2. to starve someone of something not to give enough supplies to someone ○ The service is being starved of funds.
state of affairs 841 staunch

ment to the police. 3. a list of invoices and credits and debits sent by a supplier to a cus-
tomer at the end of each month ○ I want to query something in last month's statement. □
monthly or quarterly statement a statement which is sent every month or every quarter
state of affairs /ˈstæt(ə)n/ noun a general situation
state of emergency /ˈstæt(ə)n/ ɪ-ˈmɜːdzɪŋ/ noun a time when the police or armed forces are in control of a country
state of mind /ˈstæt(ə)n/ ˈmeɪnd/ noun a person's feelings at a particular time
state-of-the-art /ˈstæt(ə)n ə ˈɔt/ adj technically as advanced as possible. Antonym antiquated
state-owned /ˈstæt wʊnd/ adj owned by the country or government and not by private individuals
States /ˈsteɪts/ noun the United States of America (informal)
state school /ˈstæt skjuː/ noun a school which is funded by the state (NOTE: The US term is public school.)
stateside /ˈstætstsid/ adj, adv US in or to the United States of America
statesman /ˈstætzmən/ noun an experienced political leader or representative of a country (NOTE: The plural is statesmen.)
statesmanlike /ˈstætzmənlɪk/ adj wise and skilful, because of experience
statesmanship /ˈstætzmənʃip/ noun 1. skill in the government of a country 2. the ability to be a wise and skilful
state trooper /ˈstæt ˈtrʊpər/ noun US a policeman from a state police force
statewide /ˈstætwaɪd/ adj US referring to the United States as whole
static /ˈstætɪk/ adj not changing, moving or growing ○ Sales have remained static for the last two months. □ noun 1. electrical interference in the air which disturbs a radio signal 2. same as static electricity ○ When I touched the car door the static gave me a shock.
static electricity /ˈstætɪk ɪlekˈtrɪstɪk/ noun an electric charge that does not flow, as opposed to electricity which is flowing in a current ○ station /ˈstæt(ə)n/ noun 1. a place where trains stop and passengers get on or off ○ The train leaves the Central Station at 14:15. ○ This is a fast train – it doesn’t stop at every station. □ We’ll try to get a sandwich at the station buffet. Also called railway sta-
tion, train station 2. a large main building for a service ○ The fire station is just down the road from us. ○ He was arrested and taken to the local police station. □ verb to place someone officially in a place ○ Soldiers were stationed in the frontier towns.
Police were stationed all along the route of the procession.
stationary /ˈstætʃənəri/ adj not moving, standing still. Synonym motionless (NOTE: Do not confuse with stationary.)
stationer /ˈstætʃənər/ noun a person who has a shop which sells stationery ○ the sta-
tioner’s a shop which sells stationery ○ Go to the stationer’s and get me some envelopes.
stationery /ˈstætʃənəri/ noun materials used when writing, such as paper, envelopes, pens and ink (NOTE: no plural. Do not con-
fuse with stationary.)
statistic /ˈstætɪstɪk/ noun a fact given in the form of numbers
statistical /ˈstætɪstɪkl/ adj referring to statistics
statistician /ˌstætɪstɪʃən/ noun a person who studies or analyses statistics
statistics /ˈstætɪstɪks/ plural noun facts given in the form of numbers □ noun the study of facts in the form of numbers
statue /ˈstætjuː/ noun a figure of a person or animal made from a substance such as stone or metal
statuette /ˈstætʃət/ noun a very small statue
statute /ˈstætjuːt/ noun 1. height ○ her im-
posing stature 2. importance ○ His stature in the party has never been greater.
status /ˈstætəs/ noun 1. height ○ her im-
posing stature 2. importance ○ His stature in the party has never been greater.
status quo /ˈstætəs kwoʊ/ noun the state of things as they are now
status symbol /ˈstætəs ˈsɪm bol/ noun a thing which you use which shows that you are more important than someone else ○ the chairman’s car is a just status symbol the size of his car shows how important he or his company is
statute /ˈstætʃuːt/ noun a written law, established in an Act of Parliament
statute book /ˈstætʃuːt bʊk/ noun a list of all the laws passed by Parliament which are still in force
statutory /ˈstætʃuərɪ/ adj imposed by law
staunch /ˈstɑntʃ/ adj firm ○ She’s my staunchest friend. ○ They are staunch sup-
porters of the Conservative party. Synonym loyal (NOTE: stanch – stauncher) □ verb to stop blood flowing ○ They tried to staunch the blood by putting ice on the wound. ○ They tied a bandage tightly round his arm in an attempt to staunch the flow of blood.
stave /ˈsteɪv/ noun 1. one of several curved pieces of wood which form the sides of a barrel. 2. a set of five lines on which music is written. Also called staff.

stave in /ˈsteɪv in/ verb to make a hole from the outside to the inside of something

The little boat hit the rocks and one of its sides was staved in.

stay /steɪ/ verb 1. not to change  ○ The temperature stayed below zero all day. ○ In spite of the fire, he stayed calm. ○ I won’t be able to stay awake until midnight. 2. to stop in a place ○ They came for lunch and stayed until after midnight. ○ I’m rather tired so I’ll stay at home tomorrow. ○ He’s ill and has to stay in bed. 3. to stop in a place as a visitor ○ The tour of Scotland. ○ Where will you be staying when you’re in New York? ○ My parents are staying at the Hotel London.

stay away /ˈsteɪ ə ˈweɪ/ verb not to come or go to something

stay in /ˈsteɪ in/ verb to stop at home instead of going out

staying power /ˈsteɪɪŋ er poʊər/ noun the energy to keep on doing something until the job is finished. Synonym stamina

stay of execution /ˈsteɪ ə ˈekskɪˈkjuːʃən/ noun a delay in putting a legal order into effect

stay out /ˈsteɪ əʊt/ verb to remain away from home

stay put /ˈsteɪ put/ verb to stay where you are and not move

stay up /ˈsteɪ ap/ verb not to go to bed

STD abbr sexually transmitted disease

steal /stel/ verb 1. to take and keep something which belongs to another person without permission ○ Someone tried to steal my handbag. ○ She owned up to having stolen the jewels. ○ Did the burglar steal all your CDs? – I’m afraid so. ○ He was arrested for stealing, but the judge let him off with a fine. 2. to steal a glance or look at to look at quickly and secretly at someone or something ○ While the boss wasn’t looking she stole a glance at the papers on his desk.

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steal away /ˈsteɪ əl ə wɛ/ verb to go away very quietly ○ He stole away under cover of darkness.

steal a march on someone to do something in a stealthy way before someone else can do it

stealth /stelθ/ noun ○ by stealth in a secret way, without anyone knowing ○ They tried to get into the government laboratory by stealth.

stealthy /stelθi/ adj without anyone knowing or seeing. Synonym furtive

steam /stem/ noun 1. the vapour which comes off hot or boiling water ○ Clouds of steam were coming out of the kitchen. 2. to let off steam to get rid of energy or annoyance by doing something strenuous (informal) ○ We sent the children out to play football in the garden to let off steam.

steamroller /ˈsteɪəmˌroʊlər/ noun a very heavy vehicle with a large cylinder as a front wheel, used to flatten new road surfaces

verb to force everyone to do what you want
steamship /ˈstɛmʃɪp/ noun a large ship powered by steam
steam up /ˈstɛm up/ verb 1. to become covered with steam 2. to get all steamed up about something to get angry about something (informal) ▶ Don’t get all steamed up – it’s not a major crisis.
steamily /ˈstɛmɪli/ adj. 1. hot and humid, as if full of steam ▶ She chose a steamy summer day to visit London.
steamier /ˈstɛmiər/ adj. 1. strongly determined ▶ He steeled himself for a very awkward interview with the police.
steal /stɪl/ noun a strong metal made from iron and carbon ▶ Steel knives are best for the kitchen.
steel band /ˈstɛl bænd/ noun a band which plays West Indian music on steel drums of different sizes which make different notes
steel wool /ˈstɛlwʊl/ noun a mass of very fine steel wire used to clean metal surfaces
stem /stɛm/ noun 1. the tall thin part of a plant or tree ▶ A shrub with ivy growing up the stem. 2. a part of a wine glass like a collar ▶ Wine glasses with coloured stems.
stem from /ˈstɛm frəm/ verb to try to prevent something flowing or spreading ▶ First, try to stem the flow of blood. ▶ The police are trying to stem the rising tide of crime. (NOTE: stemming – stemmed)
stemming – stencilled /ˈstemɪŋg/ noun an unpleasant strong smell. Synonym: stink. Antonym: fragrance
steer /stɪr/ verb 1. to make a vehicle go in a particular direction ▶ She steered the car into a ditch. 2. to steer clear of to avoid something ▶ I steer clear of greasy food.
steering /ˈstɛrɪŋ/ noun the parts of a vehicle which control the direction in which it travels
steering committee /ˈstɛrɪŋ kəˌmiˌti/ noun a small committee which manages the early stages of a project and checks on its progress, or which does the preparatory work for another body
steering wheel /ˈstɛrɪŋ wil/ noun a wheel which is turned by the driver to make a vehicle go in a particular direction
stellar /ˈstɛlər/ adj referring to stars
stencil /ˈstɛnsəl/ noun a sheet of card which control the direction in which it travels
stencil – stencilled /ˈstɛnsəl/ verb to try to prevent something flowing or spreading ▶ First, try to stem the flow of blood.
stench /stɛntʃ/ noun an unpleasant strong smell. Synonym: stink. Antonym: fragrance
stent /stɛnt/ noun a small committee which manages the early stages of a project and checks on its progress, or which does the preparatory work for another body
stenographer /ˈstɛnəˌɡrəfɚ/ noun a person who can write spoken words fast in a special writing system
step /stɛp/ noun 1. a movement of your foot when walking ▶ I wonder when the baby will take his first steps. 2. Take a step sideways and you will be able to see the castle. ▶ to retrace your steps to go back the same way as you have just come ▶ To find the Post Office, he had to retrace his steps to the traff-
registration form and then turn right. 2. to take one step forward and two steps back not to advance very quickly 3. a regular movement of feet at the same time as other people 4. in step moving your feet at the same rate as everybody else 5. out of step moving your feet at a different rate from everyone else 6. One of the squad always gets out of step. 7. in step with something at the same rate or speed as something 8. House prices have risen in step with salaries. 9. out of step with something moving at a different rate or speed from something 10. Wages have got out of step with the rise in the cost of living.

The company wants to step up production to 2,000 units a day.

Surgical instruments must be sterilised before used.

Sterilisation was a useful stepping-stone to becoming a manager.

to sound which comes through from two different loudspeakers.
sterility 845

have children ○ A vasectomy is a surgical operation to sterilise men.

sterility /sterˈɪləti/ noun 1. being free from infectious organisms ○ It is essential to ensure the sterility of all equipment in the operating theatre. 2. being unable to produce offspring ○ Increased sterility has been found in men living near the nuclear site. Antonym fertility

sterling /ˈstɛrlɪŋ/ noun British currency ○ The prices are quoted in sterling. 1. adj of a high standard (formal) ○ She has many sterling qualities. ○ This old coat has done sterling service over the years.

sterling silver /ˈstɛrlɪŋ ˈsʌlvər/ noun silver of a standard high purity

stern /stɛrn/ adj serious and strict ○ The judge addressed some stern words to the boys. (NOTE: stern – sternest) 1. noun the back part of a ship ○ The stern of the ship was damaged. ○ stem (NOTE: The front part is the bow)

sternum /ˈstɛrnəm/ noun a bone in the centre of the front of the chest to which most of the ribs are attached (technical) Also called breastbone

steroid /ˈsterɔɪd/ noun 1. one of several natural chemical compounds which affect the body and its functions 2. a synthetic chemical used to treat some disorders and also used by some athletes to improve their strength ○ Some athletes to improve their strength ○ used to treat some disorders and also used by some athletes to improve their strength 3. a protein produced by the Leydig cells of the testes ○ Some athletes to improve their strength ○ used to treat some disorders and also used by some athletes to improve their strength 4. called stetson ○ a tall cowboy hat with a wide brim 5. called docker (NOTE: The US term is longshoreman).

stew /stjuː/ noun 1. a dish of meat and vegetables cooked together for a long time ○ This lamb stew is a French recipe. 2. □ in a stew feeling anxious because of being in an awkward situation (informal) ○ Having lost my wallet, I’m in a bit of a stew. □ verb 1. to cook for a long time in liquid ○ Stew the apples until they are completely soft. 2. □ to stew in your own juice to suffer the bad effects of something you have done (informal) ○ Don’t lend him any more money, leave him to stew in his own juice for a while.

steward /ˈstjuːdɔr/ noun 1. a man who looks after passengers, and serves food and drink on a ship or aircraft (dated) (NOTE: The plural is stewardesses.)

stewardess /ˈstjuːdɔrˌɛs/ noun a woman who looks after passengers and serves food and drink on a ship or aircraft (dated) (NOTE: The plural is stewardesses.)

1. □ stick /stɪk/ noun 1. a thin piece of wood ○ He jabbed a pointed stick into the hole. ○ I need a strong stick to tie this plant to. 2. a thin branch of a tree ○ anything long and thin ○ a stick of celery ○ a stick of chewing gum ○ verb 1. to attach with glue ○ Can you stick the pieces of the cup together again? ○ She stuck the stamp on the letter. ○ They stuck a poster on the door. ○ to be fixed or not to be able to move ○ The car was stuck in the mud. ○ The door sticks – you need to push it hard to open it. ○ The cake will stick if you don’t grease the tin. ○ He was stuck in Italy without any money. 3. to push something into something ○ He stuck his hand into the hole. ○ She stuck her finger in the jam to taste it. ○ She stuck the ticket into her bag. ○ She stuck a needle into her finger. 4. to stay in a place ○ Stick close to your mother and you won’t get lost. □ to stick together to stay together ○ If we stick together they should let us into the club. □ to stick to your guns to keep to your point of view even if everyone says you are wrong. 5. to put up with ○ I don’t know how she can stick working in that office. ○ I’m going, I can’t stick it here any longer. (NOTE: sticking – stuck /stʌkt/)

2. □ sticker /ˈstɪkər/ noun a small piece of paper or plastic which you can stick on something to show a price, as a decoration or to advertise something

sticking plaster /ˈstɪkɪŋ ˈplɑːstər/ noun a small strip of cloth with gauze in the middle, which can be stuck to the skin to cover a wound (NOTE: The US term is a tradename: Band-Aid.)

sticking point /ˈstɪkɪŋ pɔɪnt/ noun a point where something stops and which prevents the discussion going forward. Synonym stumbling block

stick-in-the-mud /ˈstɪk ɪn dɪz ˈmʌd/ noun an old-fashioned person who refuses to change his habits (informal) Synonym reactionary

stickler /ˈstɪklər/ noun someone who insists on the correctness of details

stick out /ˈstɪk ət/ verb 1. to push something out ○ to stick your tongue out at someone to make a rude gesture by putting your tongue out of your mouth as far as it will go ○ That little girl stuck out her tongue at me! 2. to be further forward or extended away from something ○ Your wallet is sticking out of your pocket. ○ The balcony sticks out over the road. 3. □ to stick out a mile or
stiffness /ˈstɪfɪzn/ noun 1. having muscle pains after doing exercise, or being unable to move easily because of damaged joints  

stiffness in the joints. 2. the quality of being stiff  

The stiffness of the material makes it unsuitable for a dress.

stiffen /ˈstɪf(ə)n/ verb 1. to become or make stiff  

As you get older, your joints stiffen. 2. to become cautious or unfriendly  

She stiffened when she heard his voice. 3. (of wind) to become stronger  

The boats raced across the bay as the breeze stiffened. 4. to make stronger  

The TV broadcasts helped to stiffen resistance to the government’s new measures.

stiffly /ˈstɪflɪ/ adv in a stiff way

stiffly /ˈstɪflɪ/ adv in a stiff way

Their house sticks out a mile because it is painted pink.

sticks /stɪks/ noun □ in the sticks in the depths of the country  

Living in the sticks, they know nothing about what is happening in London.

stick up /stɪk ʌp/ verb 1. to be further up above a surface or to extend beyond a surface  

The aerial sticks up above the roof of the car. 2. to attach something to something such as a wall or noticeboard for people to see  

She stuck up a notice about the village fête. 3. □ stick ‘em up! put your hands up! (informal)

stick ‘em up!

sticker /ˈstɪkə/ noun 1. covered with something which sticks like glue  

My fingers are still there. 2. with glue on one side so that it sticks easily  

Sticky tape is painted pink.

stiff drink /ˈstɪf drɪŋk/ noun an alcoholic drink with very little water added

There was no wind, and the surface of the lake was completely still.

The firemen were still labouring to prevent yourself from yawning. He had difficulty in stifling a yawn.

stifling /ˈstɪflɪŋ/ adj 1. which makes it difficult to breathe  

Stifling black smoke made them cough. 2. extremely hot  

He stepped off the plane into the stifling heat of the Louisiana sunshine.

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fence. Bourgeois will kick up a stink if you damage their properties.

should act as a stimulant to the economy.

2.

second.

Tax cuts should and give the mixture a stir. 

stir-fry /stɜːfri/ verb to cook vegetables or meat quickly in hot oil, while continuously stirring. 

stir-fry the vegetables separately, and give the mixture a stir. 

You should give the porridge an occasional stir. 

You should give the porridge an occasional stir. 

The exhibition caused a stir in the art world.

stir-fry /stir-fry/ verb to cook vegetables or meat quickly in hot oil, while continuously stirring. 

stir-fry the vegetables separately, and not all together. 

Vegetables or meat cooked quickly in a little hot oil. 

We had a beef stir-fry. 

She made a stir-fry of vegetables and bamboo shoots.

stirring /stɜːrɪŋ/ adj exciting, encouraging. 

Synonym: Rousing

stirrup /stɜːrɪp/ noun a metal loop hanging from the saddle into which a rider puts his or her foot.

stirrup /stɜːrɪp/ noun a metal loop hanging from the saddle into which a rider puts his or her foot.

stir up /stɜːr ʌp/ verb to encourage strong emotions or reactions. 

The fans came with the deliberate intention of stirring up trouble.

stitch /stɪʃ/ noun 1. a little loop of thread made with a needle in sewing or with knitting needles when knitting. 

She used very small stitches in her embroidery. 

Very fine wool will give you more stitches than in the pattern. 

2. clothes or a stitch to wear nothing suitable to wear. 

How can I go to the party – I haven’t a stitch to wear. 

with not a stitch on completely naked. 

I can’t come now, I haven’t a stitch on. 

3. a small loop of thread used by a surgeon to attach the sides of a wound together to help it to heal. 

She had three stitches in her arm. 

Come back in ten days’ time to have the stitches removed.

4. a sharp pain caused by cramp in the side of the body after you have been run-
count the items in a warehouse

stitched the wound.

of women's clothing which covers all of a warehouse on the stocks.

ished writing one book and now has another thing kept to use when needed

dard /L50765

2. his jacket.

4. the situation and decide what to do next.

in an accident and the surgeon tried to stitch

His finger was cut off in an accident and the surgeon tried to stitch it back on.

2. stock /stʊk/ noun 1. a supply of something kept to use when needed 2. large stocks of coal 3. quantities of goods for sale (NOTE: The US term is inventory.) 4. investments in a company, represented by shares 5. fat stock animals reared for meat 6. live stock 7. the plant on which a graft is made 8. a liquid made from boiling bones in water, used as a base for soups and sauces 9. the stocks being worked on 10. the handle of a rifle

verb 1. to attach something with a needle and thread 2. to sew the sides of a wound together 3. After the operation, the surgeon stitched the wound.

His story about the school play had us all in stitches. (NOTE: The US term is guffaws)

She stitched the badge to his jacket.

She stitched the handle of a rifle.

2. in stitches laughing out loud

We are out of stock of this item

We need to take stock of the situation and decide what to do next.

We started to stockpile raw materials in case there was a rail strike.

to take stock of a situation to assess how bad a situation is

We are out of stock of this item

Out of stock not available in the shop or warehouse

We are out of stock of this item or this item is out of stock.

to take stock to count the items in a warehouse

They take stock every evening after the store closes.

to take stock of a situation to assess how bad a situation is

We need to take stock of the situation and decide what to do next.

4. investments in a company, represented by shares 5. family and ancestors 6. pedigree farm animals 7. Stock Exchange a place where shares are bought and sold. Also called stock exchange

stockpile /stʊkpaɪl/ noun large supplies of something kept by a country or company for future use 8. the stock of a company's stockpile of weapons

verb to collect large supplies of something together in case you need them in the future

We started to stockpile raw materials in case there was a rail strike.

stocks and shares /stʊks an / shares in ordinary companies

stocktaking /stʊkˈteɪkɪŋ/ noun counting and listing the existing stock in a shop or business

stock up /stʊk ʌp/ verb to buy supplies for use in the future

stocky /stʊkɪ/ adj with large shoulders, a strong body and short, strong legs. Antonym slight

stodge /stɒdʒ/ noun a heavy filling food, such as a pudding

stodgy /stʊdʒɪ/ adj (of food) heavy and filling

stot /stɒt/ noun a person who accepts problems or pain without complaining

stoical /stʊˈtʃəl/ adj accepting what happens without complaining

stoically /stʊˈtʃiːkli/ adv in a way which accepts problems or pain without complaining

stoke /stʊk/ verb to put wood or coal into a fire

stole /stʊl/ noun a wide light scarf worn around the shoulders 9. She wore a pale blue stole with her evening dress.

shawl /stʊl/ verb to steal

stolen /stʊlən/ noun steal

stolid /stʊldɪ/ adj serious, not easily excited. Synonym impassive. Antonym emotional

stomach /stɒmək/ noun 1. a part of the body shaped like a bag, into which food passes after being swallowed and where it continues to be digested 2. the area round the abdomen

He had been kicked in the stomach. (NOTE: The US term is stomach)

He has had stomach trouble for some time.

I don't want anything to eat – my stomach's upset or

I couldn't finish it 2. the area round the abdomen

He had been kicked in the stomach.

big

They left the meeting
tolerate

stomach 848

stock 1.

stomach upset.

or

My stomach upset.

1. in stitches laughing out loud

She was in stitches laughing out loud.

2. in stitches laughing out loud

He couldn't finish it.

Eating

He couldn't finish it.

Food

He couldn't finish it.
stomach ache /ˈstʌmək ɛık/ noun a pain in the abdomen

stomach upset /ˈstʌmək ˌʌpset/ noun a slight infection of the stomach

stomp /stɒmp/ verb to walk with heavy steps

○ stone /ˈstau n/ noun 1. a very hard material, found in the earth, used for building. ○ All the houses in the town are built in the local grey stone. ○ The stone carvings in the old church date from the 15th century. ○ Stone floors can be very cold. (NOTE: no plural: some stone, a piece of stone, a block of stone) 2. a small piece of stone ○ The children were playing at throwing stones into the pond. ○ The beach isn’t good for bathing as it’s covered with very sharp stones. 3. a British measure of weight equal to 14 pounds or 6.35 kilograms ○ She’s trying to lose weight and so far has lost a stone and a half. ○ He weighs twelve stone ten (i.e. 12 stone 10 pounds). (NOTE: no plural in this meaning: He weighs ten stone. In the USA, human body weight is always given only in pounds.)

○ stop /stɒp/ noun 1. at the point where something finishes or ends. ○ The car rolled on without the driver, and finally came to a stop at the bottom of the hill. ○ All the building work came to a stop when the money ran out. 2. to stop short of doing something to stop just in time to avoid doing something ○ He stopped short of admitting he was guilty. 3. to come to a stop or a full stop to stop moving or continuing ○ The car rolled on without the driver, and finally came to a stop at the bottom of the hill. ○ All the building work came to a stop when the money ran out. 2. a place where a bus or train lets passengers get on or off ○ We have been waiting at the bus stop for twenty minutes. ○ There are six stops between here and Marble Arch. 4. a knob which is pulled on an organ to use different pipes, so making different types of sound ○ to pull out all the stops to make every effort (informal) ○ They pulled out all the stops to make sure the work was finished on time.

○ stopcock /ˈstʌpˌkɒk/ noun a tap which turns off the main supply of water

stopgap /ˈstɒpˌgæp/ noun something used for a short time, while waiting for something better to be found.
stoplight /stɔplɪt/ noun US a traffic light
stop off /stɒp ˈɒf/ verb to stop for a time in a place before going on with your journey.
Synonyms call
stop over /stɒp ˈəʊvə/ verb to spend a night in a place on a long journey. We’ll stop over in Rome on the flight to Hong Kong.
stopover /stɒpəʊvə/ noun a short overnight stop on a long journey by air
stoppage /stɒpɪdʒ/ noun 1. the action of stopping something from moving. Deliveries will be late because of stoppages on the production line. 2. money taken from an employee’s wages to pay for insurance and tax.
stopper /ˈstɒpər/ noun a piece of glass etc., put into the mouth of a bottle or jar to close it.
stop press /ˈstɒp pres/ noun, adj a last piece of news added to a newspaper before it is printed.
stop up /ˈstɒp ʌp/ verb 1. not to go to bed. We stopped up late to see the New Year in. 2. to block something. He tried to stop up the hole in the pipe with some kind of cement.
stopwatch /ˈstɒpwætʃ/ noun a watch which can be started and stopped by pressing a button, used for timing races.
storage /ˈstɔrɪdʒ/ noun 1. the act of keeping something in a store or warehouse. We put our furniture into storage. 2. money taken from an employee’s wages to pay for insurance and tax.
storage capacity /ˈstɔrɪdʒ kəˈpæsəti/ noun the space available for storage.
storage facilities /ˈstɔrɪdʒ fəˈsɪltiz/ noun equipment and buildings suitable for storage.
store /stɔr/ noun 1. a shop, usually a big shop. You can buy shoes in any of the big stores in town. 2. supplies kept to use later. We keep a big store of coal for the winter. 3. a place where goods are kept. The goods will be kept in store until they are needed. to be in store for someone, to have something in store for someone to be going to happen to someone. She’s got a big surprise in store. 4. to keep something in store. We didn’t know what would be in store for us when we surrendered to the enemy. 5. to keep food etc. to use later. We store (away) all our vegetables in the garden shed. 2. to put something in a warehouse for safe keeping. We stored our furniture while we were looking for a house to buy. 3. to keep something in a computer file.
store card /ˈstɔr kɑrd/ noun a credit card issued by a department store which can only be used for purchases within that store.
storefront /ˈstɔrfrɒnt/ noun a part of a store which faces the street, including the entrance and the windows. (NOTE: The British term is shopfront.)
storehouse /ˈstɔrhaus/ noun 1. a place where information is kept. The museum is a storehouse of expertise on ancient art. 2. a place where things are stored (old). The Roman grain storehouses were burnt in the fire.
storeroom /ˈstɔrərm/ noun a room where goods can be stored.
storey /ˈstɔrri/ noun a whole floor in a building. (NOTE: The US spelling is story.)
storm /stɔrm/ noun a large white bird with long legs and a long thin red beak.
storm /stɔrm/ noun a high wind and very bad weather. Several ships got into difficulties in the storm. How many trees were blown down in last night’s storm? March and October are the worst months for storms. She received a storm of applause as she entered the imitating very loudly. verb 1. to rush about angrily. He stormed into the shop and demanded to see the manager. 2. to end off or out to go away or out in anger. She stormed out of the meeting and called her lawyer. 3. to attack suddenly and capture. Our troops stormed the enemy camp. by storm 1. in a sudden rush or attack. The soldiers took the enemy castle by storm. 2. in a whirl of excitement. The pop group has taken the town by storm.
storm /ˈstoʊrm/ noun a lot of fuss about something which is not important (informal). stormy /ˈstoʊmi/ adj 1. when there are storms. They are forecasting stormy weather for the weekend. 2. involving a lot of argument and anger. story /ˈstoʊri/ noun 1. a description that tells what really happened. She told her story to the journalist. 2. it’s a long story. It is difficult to describe what happened. 3. a description that tells things that did not really happen but are invented by someone. The book is the story of two children during the war. She writes children’s stories about animals. 3. something which is not true. Nobody will believe such stories. Synonym lie 4. (US same as storey. (NOTE: The plural is stories.)
storybook /ˈstɔrɪbʊk/ noun a book of children’s stories. The library’s choice of storybooks for the under fives is excellent. adj as good and perfect as in a children’s story. To her he seemed like a storybook prince.
storyline /ˈstreɪlɪn/ noun the plot of a novel or film etc.

storyteller /ˈstɔːrɪtɛlə/ noun a person who tells a story

stout /staut/ adj 1. (of a person) quite fat ○ He has become much stout and has difficulty going up stairs. 2. (of material) strong or thick ○ Take a few sheets of stout paper. ○ Find a stout branch to stand on. 3. brave ○ A few stout men held off the enemy attack. (NOTE: stouter – stoutest) 4. dark-coloured beer ○ He was sitting quietly in the pub with a glass of stout. ○ stow /stəʊ/ noun a piece of equipment for heating or cooking. Also called cooker ○ stow away /stəʊ əˈweɪ/ verb to put away ○ He had stowed all the luggage in the boot of the car. ○ stow away /stəʊ əˈweɪ/ verb 1. to put away ○ It’s June – time you stowed away your skis. 2. to travel secretly on a ship or aircraft without paying the fare ○ They found two students stowing away in a lifeboat.

stowaway /ˈstəʊəweɪ/ noun a person who travels secretly on a ship or aircraft without paying

straddle /ˈstrædəl/ verb 1. to stand with legs apart, on either side of something ○ He straddled the ditch. 2. be on both sides of something ○ The town straddles the main highway to the north.

straggle /ˈstrægəl/ verb 1. to move in various directions, not in an orderly fashion ○ After the flood went down a few people straggled back to their villages each day. 2. to grow or lie in various directions ○ Her hair was straggling over her face.

straggler /ˈstræglər/ noun a person or animal who comes after everyone else

stragglly /ˈstrægləli/ adj untidy ○ straight /streɪt/ adj 1. not curved ○ Edgware Road is a long straight street. ○ The line under the picture isn’t straight. ○ She has straight black hair. ○ Stand up straight! 2. not sloping ○ Your tie isn’t straight. ○ Is the picture straight? ○ 3. clear and simple ○ I want you to give me a straight answer. 4. tidy ○ Can you get the room straight before the visitors arrive? 5. ○ to get something straight to understand clearly the meaning of something ○ Before you start, let’s get this straight – you are not going to be paid for the work. 6. heterosexual, not homosexual ○ He met up with two straight guys in Sydney. 7. ○ to keep a straight face to stop yourself smiling ○ She had difficulty keeping a straight face as she watched the children’s Christmas show. 8. ○ adv 1. in a straight line, not curving ○ The road goes straight across the plain for two hundred kilometres. ○ She was sitting straight in front of you. □ to go straight on, to keep straight on to continue along this road without turn-

ing off it ○ Go straight on past the crossroads and then turn left. ○ Keep straight on and you’ll find the hospital just after the supermarket. 2. immediately, at once ○ Wait for me here – I’ll come straight back. ○ If there is a problem, you should go straight to the manager. 3. without stopping or changing ○ She drank the milk straight out of the bottle. ○ The cat ran straight across the road in front of the car. ○ He looked me straight in the face. ○ The plane flies straight to Washington. 4. (of a drink) with no water or any other liquid added ○ He drinks his whisky straight. ○ Also called neat 5. ○ to go straight to stop committing crimes (informal) ○ After he left prison he went straight for six or seven months. 6. (noun) (on a racetrack) a part which is straight ○ The runners are coming into the final straight. ○ home straight (NOTE: Do not confuse with straits.) ○ straightaway /streɪtəˈweɪ/ adj at once. Synonym immediately. Antonym later ○ straigten /ˈstreɪtən/ verb to make straight ○ straighten up /ˈstreɪtən ʌp/ verb 1. to stand straight after bending ○ He straightened up and looked at me. 2. to make something tidy ○ I must straighten up my bedroom before I leave.

straight fight /ˈstreɪt fət/ noun an election contest between two candidates only ○ straightforward /ˈstreɪtɔrəd/ adj 1. honest and frank ○ She gave a straightforward answer. 2. easy, not complicated ○ If you follow the instructions carefully, it’s quite a straightforward job.

straight off /ˈstreɪt əf/ adv immediately (informal) Antonym later ○ straight out /ˈstreɪt əut/ adv directly, without hesitating ○ strain /streɪn/ noun 1. the force of pulling something tight ○ Can that small rope take the strain of the boat? 2. ○ to put a strain on to make something more difficult ○ The strong pound will put a strain on our exports. ○ His drinking put a strain on their marriage. 3. a condition where a muscle has been stretched or torn by a sudden movement ○ She dropped out of the race with muscle strain. 4. nervous tension and stress ○ Can she stand the strain of working in that office? 5. ○ music, part of a tune ○ They all sang to the strains of the accordion. 6. a variety, breed ○ They are trying to find a cure for a new strain of the flu virus. ○ He crossed two strains of rice to produce a variety that is resistant to disease. ○ verb 1. to injure part of your body by pulling too hard ○ He strained a muscle in his back or he strained his back. ○ The effort strained his heart. 2. to make great efforts to do something ○ They strained to lift the piano into the van. 3. to put pressure on some-
strained /streɪnd/ adj 1. which has been pulled or worked too hard. ○ She had to leave the game with a strained calf muscle. 2. tense or unfriendly. ○ Relations between them became strained. 3. forced, not natural. ○ He gave a strained laugh, and said he felt fine.

strainer /strenər/ noun a kitchen utensil with metal or nylon mesh, used to separate solids from a liquid

straitened /strɛɪtɪnd/ adj a difficult situation because of not having enough money. ○ They were living in straitened circumstances.

straitjacket /strɛɪtɪdʒekt/ noun 1. a strong coat whose sleeves are tied behind the back to prevent a violent person from attacking people. 2. something which prevents you from acting freely.

strains /strɛinz/ plural noun 1. a passage of water between two larger areas of sea. ○ The Straits of Gibraltar can be very rough. 2. money difficulties. ○ After my father died the family was in dire straits.

strand /strænd/ noun one piece of hair or thread. ○ Strands of hair kept blowing across her forehead.

strained /strɛnd/ alone and unable to move

strange /streɪndʒ/ adj 1. not usual. ○ It’s strange that no one spotted the mistake. ○ Something is the matter with the engine – it’s making a strange noise. ○ She told some very strange stories about the firm she used to work for. ○ It felt strange to be sitting in the office on a Saturday afternoon. 2. which you have never seen before or where you have never been before. ○ I find it difficult getting to sleep in a strange room. ○ We went to Korea and had lots of strange food to eat.

strangely /streɪndʒli/ adv in a strange way

stranger /streɪndʒə/ noun 1. a person whom you have never met. ○ I’ve never met him – he’s a complete stranger to me. ○ Children are told not to accept lifts from strangers. ○ you’re quite a stranger I haven’t seen you for a long time. 2. a person in a place where he has never been before. ○ I can’t tell you how to get to the post office – I’m a stranger here myself.

strangle /stræŋɡəl/ verb 1. to kill by squeezing the throat so that someone cannot breathe or swallow. ○ The marks on his neck showed that he had been strangled. 2. to slow the development of something. ○ The company’s expansion is being strangled by lack of funds.

stranglehold /stræŋɡəld/ noun control which prevents you doing what you want to do.

strangler /stræŋɡəl/ noun a person who kills someone by strangling them.

strangulation /stræŋgjuˈleɪʃən/ noun the act of squeezing someone’s throat so that they cannot breathe or swallow.

strap /stræp/ noun a long flat piece of material used to attach something. ○ Can you do up the strap of my rucksack for me? ○ I put a strap round my suitcase to make it more secure.

strapped /stræpt/ noun 1. to fasten something with a strap. ○ He strapped on his rucksack. ○ The patient was strapped to a stretcher. ○ Make sure the baby is strapped into her seat. 2. to wrap a bandage tightly round a limb. ○ She strapped up his ankle and told him to lie down. (NOTE: strangling – strapped)

strap /stræp/ adj (informal) ○ strapped for cash. 1. not having any money. ○ Can you lend me a few pounds as I’m a bit strapped at the moment?

strapping – strapped

strata /strɛtə/ plural noun the intention of achieving a specific aim.

strategic /strɛtɪdʒɪk/ adj 1. done with the intention of achieving a specific aim. 2. attacking an enemy from a long distance. ○ strategic weapons.

strategist /strɛtɪdʒɪst/ noun someone who makes business, military or other plans.

strategic weapon /strɛtɪdʒɪk wɛpən/ noun a weapon designed to defeat an enemy.

strategically /strɛtɪdʒɪkli/ adv in a strategic way

stratiﬁcation /strætɪfaɪkʃən/ noun the planning of actions in advance. ○ Their strategy is to note which of their rival’s models sells best and then copy it. ○ The government has no long-term strategy for dealing with crime.

stratosphere /strætəˈsfɪə/ noun a higher layer of the earth’s atmosphere.

stratum /strætəm/ noun a layer, especially of rock. ○ As they dug down, they exposed several strata of rock. (NOTE: The plural is strata /strætə/.)

straw /strɔ/ noun 1. dry stalks and leaves of crops left after the grain has been harvested. ○ You’ve been lying on the ground – you’ve got bits of straw in your hair. ○ The tractor picked up bundles of straw and loaded them onto a truck. 2. a thin plastic tube for sucking up liquids. ○ She was drinking orange juice through a straw.

straw /strɔ/ verb 1. to pour liquid through a sieve to separate solids from it. ○ Boil the peas for ten minutes and then strain.

strawberry /strɔrˈberi/ noun a small red fruit with a sweet, juicy centre. ○ The strawberries are ripe and ready to pick.

strayed /strei/ verb 1. to go out of one’s way. ○ The dog strayed from the path and wandered off.

strayed /strei/ adj a thin plastic tube for sucking up liquids. ○ He has a strained eye. ○ The marks on his neck showed that he had been strangled. ○ I’ve never met him – he’s a complete stranger to me. ○ Children are told not to accept lifts from strangers. ○ you’re quite a stranger I haven’t seen you for a long time. 2. a person in a place where he has never been before. ○ I can’t tell you how to get to the post office – I’m a stranger here myself.

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strawberry /ˈstrɔːbəri/ noun a common soft red summer fruit growing on low plants (NOTE: The plural is strawberries.)

straw poll /ˈstrɔː pɔl/ noun an informal test of opinion taken near an election day, to see how people intend to vote

stray /streɪ/ noun an animal which is lost and far away from home ○ We have two female cats at home and they attract all the strays in the district. ♦ adj 1. not where it should be ○ He was killed by a stray bullet from a sniper. 2. which is lost or without a home ○ We found a stray cat and brought it home. ♦ verb to move away from the place where it should be ○ The sheep strayed onto the golf course. ♦ The children had strayed too far and couldn't get back

streak /strɛɪk/ noun 1. a line of colour ○ She's had blonde streaks in her hair. 2. a particularly characteristic type of behaviour ○ She has a ruthless streak in her. ○ It's his mean streak which makes him not buy any Christmas cards. 3. a period when a series of things happens ○ I was on a winning streak. I won three times in a row. ○ I hope our unlucky streak is coming to an end. ○ streak of lightning a flash of lightning ○ a streak of luck a period when you are lucky ○ to go very fast ○ The rocket streaked across the sky. 2. to run about naked at a public event (informal)

streaker /ˈstrɪkər/ noun a person who runs naked at a public event (informal)

stream /strɛm/ noun 1. a small river ○ Can you jump across that stream? 2. things which pass continuously ○ Crossing the road is difficult because of the stream of traffic. ○ We had a stream of customers on the first day of the sale. ○ Streams of refugees tried to cross the border. 3. ○ to come on stream to start production ○ Output will be doubled when the new factory comes on stream. ○ verb to flow continuously ○ Blood was streaming down his face. ○ Cars streamed out of the park. ○ Children streamed across the square. ○ he has a streaming cold he has a cold where his nose is running all the time

streaming /ˈstrɪmɪŋ/ noun the practice of placing pupils in groups according to their ability

streamline /ˈstrɪmlən/ verb 1. to design a car, plane or boat so that it can move easily through water or air ○ The body of the car was streamlined to make it faster. 2. to make something more efficient or more simple ○ We are trying to streamline the accounting system

streamlined /ˈstrɪmlənd/ adj 1. designed so as to be able to move faster ○ The car has been redesigned with a more streamlined body. 2. efficient and rapid ○ They have a very streamlined production system. ○ The company introduced a more streamlined system of distribution.

street /streɪt/ noun 1. a road in a town, usually with houses on each side ○ It is difficult to park in our street on Saturday mornings. ○ Her flat is on a noisy street. ○ The school is in the next street. 2. used with names ○ What's your office address? – 16 Cambridge Street. ○ Oxford Street, Bond Street and Regent Street are the main shopping areas in London. (NOTE: When used in names, street is usually written St. Oxford St) 3. ○ the man or woman in the street an ordinary person, who represents what most people think. ○ The government's message is not getting through to the man in the street

streetcar /ˈstrɪktər/ noun US a form of public transport, with carriages running on rails laid in the street (NOTE: The British term is tram.)

streetlamp /ˈstrɪtlæmp/, streetlight /ˈstrɪltlaɪt/ noun an electric light on a tall pole, to light a street

street map /ˈstrɪt ˈmæp/ noun a diagram showing streets with their names

street vendor /ˈstrɪtvendər/ noun a person who sells food or small items in the street

streetwise /ˈstreɪtwɪz/ adj able to deal with difficult and dangerous situations in a modern city

strength /streŋθ/ noun 1. being physically strong ○ She hasn't got the strength to lift it. ○ You should test the strength of the rope before you start climbing. 2. being strong, being at a high level ○ The strength of the demand for the new car is surprising. ○ The strength of the pound increases the possibility of higher inflation. 3. ○ in strength in large numbers ○ The police were there in strength. ○ at full strength with everyone present ○ The department had several posts vacant, but is back to full strength again. ○ in a show of strength to show how strong an army is ○ In a show of strength, the government sent an aircraft carrier to the area. ○ to go from strength to strength to get stronger and stronger ○ Under his leadership the party went from strength to strength. ○ on the strength of because of ○ They employed him on the strength of the references from his previous employer

strengthen /ˈstreŋθən/ verb 1. to make something stronger ○ The sea wall is being strengthened to prevent another flood. ○ This will only strengthen their determination to oppose the government. ○ We are planning to strengthen airport security. 2. to become stronger ○ The wind is strengthening from the south-west. Antonym weaken
strenuous /ˈstreŋjʊəs/ adj requiring effort.


stressful /ˈstresfl/ adj (of a situation) which causes stress. Synonym demanding.

stress mark /ˈstres mark/ noun a mark showing which syllable of a word should be stressed.

stretch /streʃ/ verb 1. to spread out for a great distance. The line of cars stretched for three miles from the accident. The queue stretched from the door of the cinema to right round the corner. White sandy beaches stretch as far as the eye can see. 2. to pull out so that it becomes loose. Stretch your legs to go for a short walk after sitting for a long time (informal). In the coffee break I went out into the garden to stretch my legs. 3. to pull out so that it becomes loose. Don’t hang your jumper up like that – you will just stretch it. These trousers are not supposed to stretch. He is not fully stretched his work is too easy and does not make him work as hard as he could.

strict /strɪkt/ adj 1. exact. The files are in strict alphabetical order. 2. which must be obeyed. I gave strict instructions that no one was to be allowed in. The rules are very strict and any bad behaviour will be severely punished. 3. insisting that rules are obeyed. Our parents are very strict with us about staying up late. (NOTE: stricter – strictest).

strictly /ˈstrɪktli/ adv in a strict way. All staff must follow strictly the procedures in the training manual. Strictly confidential completely secret. What I am going to tell you is strictly confidential.

strong /strɒŋ/ adj a long step. In three strides he was across the room and out of the door. To make great strides to advance quickly. Researchers have made great strides in the treatment of asthma. To take something in your stride to deal with something easily. Other people always seem to have problems, but she just takes everything in her stride. Verb to walk with long steps. He strode into the room. We could see him striding across the field to take shelter from the rain. (NOTE: striding – strolled).

strike /strʌk/ noun 1. work by workers because of lack of agreement with management or because of orders from a trade union. They all voted in favour of a strike. The danger of a strike was
cause of disagreement with management

and everyone settled in their seats.

It suddenly struck me that I had seen him somewhere before. It strikes me that I think that I think it strikes me that we may be charging too much. To surprise someone he was struck by the poverty he saw everywhere.

to go on strike to stop work

He struck his head on the low door. He struck a match and lit the fire.

It strikes me that I think what I think it strikes me that we may be charging too much.

to call the workforce out on strike to tell the workers to stop work

They launched an air strike against the enemy positions.

2. to take strike action to go on strike

The workers voted to take strike action.

to come out on strike

The workers went on strike for more money. The baggage handlers are on strike for higher pay.

to come to an agreement

to strike up an acquaintance with someone

We've run out of string. (NOTE: no plural in big parcel.)

It is a very striking portrait of the Queen. It is a very striking portrait of Winston Churchill. Within striking distance of the capital is within striking distance of the enemy guns.

This string isn't strong enough to tie up that big parcel. She bought a ball of string.

one of the strong pieces of fibre which form the flat part of a tennis racket

One of the strings has snapped.

3. one of the strong pieces of fibre

She's been plagued with a string of illnesses. I had a string of phone calls this morning.

4. a long series of things or events

She's been plagued with a string of illnesses.

The workers went on strike for more money.

5. to go on strike to stop work

The workers went on strike for more money.

The bank loaned us the money with no strings attached.

6. a long thin fibre

The bank loaned us the money with no strings attached.

stripped – stripped

are there any hidden conditions?

stripped – stripped

are there any hidden conditions?

7. to attack

They struck a deal next week.

The workers to stop work

The workers walked in front and the children strung along in a line behind someone.

to attack

They struck a deal next week.

They struck a deal next week.

I think that I think it strikes me that I think what I think it strikes me that we may be charging too much.

855

3. a long thin fibre

The bank loaned us the money with no strings attached.

one of the long pieces of fibre or wire on a musical instrument which makes a note when you hit it

a guitar has six strings

He was playing the violin when one of the strings broke.

one of the strong pieces of fibre

We expect to attach.

are there any hidden conditions?

attached?

are there any hidden conditions?

He was just stringing her along – he never intended to marry her, but just wanted to get at her money.

Synonym delete. Antonym include

Striker / straɪkər noun 1. a worker who is on strike

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a journalist who sends stories regularly to a newspaper, covering events in a particular town or country

stringer / strɪŋə noun a journalist who sends stories regularly to a newspaper, covering events in a particular town or country

string vest / strɪŋ vest/noun a piece of underwear worn on the top of the body, made of material woven like a net

strip cartoon / strip karətn noun a comic strip story made of a series of small drawings inside little boxes side by side. Also called comic strip
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>stripe</strong></th>
<th><strong>structure</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>stripe /strəʊp/ <strong>noun</strong> 1. a long line of colour ○ He has an umbrella with red, white and blue stripes. 2. a piece of coloured cloth sewn to a soldier’s jacket to show his rank ○ He has just got his sergeant’s stripes.</td>
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<td>striptease /strɪp’tiːz/ <strong>noun</strong> an entertainment where someone takes their clothes off piece by piece</td>
<td><strong>stripes</strong> /streɪps/ <strong>noun</strong> blue stripes. 2. /L50263&lt;br&gt;gently over&lt;br&gt;stroked of the pen.</td>
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<td>stripy /strɪpɪ/ <strong>adj</strong> with lines of different colour</td>
<td><strong>stroke</strong> /strɔʊk/ <strong>noun</strong> 1. a gentle touch with your hand ○ She gave the dog a stroke. 2. a serious medical condition in which someone suddenly becomes unconscious, caused by a blood clot in the brain ○ He was paralysed after his stroke. ○ She had a stroke and died. 3. a movement made with something such as a pen or brush which makes a line ○ She can draw a cartoon with just a few strokes of the pen. 4. the act of hitting something such as a ball ○ It took him three strokes to get the ball onto the green. ○ to put someone off his stroke to take someone’s attention away from what they are doing, so that they make a mistake ○ People kept on shouting while the minister was speaking and that put him off his stroke. 5. a sound made when hitting something such as a bell ○ on the stroke of midnight when the clocks are striking twelve 6. stroke of luck piece of luck ○ I had a stroke of luck yesterday – I found my wallet which I thought I had lost. ○ It was a stroke of luck that you happened to come along at that moment. ○ stroke of work action of working ○ He has n't done a stroke of work all day. 7. a style of swimming ○ She won the 200m breast stroke. 8. (in a rowing boat) the person who sits at the back of the boat and controls how fast the others row. ○ verb to run your hands gently over ○ She was stroking the cat as it sat in her lap. <strong>synonym</strong> caress</td>
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<td><strong>structure</strong> /strɔkʃər/ <strong>noun</strong> referring to the basic structure of something</td>
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<td>struck /strɔkt/ <strong>verb</strong> ○ We went for a stroll by the river after dinner. ○ People were strolling in the park. ○ On Sunday evenings, everyone strolls along the boulevard ○ Synonym (all senses) saunter</td>
<td><strong>structure</strong> /strɔkʃər/ <strong>noun</strong> 1. the way in which things are organised at a career structure within a corporation ○ The company is reorganising its discount structure. 2. the way in which something is built ○ The structure of the bridge had been weakened by constant traffic. 3. a building ○ verb to arrange according to a specific system ○ We’ve tried to structure the meeting so that there is plenty of time for discussion.</td>
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struggle /ˈstrægl/ noun 1. a fight
2. a hard effort to do something because of difficulties  ○ her constant struggle to bring up her children  ○ their struggle against ill-health  ○ Setting up a new company during a recession was always going to be a struggle.  ■ verb 1. to fight with someone who attacks you  ○ Two men were struggling on the floor.  2. to try hard to do something difficult  ○ She’s struggling with her maths homework.  ○ She struggled to carry all the shopping to the car.  ■ to struggle to your feet to stand up with great difficulty  ○ after the blast from the bomb she struggled to her feet and started running.

strut /strʌt/ noun a bar of something such as wood or metal which supports something ○ They pulled away the struts and the wall collapsed.  ■ verb to walk in a proud and important way  ○ She strutted across the stage to collect her prize.  ○ He refused to accept their offer and strutted out of the room. Synonym swagger (NOTE: strutting – strutted)

stub /stʌb/ noun 1. a small piece left after something has been used ○ He walked along the gutter looking for cigarette stubs.  2. a piece of paper left after a cheque or a ticket has been torn out of a book  ○ Look at your cheque stubs to see when you wrote the cheque.  ■ verb ○ to stub your toe on something to hurt your toe by hitting it against something  ○ I stubbed my toe on a rock on the beach.

stubble /ˈstʌb(ə)l/ noun 1. short stems left in the ground after a crop such as wheat has been cut 2. short hairs which grow on a man’s chin if he does not shave for several days  ○ She told him to shave, as she didn’t like his stubble.  stubby /ˈstʌbl/ adj  ○ stubbily heard a mass of short rough hairs growing on a man’s chin ○ stubbly chins a man’s chin covered with short rough hairs

stubborn /ˈstʌbən/ adj 1. determined not to change your mind  ○ He’s so stubborn – he only does what he wants to do.  2. difficult to remove  ○ To get rid of really stubborn stains you will need to use bleach.  ■ Synonym (all senses) obstinate

stubbornly /ˈstʌbənli/ adv in an obstinate way

stubby /ˈstʌbli/ adj short and thick or thickish

stuck /stʌkt/ ○ stick

stuck-up /ˈstʌktˌʌp/ adj proud and thinking you are better than other people (informal). Synonym snobbish. Antonym unassuming

stud /stʌd/ noun 1. a nail with a head that stands out above a surface  ○ He had a pattern of studs on his belt.  2. a hard metal object such as a nail fixed to the bottom part of a boot ○ His boots have specially large studs.  3. a type of button with two heads for passing through two holes to fasten a shirt  ○ I can’t wear my dinner shirt – I’ve lost my dress studs.  4. a small piece of gold jewellery worn in the ear  ○ She wears a stud in her nose.  5. a horse which is kept for breeding  ○ to put a horse out to stud to use a male horse for breeding  6. a young man who is extremely sexually attractive (informal)

studded /ˈstʌdId/ adj 1. which has a surface decorated with many nails or similar objects ○ a massive studded door  2. full of, covered with ○ The film has a star-studded cast.  ○ The valley was studded with little cottages.

student /ˈstjuːdənt/ noun a person who is studying at a college, university or school ○ All the science students came to my lecture.  ○ She’s a brilliant student.  ○ Two students had to sit the exam again.

student loan /ˈstjuːdəntˌləʊn/ noun an amount of money borrowed by a student to pay for things such as food or rent while they are studying at university

students’ union /ˈstjuːdəntzˌjuːnɪn/ noun a building where university students meet to drink, eat and take part in social events  2. a group representing the students at a university

studies /ˈstʌdɪz/ plural noun the activity of going to college or university

studio /ˈstjuːdɪəʊ/ noun 1. a room where an artist paints ○ She uses this room as a studio because of the good light.  2. a place where photographers take photographs ○ A studio photograph of the bride and groom.  3. a place where things such as films or broadcasts are made ○ The TV series was made at Teddington Studios.  ○ And now, back to the studio for the latest news and weather report.  ○ They spent the whole day recording the piece in the studio.  4. a very small flat for one person, usually one room with a small kitchen and bathroom ○ You can rent a studio overlooking the sea for £300 a week in high season. (NOTE: The plural is studios.)

studio apartment /ˈstjuːdɪəʊ pəˈɑːtmənt/ noun an apartment with one main room, and a kitchen and bathroom

studious /ˈstjuːdɪəs/ adj enjoying study, spending a lot of time studying  ○ study /ˈstʌdi/ noun 1. the work of examining something carefully to learn more about it  ○ The company asked the consultant to prepare a study into new production tech-
niques. The review has published studies on the new drug. to carry out a feasibility study on a project to examine the costs and possible profits to see if the project should be started, a room used for quiet work such as reading or writing. When he says he is going to his study to read, we suspect it means he’s going to have a nap. to learn about a subject at college or university. He is studying medicine because he wants to be a doctor. She’s studying French and Spanish in the modern languages department. to examine something carefully to learn more about it. We are studying the possibility of setting up an office in New York. The government studied the committee’s proposals for two months. Doctors are studying the results of the screening programme. to look at something carefully. She was studying the guidebook.

stuff /sta:f/ noun 1. a substance, especially something unpleasant. You’ve got some black stuff stuck to your shoe. equipment or possessions. Dump all your stuff in the living room. Take all that stuff and put it in the dustbin. All your photographic stuff is still in the back of my car. information or ideas about something. She talked about the dangers of smoking and all that stuff about lung cancer. to do your stuff to do what people want you to do or what you are good at (informal). Come on, England, do your stuff. Everyone must do their stuff quickly if we want the work to be finished tonight.

to know your stuff to know your subject well, to be good at what you are doing. It was fascinating to listen to him, he really knows his stuff. to push something into something to fill it. He stuffed his pockets full of peppermints. The banknotes were stuffed into a small plastic wallet. to put small pieces of food such as bread, meat or herbs inside meat or vegetables before cooking them. We had roast veal stuffed with mushrooms.

to stuff yourself to eat a lot (informal). They were stuffing themselves on chocolate pudding. to fill the skin of a dead animal so that it looks alive. There was a stuffed tiger at the top of the staircase in the old castle.

to get stuffed go away, stop annoying me (informal, rude). You can tell the manager to go and get stuffed.

stuffed /sta:fid/ adj 1. filled with stuffing or some other filling. They served stuffed vine leaves as a starter. 2. feeling completely full, especially after eating too much (informal)

stuffiness /sta:finis/ noun the fact of being stuffed.

stuffing /sta:fin/ noun 1. a mixture of small pieces of food such as bread, fat, onions and herbs put inside a chicken, fish or vegetables before cooking them. I prepared the stuffing for the fish according to my mother’s recipe. 2. a soft material used to fill things such as children’s toys or chair seats. The stuffing’s coming out of this cushion.

to knock the stuffing out of someone to make someone lose their confidence (informal). When his wife ran away with his best friend it seemed to knock all the stuffing out of him.

stuffily /sta:fli/ adv 1. without any fresh air. Can’t you open a window? It’s so stuffy in here? I dislike commuting into town every day on stuffy underground trains.

to stuff across something to find something by accident. I stumbled across this letter which someone had hidden.

to make mistakes when reading. He managed to stumble through the reading test. He read the TV news without stumbling over any of the foreign words.

stumbling block /ˈstʌmplɪŋ blok/ noun something which prevents you doing what you want to do. Synonym obstacle.

stump /stʌmp/ noun 1. a short piece of something left sticking up, such as the main stem of a tree that has been cut down. After cutting down the trees, we need to get rid of the stumps.

stumps were drawn the game of cricket came to an end. to walk along with heavy steps. He stamped angrily out of the shop.

stumps were drawn the game of cricket came to an end. to walk along with heavy steps. He stamped angrily out of the shop.

to ask someone a difficult question which they cannot answer. The MD was stumped when the committee asked him how many hours the average packer worked.

stump up /ˈstʌmp ʌp/ verb to pay money (informal).

stumpy /ˈstʌmpi/ short and fat.

stun /stʌn/ verb 1. to make someone become unconscious with a blow to the head. The blow on the head stunned him. Synonym knock out 2. to shock someone completely.

stun /stʌn/ verb 1. to make someone lose their confidence (informal). She was stunned when he told her that he was already married. (NOTE: stunning – stunned)
stung /stʌŋ/ 859

stung /stʌŋ/ v past tense of sting
stunk /stʌŋk/ v past tense and past participle of stink

stunning /ˈstʌnɪŋ/ adj impressive, extremely beautiful. Synonym: spectacular

stunt /stʌnt/ n a trick or dangerous act done to attract attention. Climbing up the outside of the building was just a publicity stunt. He’s so fit that he insists on doing all the stunts in his films himself. Verb: to prevent something from growing. The trees on the top of the cliff are stunted by strong winds. The children’s development was stunted by malnutrition and disease. Synonym: inhibit

stunt man /ˈstʌnt mən/ n a man who carries out dangerous acts in films in place of the main company managing a project

stupendous /ˈstʌpədəs/ adj extremely unusual, very large or impressive

stupid /ˈstʌpid/ adj 1. not very intelligent. What a stupid man! 2. behaving in a way that is not sensible. It was stupid of her not to wear a helmet when riding on her scooter. He made several stupid mistakes.

stupidity /ˈstʌpidəti/ n being stupid

stupor /ˈstʌpər/ n the state of being almost unconscious

sturdy /ˈstʌdri/ adj strong or full of energy

style /ˈstaiəl/ n 1. a way of doing something, especially a way of designing, drawing or writing. The room is decorated in Chinese style. 2. a fashionable way of doing things. She always dresses with style. They live in grand style. 3. hairstyle

stylist /ˈstaiəlist/ n a person who gives a style to something

stylistic /ˈstaiəlistık/ adj referring to style in art

stylus /ˈstaiəlus/ n the needle of a record player

suave /ˈswaʊv/ adj extremely polite with very good manners, though often with an unpleasant character. Synonym: suaver = suavest

sub /sub/ n abbr 1. submarine 2. subscription 3. substitute

sub /ˈsʌb/ prefix below, under

subcommittee /ˈsʌbkwəmit/ n a small committee which is set up by a main committee and deals with a specific matter

subconscious /ˈsʌbkwənʃəs/ adj referring to mental processes such as memory which people do not realise they have, but which can affect their actions. Aggression serves a subconscious desire to do better than others.

subconscious /ˈsʌbkwənʃəs/ n a part of your mind which has ideas or feelings which you do not realise are there

subcontinent /ˈsʌbkwənˈtɪnənt/ n a large mass of land which is a separate part of a continent

subcontract /ˈsʌbkwəntrækt/ n a contract between the main company managing a project and another firm who will do part of the work. Verb: to agree with a company that they will do part of the work for a project. The electrical work has been subcontracted to Smith Ltd.

subcontractor /ˈsʌbkwəntræktər/ n a company which has a contract to do work for the main company managing a project

subculture /ˈsʌbkwələr/ n a separate social group within a larger culture

subdivide /ˈsʌbdɪvai/ v verb to divide up something which has already been divided

subdivision /ˈsʌbdɪvaiʃən/ n the division of something into smaller parts

subdue /ˈsʌbdjuː/ v verb to defeat, to bring under control

subdued /ˈsʌbdjuːd/ adj 1. very quiet, not excited. The audience was very subdued. 2. not bright. The room has been painted in subdued colours. 3. not loud. A subdued discussion was going on in a far corner of the restaurant

subgroup /ˈsʌbgruːp/ n a small separate group within a larger group

subheading /ˈsʌbheidɪŋ/ n a heading used to divide something such as a long document into smaller sections

subject /ˈsʌbdʒekt/ n 1. the thing which you are talking about or writing about

Synonym: subject x
the government contract will be legal only if it is approved by
the other person or thing that does the action expressed by the verb (grammar) in the sentence 'the cat sat on the mat' the word 'cat' is the subject of the verb 'sat'. 6. a person who is from a country that has a king or queen a British subject a verb /səbˈdʒekt/ to subject someone to to make someone suffer something unpleasant the guards subjected the prisoners to physical violence. we were subjected to a barrage of questions by reporters. adj /səbˈdʒekt/ under the control of an authority subject to 1. depending on something we want you to go on a study tour to France, subject to getting your parents' permission. the contract is subject to government approval the contract will be legal only if it is approved by the government. sale subject to contract a sale which is not legal until a proper contract has been signed offer subject to availability the offer depends on the goods which are available affected by the timetable is subject to change without notice. these articles are subject to import tax. after returning from the tropics he was subjected to bouts of malaria. subject /səbˈdʒekt/ noun the action or process of bringing a person or people under the control of someone else subjective /səbˈdʒektɪv/ adj seen from your own point of view, and therefore possibly influenced by your feelings or beliefs. synonym biased. antonym objective subjectivity /səbˈdʒektɪvɪtɪ/ noun the fact of being subjective, of seeing things from your own point of view. synonym bias. antonym objectivity subject line /səbˈdʒekt lайн/ noun the part at the top of an e-mail where the subject of the message is written subject matter /səbˈdʒekt mɛtər/ noun the subject dealt with in something such as a book or TV programme sub judice /səb ˈdʒʌdɪs/ adv being considered in a court of law, and therefore not to be mentioned in the press
subordinate clause /ˈsʌbdɪnɪdə/ a person who is under the direction of someone else ○ His subordinates find him difficult to work with. Synonym assistant. Antonym boss • verb /ˈsʌbdɪnaɪt/ (formal) ○ to subordinate something to something else to put something in a less important position than something else ○ We were taught to subordinate our personal feelings to the needs of the state.

subscription /ˈsʌbdɪskrɪptʃən/ noun a clause in a sentence which depends on the main clause

subpoena /ˈsʌbpiənə/ noun a court order telling someone to appear in court ○ She has been served a subpoena to appear in court next month. • verb to order someone to appear in court ○ The finance director was subpoenaed by the prosecution. Synonym summon (NOTE: subpoenaed)

subscribe /ˈsʌbsubkrɪb/ verb 1. ○ to subscribe to a magazine to pay in advance for a series of issues of a magazine ○ (formal) ○ I subscribe to the view that government expenditure should be reduced.

subscriber /ˈsʌbˈskraɪbər/ noun 1. a person who subscribes to a magazine ○ The extra issue is sent free to subscribers. ○ a subscriber to a magazine ○ a magazine subscriber 2. a person who pays regularly to use a service ○ Telephone subscribers who don’t pay their bills have their phones cut off 3. a person who has applied for shares in a new company ○ There were very few subscribers to the recent share issue.

subscription /ˈsʌbˈskrɪpʃən/ noun 1. the amount of money which someone pays to a magazine for a series of issues ○ Did you remember to pay the subscription to the company magazine? ○ I subscribe to take out a subscription to a magazine to start paying for a series of issues of a magazine ○ (formal) ○ to cancel a subscription to a magazine to stop paying for a magazine ○ money paid to a club for a year’s membership ○ He forgot to renew his club subscription. 3. ○ subscription to a new share issue the offering of new shares in a company for sale

subsection /ˈsʌbˈsektʃən/ noun a division of a section such as in a document

subsequent /ˈsʌbˌsɛkwənt/ adj which comes later (formal). Synonym following. Antonym preceding

subsequently /ˈsʌbˌsɛkwəntli/ adv happening later or following something which has already happened

subservient /ˈsʌbˌsɜːvɪənt/ adj 1. always giving in to others ○ Stand up for your rights – you shouldn’t be so subservient. 2. not as important as ○ Each state is subservient to the federation.

subset /ˈsʌbˌsɛt/ noun a mathematical set whose elements are contained in another set

subside /ˈsʌbˌsaɪd/ verb 1. to go down, to become less loud or strong ○ After the rainstorms passed, the flood waters gradually subsided ○ His anger subsided and he began to try to find out what had happened. ○ He waited for the noise to subside before going on with his speech. 2. (of a piece of ground or a building) to fall to a lower level ○ The office block is subsiding because it is built on clay. Synonym sink

subsidence /ˈsʌbdɪsəns/ noun (of a piece of ground or a building) an act of sinking or falling to a lower level

subsidiary /ˈsʌbdɪsəri/ adj which is less important ○ They queried one or two subsidiary items in the estimate. • noun a company which is owned by a parent company ○ Most of the profit comes from subsidiaries in the Far East.

subsidiise /ˈsʌbˌsaɪdɪzaɪ/, subsidize verb to help by giving money

subsidy /ˈsʌbˌsaɪdi/ noun money given to help pay for something which does not make a profit (NOTE: The plural is subsidies.)

subsidist /ˈsʌbˌsɪst/ verb 1. to stay alive, to manage ○ Some people can subsist on very little food. 2. to continue to exist (formal) ○ Doubts subsist in my mind as to his true identity. ○ Some traces of the old dialect still subsist in the islands.

subsistence /ˈsʌbˌsɪstəns/ noun the smallest amount of things such as food and money which a person needs to live on ○ Some people can subsist on very little food. ○ People living below subsistence level are eligible for government grants.

substance /ˈsʌbˈstɑːns/ noun 1. a solid or liquid material, especially one used in chemistry ○ A secret substance is added to the product to give it its yellow colour. ○ Toxic substances got into the drinking water. 2. the truth behind an argument ○ There is no substance to the rumour that he was controlled by the mafia. ○ She brought documents to add substance to her claim. 3. ○ a man of substance a rich man (formal) 4. a drug ○ He was found to have certain illegal substances in his suitcase.

substandard /ˈsʌbˌstændəd/ adj not up to the usual standard. Synonym inferior
substantial /ˈsʌbstənʃəl/ adj 1. large, important. She was awarded substantial damages. □ He received a substantial sum when he left the company. □ A substantial amount of work remains to be done. 2. large, which satisfies. □ We had a substantial meal at the local pub. 3. solid, strong. □ This wall is too flimsy, we need something much more substantial.

substantially /ˈsʌbstənʃəli/ adv 1. mainly, mostly. Their forecast was substantially correct. 2. by a large amount. □ The cost of raw materials has risen substantially over the last year.

substantiate /ˈsʌbstəneit/ verb to prove that something which has been stated is true. Antonym disprove

substantive /ˈsʌbstəntɪv/ /ˈsʌbstanʃəlv/ adj 1. real, which is serious. □ referring to a permanent military rank. □ He holds the substantive rank of colonel. □ noun (in grammar) a noun. □ Some substantives such as ‘child’ and ‘man’ have irregular plural forms.

substitute /ˈsʌbstɪtjuːt/ noun a person or thing that takes the place of someone or something else. □ This type of plastic can be used as a substitute for leather. □ The substitute teacher was better than the teacher himself. □ When the goalkeeper was injured they sent on a substitute. □ verb □ to substitute something or someone for something or someone else to put something or someone in the place of something or someone else. □ He secretly substituted the fake diamond for the real one. □ to substitute for someone to replace someone □ Who will be substituting for the sales manager when she’s away on holiday?

substitution /ˈsʌbstɪtjuːʃn/ noun the act of substituting someone or something for someone or something else

subsume /ˈsʌbs{j}um/ verb to include something in a larger group or set (formal)

subterfuge /ˈsʌbtrəfjuː/ noun a trick or clever way of doing something

subterranean /ˈsʌbtrərəniən/ adj under the ground

subtitle /ˈsʌbtraɪt/ noun a translation of the words spoken in a film which are shown at the bottom of the screen

subtitled /ˈsʌbtraɪt(ə)ld/ adj with subtitles

subtle /ˈsʌt(ə)l/ adj 1. not obvious or easily seen. □ There’s a subtle difference between the two political parties. 2. complicated or delicate. □ a sauce with a subtle taste of lemon. □ A subtler shade would be better than that bright colour. (NOTE: subtler – subtler)

subtlety /ˈsʌt(ə)lti/ noun careful thought processes which are difficult to explain

subtotal /ˈsʌbˈtɔːt(ə)/ noun the total of one section of a set of numbers

subtract /ˈsʌbtræk/ verb to take one number away from another. (NOTE: subtracting is usually shown by the minus sign – 10 – 4 = 6. say ‘ten subtract four equals six’)

subtraction /ˈsʌbtrækʃən/ noun the act of subtracting one number from another

subtropical /ˈsʌbtrɒpɪk(ə)/ adj referring to the subtropics

subtropics /ˈsʌbtrɒpɪks/ plural noun areas of the world between the tropics and the temperate zones

suburb /ˈsʌbɜːb/ noun an area on the edge of a town where there are houses and shops but not usually factories or other large industries

suburban /ˈsʌbɜːbən/ adj referring to the suburbs. Antonym central

suburbia /ˈsʌbɜːbɪə/ noun the middle-class suburban districts around a city.

suburbs /ˈsʌbɜːbz/ plural noun the areas all round the edge of a town where a lot of people live

subversion /ˈsʌbɜːvʃən/ noun secret acts against a government

subversive /ˈsʌbɜːvəsɪv/ adj acting secretly against the government or people in authority. □ The police are investigating subversive elements in the student organisations. Synonym dissident. Antonym law-abiding

subvert /ˈsʌbɜːv/ verb to make something such as a system fail, or to damage or destroy the existing political system. Synonym undermine

subway /ˈsʌbwɛ/ noun 1. an underground passage along which people can walk, e.g. so that they do not have to cross a busy road. □ There’s a subway from the bus station to the shopping centre. 2. US an underground railway system. □ the New York subway. □ It will be quicker to take the subway to Grand Central Station. (NOTE: The London equivalent is the tube or Underground.)

sub-zero /ˈsʌb ˈziːroʊ/ /ˈsʌb ɪˌzɪroʊ/ /ˈsʌb ɪˌzoʊ/ adj below zero degrees in temperature

succeed /ˈsʌkʃiːd/ verb 1. to do well or to make a lot of profit. □ His business has succeeded more than he had expected. 2. □ to succeed in doing something to do what you have been trying to do. □ She succeeded in passing her driving test. 3. □ succeeded in getting them to agree to my plan. 3. □ to manage to do something which is rather stupid. □ informal, humorous. □ They succeeded in getting lost in the centre of London. 4. to follow after someone in a particular job or posi-
succeeding

succeeding (sæk'sid'ing)/ adj 1. following after someone in their job or position in society
2. obtaining something such as a title or some property when the person who previously held it dies.

1. success (sək'ses/ noun 1. achieving what you have been trying to do
2. She’s been looking for a job in a library, but without any success so far.
3. doing something well
4. Her photo was in the newspapers after her success.

3. success story

4. successor

5. succession

6. successive

7. successfully

succeed to (sək'zid'tu/ verb 1. to give in to, to be defeated
2. Whenever I pass a sweet shop I succumb to temptation and buy some chocolates.
3. The stronghold finally succumbed after it was bombed.
4. He succumbed to pressure from his family and took a holiday.
5. to die from

suction (sək'shən/ noun 1. the action of sucking
2. He didn’t stop sucking his thumb until he was six.
3. The baby didn’t stop sucking his thumb until sleeping.

sucker (sək'ər/ noun 1. a part of an animal which sticks to a surface by sucking
2. An octopus has rows of suckers on its arms.
3. a little plastic cup which sticks to a surface by suction
4. Some hooks can be glued to the wall, others stick with suckers.
5. a person who is easily tricked into doing something
6. a person who cannot resist something
7. He’s a sucker for chocolate desserts.
8. He’s a sucker for any pretty girl.
9. (of a plant) a shoot which comes from the bottom of the stem or from a root
10. You need to cut all those suckers off the rose.

suck up (sək 'ap/ verb 1. to take in
2. to suck up to someone
to flatter someone so as to get good treatment
3. You should see the way he sucks up to the boss.

suction (sək'shən/ noun the action of sucking out air, so that two surfaces stick together
2. sudden (səd'ən/ adj which happens very quickly or unexpectedly
3. The sudden change in the weather caught us unprepared.
sudden death playoff /sdʌd(ə)pləʊ/ noun a set of letters added to the end of a word to make another word. Compare prefix (NOTE: The plural is suf-
fixes.)
suffocating /ˈsʌfəkət/ adj. 1. to make someone stop breathing by cutting off the supply of air, or to die from lack of air to breathe ○ She was accused of suffocating the baby. ○ The family suffocated in the smoke-filled room. 2. to be uncomfortable because of heat and lack of air (informal) ○ We’re suffocating in this little room.
suffrage /ˈsɜfrɪdʒ/ noun a right to vote in elections.
sugar /ˈsʌɡər/ noun 1. a substance that you use to make food sweet ○ How much sugar do you take in your tea? ○ A spoonful of sugar will be enough. ○ Can you pass me the sugar, please? 2. a spoonful of sugar ○ How do you take your coffee? – milk and one sugar, please.
sugarcane /ˈsʌgərkeɪn/ noun a tall plant whose thick stems contain a sweet liquid sub-
stance from which sugar is made, grown in many tropical areas
sugary /ˈsʌɡəri/ adj. 1. very sweet, containing a lot of sugar ○ Don’t serve sugary drinks to children. 2. very sentimental ○ The film is a sugary story of adolescent love.
suggestive /ˈsədʒɪstɪv/ adj. 1. to mention an idea to see what other people think of it ○ The chairman suggested that the next meet-
ing should be held in October. ○ Might I sug-
gest a visit to the museum this afternoon? ○ What does he suggest we do in this case?-
2. suggestion ○ The company acted upon your sug-
gestion. ○ Whose suggestion was it that we
should go out in a boat? ○ I bought those shares at the stockbroker’s suggestion.
sufficiency /ˈsʌfɪsɪnsi/ noun enough of something: self-sufficiency
sufficient /ˈsʌfɪʃnt/ adj. as much as is needed ○ Does she have sufficient funds to pay for her trip? ○ There isn’t sufficient room to put the big sofa in here. ○ Allow yourself sufficient time to get to the airport. self-sufficient. Synonym adequate. Ant-
onym insufficient
sufficiently /ˈsʌfɪʃntli/ adv well enough
### suicide

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>suicide</th>
<th>865</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>suicide</strong> /sjuˈsaɪd/ noun 1. the act of killing yourself</td>
<td>summary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 2. to commit suicide to kill yourself  
- He killed his two children and then committed suicide.  
- attempted suicide, suicide attempt an act of trying to kill yourself, but not succeeding |
| 3. She is still in hospital after her suicide attempt.  
- a person who has killed himself |
| suicide note /sjuˈsaɪd nət/ a letter left by someone who has committed suicide |

### suit

| suit | 1. a set of pieces of clothing made of the same cloth and worn together, such as a jacket and trousers or skirt  
- A dark grey suit will be just right for the interview.  
- The pale blue suit she was wearing was very chic.  
- She tried to do the sum in her head. |
| 2. a set of pieces of furniture  
- A blue dress would be more suitable for an interview.  
- A dark grey suit will be just right for the interview. |
| 3. a type of pale seedless raisin |

### sulphur

| sulphur | 1. a non-metallic element, which is usually found in the form of yellow powder, and smells of rotten eggs  
- She jumped into the pool to live out of a suitcase |
| 2. sulphur dioxide /ˈsʌlfər daɪˈɔksʌɪd/ noun full of or containing sulphur |
| 3. a Muslim prince |

### summary

| summary | 1. a short account of what has happened or what has been said. Synonym précis |
| 2. summary /ˈsʌməri/ noun a short description of what has been said or written, or of what happened, without giving all the details |
| 3. Here’s a summary of the book in case you don’t have time to read it.  
- It is 7.30 and here is a summary of the news. Synonym précis (NOTE: The plural is précis) |
Mr. Atwood fought his way through the crowd and summoned up enough courage to approach Miss Johnson.

He was given a summary trial.

He summoned up enough courage to appear in court to be tried for a criminal offence.

He summoned up enough courage to defend a civil action.

The summons and went on holiday to Spain.

to serve a summons on someone

t o give someone

t o order someone

t o appear in court

He was summoned as a witness at the magistrates’ court.

He summoned up enough courage to do something.

He summoned up enough courage to order someone to appear in court.

He received a summons to see the president.

2. an official order or document telling someone to appear in court to be tried for a criminal offence or to defend a civil action.

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2. an official order or document telling someone to appear in court to be tried for a criminal offence or to defend a civil action.

The summons went on holiday to Spain.

to serve a summons on someone

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sundae /ˈsʌndi/ noun a sweet dish of ice cream, cream, fruit and nuts and a sweet sauce
○ Sunday /ˈsʌndi/ noun the seventh day of the week, the day between Saturday and Monday ○ Last Sunday we went on a picnic.
○ Most shops are now open on Sundays.
○ Can we fix a lunch for next Sunday? ○ The 15th is a Saturday, so the 16th must be a Sunday. ○ Today is Sunday, November 19th.
○ in your Sunday best wearing your best clothes ○ All the children came in their Sunday best.

Sunday school /ˈsʌndi skɔːl/ noun classes held on a Sunday, where children are taught about the Christian religion
sundial /ˈsʌndəl/ noun a type of outdoor clock with a central piece whose shadow points to the time when the sun shines on it
sundown /ˈsʌndɔːn/ noun the time when the sun goes down in the evening. Synonym sunset. Antonym sunrise
sun-dried /ˈsʌndrʌd/ adj which has been dried in the sun to preserve it
sundries /ˈsʌndriz/ plural noun small articles or small objects not listed in detail
sundry /ˈsʌndri/ adj various ○ The tourists made sundry purchases in the market. ○ sundry items a lot of different small objects. Synonym various ■ noun all and sundry everyone ○ He told all and sundry about his operation
sunflower /ˈsʌnflɔːs/ noun a very large yellow flower on a very tall stem
sunglasses /ˈsʌŋɡlæsiz/ plural noun dark glasses worn to protect your eyes from the sun ○ I always wear sunglasses when I’m driving.
sunhat /ˈsʌnhaɪt/ noun a hat worn to protect your head from the sun
sunk /sʌŋk/ 1 sink
sunken /ˈsʌŋkɜn/ adj 1. which is under the surface of water ○ The boat must have hit a sunken log. ○ The channel is blocked by sunken wrecks.
2. lower than the area around ○ a sunken garden
sunlamp /ˈsʌnlæmp/ noun a type of light which gives off ultraviolet rays like those of the sun, used to make your skin brown
sunlight /ˈsʌnlait/ noun the light which comes from the sun (NOTE: no plural)
sunnit /ˈsʌnɪt/ adj bright with the light of the sun

Sunni /ˈsʌnɪ/ noun 1. one of the main branches of Islam 2. a member of the Sunni branch of Islam
sunny /ˈsʌnɪ/ 1. with the sun shining ○ Another sunny day! ○ They forecast that it will be sunny this afternoon. 2. where the sun often shines ○ We live on the sunny side of the street. ○ Their sitting room is bright and sunny, but the dining room is dark. 3. sunny side up US (of an egg) cooked in hot fat on one side only without being turned over, so you can see the yolk (informal)
sunscream /ˈsʌnskrɛm/ noun a cream which you put on your skin to prevent sunburn
sunsceen /ˈsʌnskriːn/ noun a cream which you often shines
sunsceen /ˈsʌnskriːn/ noun which gives off ultraviolet rays like those of the sun
sunsun /ˈsʌnsʌn/ noun the time when the sun comes up in the morning. Synonym dawn. Antonym sunset
sunroof /ˈsʌnrʌf/ noun a part of the roof of a car which opens to let in light and air
sunstroke /ˈsʌnstrəʊk/ noun a serious medical condition caused by spending too much time in hot sun
sun tan /ˈsʌntæn/ noun the brown colour of skin caused by sunlight
sun tanned /ˈsʌntænd/ adj brown from having been exposed to the sun ○ a suntanned face
sun worshiper /ˈsʌn wɔʃpər/ noun a person who loves sunbathing
sun worshiper /ˈsʌn wɔʃpər/ noun a person who loves sunbathing
super /ˈsuːpər/ adj very good (dated)
superficial /ˈsuːpərʃəl/ adj extremely good. Synonym excellent. Antonym abysmal
superbly /ˈsuːpərli/ adv in a superb way
sunscreen /ˈsʌnskriːn/ noun a cream which you put on your skin to prevent sunburn
supercharger /ˈsuːpərˈʃɛr/ noun an apparatus on a car engine for increasing the power
superlicious /ˈsuːpəlɪʃəs/ adj looking down on other people, considering other people as not good enough. Synonym arrogant
supercomputer /ˈsuːpəkɒmətər/ noun a high-speed computer
superficial /ˈsuːpərʃəl/ adj 1. which affects only the top surface ○ The damage was only superficial. ○ She suffered a few superficial grazes but nothing serious. 2. dealing only with the most obvious and simple matters ○ I can’t answer your question because I only have a very superficial knowledge of the subject. 3. not serious ○ He’s very superficial, you can’t have a serious conversation with him.
superficially /ˈsuːpərʃəli/ adv in a superficial way
superfluous /ˈsuːpəˈfljuːs/ adj which is more than is needed; not necessary, not needed. Synonym extra. Antonym basic □
superfluous hair hair which is growing in
superhuman /ˈsjuːpərhuːmən/ adj beyond what humans are usually able to do, or having unusually great abilities.

superimpose /ˈsuːpərɪmˌpoʊz/ verb 1. to place on top of something else ○ They tried to superimpose a new level of management on top of the old one. 2. to lay one picture over another so that they are both visible; to print one thing on top of another ○ If you superimpose one picture on the other you get the impression of a ghost in the room.

superintendent /ˈsuːpərɪntɛndənt/ noun a person who is responsible for work, or for a place ○ Go and see the building superintendent if a pipe is leaking.

superior /ˈsuːprɪər/ adj 1. of very high quality ○ He gave her a very superior box of chocolates. Antonym inferior ○ superior to ○ Our products are vastly superior to theirs. ○ Their distribution service is much superior to ours. 2. in a higher rank ○ Soldiers should always salute superior officers. ○ superior to someone of a higher rank than someone ○ She is superior to him in the office hierarchy. 3. thinking you are better than other people ○ He gives himself such superior airs. ○ noun a person in a higher rank ○ Each manager is responsible to his superior.

superiority /ˈsuːprɪərɪtɪ/ noun being more important, more intelligent, better than someone else ○ The superiority of the Brazilians in the World Cup was obvious. ○ He gives the impression of effortless superiority.

superalative /suˈpɜːrælətɪv/ adj extremely good ○ He’s a superlative goalkeeper. Synonym excellent ○ noun the form of an adjective or adverb showing the highest level when compared with another ○ ‘Biggest’ is the superlative of ‘big’. ○ Put a few superlatives in the ad to emphasise the superiority of the product.

COMMENT: Superlatives are usually formed by adding the suffix -est to the adjective: ‘quickest’ from ‘quick’, for example. In the case of long adjectives, they are formed by putting ‘most’ in front of the adjective: ‘most comfortable’, ‘most expensive’, and so on. Some superlatives are irregular, such as ‘worst’ and ‘best’. You can also form superlatives by adding phrases like ‘as possible’ (as big as possible).

superman /ˈsuːpərmən/ noun a man who has superhuman strength, power or ability (NOTE: The plural is supermen.)

supermarket /ˈsuːpərmɑːrkɪt/ noun a large store selling mainly food and household goods, where customers serve themselves and pay at a checkout ○ We’ve got no tea left, can you buy some from the supermarket? ○ We do all our shopping in the local supermarket.

supernatural /ˌsuːpərˈnɔːtəl/ adj which cannot be explained by the laws of nature ○ He believes in supernatural occurrences like ghosts. ○ noun the supernatural things which happen which cannot be explained by the laws of nature ○ You can’t dismiss the supernatural completely.

supersede /ˈsuːpəsɛd/ verb to take the place of something which has become old and no longer useful. Antonym precede

supersonic /ˌsuːpəˈsɔrnɪk/ adj going faster than the speed of sound

superstar /ˈsuːpəstɑːr/ noun an extremely famous film actor or other performer

superstition /ˌsuːpərˈstɪʃən/ noun a belief in magic and that some things are lucky and others unlucky

superstitions /suˈpɜːrstɪʃənz/ noun believing in magic and the supernatural. Antonym rational

superstore /ˈsuːpəstɔːr/ noun a very large self-service store selling a wide range of goods or selling a variety of things of the same type ○ supervise /ˈsuːpəvaɪz/ verb to watch carefully, to see that work is well done. Synonym oversee ○ supervision /ˈsuːpəvɪziʃən/ noun the act of supervising ○ supervisor /ˈsuːpəvaɪzər/ noun a person who supervises someone’s work or a university teacher who supervises a student’s thesis supervision ○ /ˈsuːpəvaɪzərɪ/ adj in charge of other people’s work or activities ○ in a supervisory capacity or role as a supervisor

supper /ˈsuːpər/ noun the meal which you eat in the evening ○ to have supper to eat an evening meal ○ We’ll have supper on the terrace. ○ We usually have supper at about 7 o’clock. ○ Come and have some supper with us tomorrow evening. ○ See note at dinner

supplant /ˈsuːpΛplænt/ verb to take the place of someone or something. Synonym oust

supple /ˈsuːpl/ adj who or which bends easily

supplement noun /ˈsuːplɪmənt/ 1. a thing which is in addition, especially an additional
amount. 1. The company gives him £200 per month as a supplement to his pension. 2. You need to take a vitamin supplement every morning. 3. Look in the supplement at the back of the book. 4. A magazine which is part of a newspaper. 5. I read his article in the Sunday supplement. 6. An additional section at the back of a book. 7. Look in the supplement at the back of the book. 8. Verb to supply. 9. Verb to add to. 10. We will supply the ordinary staff with six part-timers during the Christmas rush. Antonym deduct supplementary adjective in addition to what is already there. Synonym extra supplier noun a person, company or country that supplies something. Antonym consumer supplies plural noun things such as food and equipment which are needed for a particular activity. Medical supplies.

1. Supply noun a store of something which is needed. 2. We have two weeks’ supply of coal. 3. In short supply not available in large enough quantities to meet people’s needs. 4. Fresh vegetables are in short supply during the winter. 5. The law of supply and demand general rule that the amount of something which is available is connected to the amount wanted by people who are likely to buy it. 6. Something which is needed, such as goods, products or services. 7. The electricity supply has failed again. 8. They signed a contract for the supply of computer equipment. 9. Rebel forces have cut off the town’s water supply. 10. Verb to provide something which is needed. 11. Details of addresses and phone numbers can be supplied by the store staff. 12. He was asked to supply the names of two referees. 13. They have signed a contract to supply online information. 14. To supply someone with something or supply something to someone to provide someone with what they need. 15. The local farm supplies the college with milk and cheese. 16. He supplies cheese to the hotel.

1. Support noun 1. An object or structure which stops something from falling. 2. They had to build wooden supports to hold up the wall. 3. Something which helps keep something else in place. Design of support for a knee. 4. The bandage provides support for the knee. 5. An act of encouraging and helping someone, or of agreeing with their plans. 6. The chairman has the support of the committee. 7. She spoke in support of our plan. 8. Help in the form of money. 9. We have had no financial support from the bank. 10. To hold something up to stop it falling down. 11. The roof is supported on ten huge pillars. 12. To provide money to help someone or something. We hope the banks will support us during the expansion period. 13. To encourage someone or something. 14. Which football team do you support? 15. She hopes the other members of the committee will support her. 16. To accept something. 17. The public will not support another price increase. 18. To keep a computer system or program working. 19. The main computer system supports six workstations.

1. Supporter noun a person who encourages someone or something. 2. It sounds a good idea to me – I’m surprised it hasn’t attracted more supporters. Synonym follower. Antonym detractor support group noun a group of people who meet to discuss their problems and help one another. Supporting adjective having a small part in a film, play, or programme as opposed to being the main star.

1. Supportive adjective who supports, helps or encourages. Synonym helpful. Antonym unhelpful. 2. Suppose verb 1. To think something is likely to be true or to happen. 3. Where is the secretary? – I suppose she’s going to be late as usual. 4. I suppose you’ve heard the news? 5. What do you suppose they’re talking about? 6. Will you be coming to the meeting this evening? – I suppose I’ll have to. 7. I don’t suppose many people will come. 8. (showing doubt) What happens if? 9. Suppose it rains tomorrow, do you still want to go for a walk? 10. He’s very late – suppose he’s had an accident? 11. Suppose I win the lottery? 12. I suppose so used to give a doubtful ‘yes’ or ‘Please can I go to the party? – Oh, I suppose so. 13. Supposed to be 1. Should, ought to. 2. The children were supposed to be in bed. 3. How am I supposed to know where he is? 4. He’s supposed to be a good dentist. 5. The film is supposed to be awful. 6. Supposedly adjective accepted as true but not definitely true. 7. Supposedly adjective as we suppose. 8. Synonym allegedly. Antonym actually.

1. Supposing conj what happens if? Supposition noun something which is thought to be true or correct, but cannot be proved. Suppress verb 1. To limit something such as a person’s freedom. 2. The rebellion was ruthlessly suppressed and its leaders executed.

1. To stop something being made public. 2. All opposition newspapers have been suppressed. 3. They tried to suppress the evidence but it had already got into the newspapers. 4. To stop yourself showing what you really feel. 5. She suppressed her
feeling of annoyance and tried to look happy. ○ He couldn’t suppress a smile.
suppression /səˈpreʃəm/ noun the act of suppressing
supremacy /sjuːˈpreɪməsi/ noun the position of being the strongest power
supreme /sjuːˈprɪm/ adj greatest, in the highest position ○ Her dog was supreme champion. ○ It meant one last supreme effort, but they did it.
Supreme Court /sjuːˈprɪm kəut/ noun the highest court in a country
supremely /sjuːˈprɪmli/ adv to the greatest degree. Synonym extremely
supremo /sjuːˈprɪmoʊ/ noun a person in charge of a very large organisation (informal)
surchage /ˈsɜːrfɑːdʒ/ noun an extra charge on goods ○ There is a 10% surcharge on goods that are delivered. ■ verb to charge an extra amount ○ We have been surcharged because of a fall in the exchange rate.
○ sure /sʊə/ adj 1. certain, without any doubt ○ Is he sure he can borrow his mother’s car? ○ I’m sure I left my wallet in my coat pocket. ○ It’s sure to be cold in Russia in December. ○ Make sure or be sure that your computer is switched off before you leave. 2. which is definitely true or will definitely happen ○ It’s a sure remedy for hayfever. 3. • sure of yourself confident that what you do is right ○ He’s only just starting in business, so he’s still not very sure of himself. ■ adv 1. mainly US meaning yes ○ Can I borrow your car? — sure, go ahead! ○ I need someone to help with this computer program — sure, I can do it. 2. US as emphasis ○ He was sure mad when he saw what they’d done to his car. 3. • for sure certainly ○ They said the book would arrive on Thursday for sure. ○ I don’t know which day it came for sure. ○ (and) that’s for sure used for emphasising a statement ○ She’ll never agree to come, and that’s for sure.
sure-footed /ˈʃʊərətɪd/ adj 1. unlikely to trip or fall 2. confident and not likely to make mistakes
○ surely /ˈʃʊərli/ adv 1. of course, certainly (used mostly in questions where a certain answer is expected) ○ Surely they can’t expect us to work on Sundays? ○ But surely their office is in London, not Oxford? ○ They’ll surely complain about the amount of work they have to do. 2. carefully
surely /ˈʃʊərli/ noun 1. a person who takes the responsibility that someone will do something 2. money paid as a guarantee that someone will appear in court
surf /sɜːf/ noun a mass of white foam coming onto a beach on large waves ○ The surf is too rough for children to bathe. (NOTE: Do not confuse with serif) ■ verb 1. to ride on large waves coming onto a beach on a surfboard ○ I’d like to be able to surf. ○ It’s too dangerous to go surfing today. 2. • to surf the Internet to surf the Net to spend time looking at a lot of websites, looking at the pages in no particular order ○ surface /sɜːfəs/ noun 1. the top part of something ○ When it rains, water collects on the surface of the road. ○ The surface of the water was completely still. ○ He stayed a long time under water before coming back to the surface. ○ Dinosaurs disappeared from the surface of the earth millions of years ago. Antonym inside 2. the way someone or something appears to be ○ He seemed calm but under the surface he was furious. ■ verb 1. to come up to the surface ○ The captain gave orders for the submarine to surface. 2. to cover the surface of something such as a road or floor with hard material ○ We’ve had the drive surfaced with asphalt. ○ The kitchen floor is supposed to be surfaced with non-slip material. 3. to appear openly ○ His fear of failure has surfaced again. 4. to wake up (informal) ○ If you haven’t surfaced by 8.30, I’ll come and wake you up.
surface mail /ˈsɜːfrə mɛl/ noun post which is sent by road, rail or sea and not by air. Compare airmail surfboard /ˈsɜːrfbɔːd/ noun post a long board made especially for standing on to ride on top of large waves coming onto a beach
surfeiť /ˈsɜːrfɪt/ noun too much. Synonym excess. Antonym deficit
surfer /ˈsɜːfə/ noun a person who surfs
surfing /ˈsɜːfɪŋ/ noun 1. to ride waves on a surfboard as a sport or for fun 2. to keep switching from channel to channel on a television or from site to site on the Internet in no particular order
surge /sɜːdʒ/ noun 1. a sudden increase in the quantity of something ○ The fine weather has brought a surge of interest in camping. ○ The TV commercials generated a surge of orders. 2. a sudden rising up of water ○ The surge of the sea between the rocks. 3. a sudden increase in electrical power ○ Power surges can burn out computer systems. 4. a sudden strong feeling of an emotion ○ He felt a sudden surge of anger at the thought of having been cheated. ■ verb 1. to rise suddenly ○ The waves surged up onto the rocks. 2. to move in a mass ○ The crowd surged (forward) onto the football pitch. ○ The fans surged around the pop star’s car.
surgeon /ˈsɜːrdʒən/ noun a doctor who is an expert in performing medical operations surgery /ˈsɜːrdʒəri/ noun 1. a treatment of disease which requires an operation to cut into or remove part of the body ○ She had surgery to straighten her nose. ○ The patient will need surgery to remove the scars left by the accident. (NOTE: no plural in this mean-
surgical

ing) 2. a room where a doctor or dentist sees and examines patients. (NOTE: The US term is doctor's office.) 3. a time when an MP receives visitors who ask him or her to solve their problems. 4. instead of writing to your MP why don't you go to one of her surgeries? (NOTE: The plural is surgeries.)

surgical /ˈsɜːdʒɪkl/ adj referring to surgery


surmount /ˈsaʊrənt/ verb to overcome an obstacle. 1. It took us some time to surmount the obstacles in our path. 2. to be on top of. 3. The summit is surmounted by an observatory.

surname /ˈsɜːnɪn/ noun the name of someone's family, shared by all people in the family. Compare first name

surplus /ˈsɜːpləs/ verb to do better than. Synonym exceed

surplus /ˈsɜːpləs/ adj more than enough. 1. Surplus butter is on sale in the shops. 2. We are holding a sale of surplus stock. Synonym extra. Antonym essential (NOTE: surplus to requirements more than is needed). These copper pipes are surplus to our requirements.

surmise /ˈsɜːrmɪz/ verb to make a guess about something.

surmount /ˈsaʊrənt/ verb 1. to overcome an obstacle. 2. to be on top of. 3. The summit is surmounted by an observatory.

surname /ˈsɜːnɪn/ noun the name of someone’s family, shared by all people in the family. Compare first name

surprise /ˈsɜːpraɪz/ noun 1. the feeling when something happens which you did not expect to happen. 2. To his great surprise, a lot of people bought his book.

surprise /ˈsɜːpraɪz/ verb 1. to make someone surprised. 2. to shock someone by saying or doing something which they did not expect. 3. Her question took him by surprise and he didn’t know how to answer. 4. an unexpected event. 5. They baked a cake for her birthday as a surprise.

surprise /ˈsɜːpraɪz/ verb 1. to make someone surprised. 2. It wouldn’t surprise me if it rained. 3. What surprises me is that she left without saying goodbye.

surprised /ˈsɜːpraɪzd/ adj feeling or showing surprise. 2. She was surprised to see her former boyfriend at the party.

surprised to hear that he’s got a good job. Synonym astonished

surprising /ˈsɜːpraɪznɪŋ/ adj which you do not expect. 1. There was a surprising end to the story. 2. Wasn’t it surprising to see the two sisters together again? 3. It’s hardly surprising she doesn’t want to meet you again after what you said. Synonym astonishing. Antonym expected

surprisingly /ˈsɜːpraɪznɪŋli/ adv in a way which surprises

surreal /ˈsɜːrɪˈəl/ adj extremely unusual, as if in a dream

surrealism /ˈsɜːrɪˈeɪlɪzəm/ noun a movement in art in the 1920s where artists tried to show real things in an unusual way, as if existing in dreams.

surrealist /ˈsɜːrɪˈeɪlist/ adj following the principles of surrealism. 1. The surrealism movement was important in the 1920s. 2. noun an artist following the principles of surrealism. 3. Dalí and other surrealists.

surrender /ˈsʌrənədər/ noun 1. giving in to an enemy because you have lost. 2. the surrender of the enemy generals. 3. the giving up of an official document such as a ticket or insurance policy before the period it covers has come to an end or because someone in authority asks for it.

surreptitious /ˌsʊrəpˈtɪʃəs/ adj secret. Synonym furtive

surreptitiously /ˈsʊrəpˌtɪʃəli/ adv secretly. Synonym furtively

surrogate /ˈsərəɡoʊt/ noun a person who acts in place of someone or a thing that takes the place of something else. Synonym substitute

surrogate mother /ˈsərəɡoʊt ˈmʌðər/ noun a woman who becomes pregnant and has a baby for a woman who is not able to do this herself.

surround /ˈsərəround/ verb to be all round someone or something. 1. The Minister has surrounded himself with a group of yes-men. 2. Floodwater has surrounded the village.

surrounded /ˈsərəraʊndɪd/ adj with something all around

surrounding /ˈsərəraʊndɪŋ/ adj which is all round a place

surroundings /ˈsərəraʊndɪŋz/ plural noun the area around a person or place. 1. The surroundings of the hotel are very peaceful.
surveillance 872

○ She found herself in very unpleasant surroundings. Synonym: environs
surveillance /saˈvɛləns/ noun a careful watch over someone or something

surveillance camera /ˈsaʊələns kəˈmɛrə/ noun a camera, often fixed to the side of a building, which automatically takes photographs of what happens in the area, especially used to see if a crime has been committed

survey noun 1. a general report on a subject; a way of finding out about something by asking people questions 2. a way of finding out about something by looking at something so that you see all of it 3. the accurate measurement of land, so as to produce a plan or map 4. to ask people questions to get information about something

ruck 1. to ask people questions to get information about something 2. roughly half the people we surveyed were in favour of the scheme. ○ They’re surveying the site. 2. to look at something so that you see all of it ○ He surveyed the crowd in the square. 3. to measure land in order to produce a plan or map ○ They’re surveying the area where the new runway will be built. 4. to look at something so that you see all of it ○ He stood on the balcony surveying the crowd in the square.

surveying /saˈvərɪŋ/ noun the job or practice of taking accurate measurements of things such as land heights, distances, roads or buildings in order to produce accurate plans or maps

surveyor /saˈvərɪər/ noun 1. a person who examines buildings to see if they are in good condition 2. a person who surveys land

survival /saˈvərəl/ noun the state of continuing to exist ○ The survival of the crew depended on the supplies carried in the lifeboat. ○ The survival rate of newborn babies has started to fall. Antonym: death ○ the survival of the fittest the principle that only the strongest or most suitable animals or plants are likely to survive long enough to be able to produce new young animals or plants

survive /saˈvərv/ verb 1. to continue to be alive after an experience such as accident, attack or serious illness ○ It was such a terrible crash, it was miracle that anyone survived. ○ The President has survived two assassination attempts this year. ○ He survived a massive heart attack. ○ Not all the litter of piglets survived more than a few days. 2. to continue to exist ○ It is one of the three surviving examples of his work. 3. to live longer than someone else ○ He survived his wife by ten years. ○ He is survived by his only son.

surviving /saˈvərvɪŋ/ adj remaining alive or continuing to exist after others have died or no longer exist ○ She had no surviving relatives.

survivor /saˈvərvər/ noun a person who is still alive after an experience such as an accident, attack or serious illness

susceptibilities /saˈsɛptəbilətiz/ plural noun feelings which may be hurt

susceptibility /saˈsɛptəbiliti/ noun the fact of being susceptible to something ○ Her susceptibility to infection means that she cannot go to any place where there are crowds.

susceptible /saˈsɛptəbl/ adj 1. likely to catch a disease ○ She is susceptible to colds and throat infections. 2. easily influenced ○ He’s very susceptible to pretty women. 3. able to be dealt with in a particular way ○ susceptible of proof which can be proved (formal)

sushi /suːʃi/ noun small cakes of rice mixed with fish or vegetables and wrapped in seaweed

suspend /saˈspænd/ verb 1. to stop someone from doing something to think that something is likely ○ I suspect him of being involved in the robbery. ○ They were wrongly suspected of taking bribes. 2. to think that something is likely ○ I suspect it’s going to be more difficult than we thought at first. ○ We suspected all along that something was wrong.

suspected /saˈspəktəd/ adj which is thought to be

suspenders /saˈspændəz/ noun a narrow band of material that can stretch, which you use for holding up stockings

suspender belt /saˈspændər bɛlt/ noun a piece of underwear in the form of a belt with long narrow bands attached to it, used for holding holding up a woman’s stockings

suspenders /saˈspændəz/ plural noun US long narrow bands of material which go over your shoulders to hold up your trousers ○ He wore bright red suspenders with his jeans. (NOTE: The British term is braces.)
suspense /səˈspɛns/ noun nervous excitement experienced while waiting for something to happen or for someone to do something.

suspension /səˈspenʃən/ noun 1. a system of springs which supports a car and helps it to move smoothly. 2. the action of stopping something for a time.

suspicious /səˈspiʃəs/ adj 1. which seems to be wrong, dangerous or connected with a crime. 2. if you suspect something is wrong. 3. to give you strength.

sustained /səˈstɛnd/ adj which continues for a long time. Antonym temporary.

sustaining /səˈsteɪniŋ/ adj 1. which will support something. 2. which will feed you well and prevent you from feeling hungry.

sustenance /səˈstænəns/ noun food. 2. means of sustenance a way of keeping someone alive or of keeping strong. 3. the only means of sustenance they found on the banks.

swab /swæb/ noun 1. a thick piece of soft cloth, often attached to a small stick, used for cleaning a cut in your body or for taking samples of infection for analysis.

swag /swæg/ noun 1. a proud way of walking, where you swing your shoulders as you walk. 2. to walk in a proud way, swinging your shoulders.

swan /swɒn/ noun 1. a large white water bird with pointed wings and tail, which flies having so much, that it is impossible to deal with it all.
swank /swæŋk/ (informal) noun 1. showing that you think a lot of yourself 2. a person who shows off □ verb to show that you think a lot of yourself

swanky /swæŋkɪ/ adj having an expensive and impressive appearance (informal)

swan off /swən ˈɒf/, swan around /swən ˈaʊnd/ verb to travel about in a lazy way, not doing any work (informal) □ Instead of going to university he spent a year swanning around the Pacific islands.

swansong /ˈswænswʊŋ/ noun a last performance or appearance □ swap /swæp/, swap /swɑp/ noun an exchange of one thing for another □ I’ll do a swap with you – one of my CDs for your T-shirt.
□ verb to exchange something for something else □ Can I swap my tickets for next Friday’s show? □ Let’s swap places, so that I can talk to Susan. □ After every game the players swapped jerseys with the other team. □ they swapped jobs each of them took the other’s job

swarm /swɔːm/ noun a large group of insects flying around together □ A swarm of flies buzzed around the meat. □ verb 1. to move about in various directions □ Police were swarming all over the presidential palace. □ Oxford Street was swarming with shoppers. 2. (of bees) to move as a large group, looking for a place to nest □ It’s the time of year when bees swarm.

swarthly /swɔːrθli/ adj with a dark skin (NOTE: swarthier – swarthiest)

swat /swæt/ noun an object with a long handle and a flat part at the end for killing insects such as flies. □ verb to hit and kill a fly (NOTE: swatting – swatted)

swathe /sweθ/ noun 1. a long wide band of land, grass or trees □ Great swathes of forest were destroyed in the fire. 2. □ to cut a swathe through something to destroy a lot of something □ By working hard, they managed to cut a swathe through the outstanding work. □ Cholera has cut a swathe through the refugee population. □ verb to wrap someone up □ The baby was swathed in blankets. □ She went to the rugby match swathed in jumpers and scarves.

sway /swei/ verb 1. to move gracefully from side to side □ The crowd swayed in time to the music. □ The palm trees swayed in the breeze. 2. to have an influence on □ The committee was swayed by a letter from the president. □ noun □ to hold sway over someone to hold power over someone □ He held sway in Russia for several years.

swear /swɛər/ verb 1. to make a serious public promise □ He swore he wouldn’t touch alcohol again. □ The witnesses swore to tell the truth. □ to swear someone to secrecy to make someone swear not to tell a se-

sweat /swet/ noun drops of salt liquid which come through your skin when you are hot or when you are afraid □ After working in the vineyard he was drenched with sweat. □ He broke out into a cold sweat when they called his name. □ verb to produce sweat □ He ran up the hill, sweating and red in the face.

sweatband /ˈswetband/ noun a narrow band of soft material worn round your head or wrist to stop sweat running down, e.g. when you are playing tennis

sweater /ˈswetər/ noun a knitted pullover with long sleeves

sweatshirt /ˈswetʃərt/ noun a thick cotton shirt with long sleeves

sweatshop /ˈswetʃɔp/ noun a small factory where people work for long hours and get paid very little money

sweaty /ˈswetɪ/ adj feeling slightly wet with sweat

swede /swɛd/ noun a common vegetable with a round root and yellow flesh, used mainly in soups and stews (NOTE: The US term is rutabaga.)

Swede /ˈswɛdi/ noun a person from Sweden

sweep /swiːp/ verb 1. to clear up dust and dirt from the floor with a brush □ Have you swept the kitchen floor yet? □ to sweep the board to win completely □ The British team swept the board in the Grand Prix. 3. to clean a chimney with a brush □ We must get the chimney swept before we start having fires again. 4. to move rapidly □ She swept into the room with a glass of champagne in her hand. □ The party swept to power in the general election. □ A feeling of anger swept through the crowd. □ to sweep past to go past quickly □ The motorcade swept past. □ She swept past without saying a word. 5. to follow a curve □ The motorway sweeps round the mountain. □ The road sweeps down to the harbour.
sweep away
clean sweep of something 1, to clear something away completely
○ He made a clean sweep of all the old files.
2, to win everything
○ They made a clean sweep at the local government elections.
■ noun 1, the act of clearing up dirt and dust with a brush ○ I’ll just give the hall floor a sweep.
2, a person who cleans chimneys ○ Sweeps are always busy in the autumn, cleaning chimneys ready for the winter.
3, a wide area ○ The green sweep of the lawn running down to the lake.
4, a wide movement of your arm ○ With a sweep of his arm he knocked all the glasses off the table.

sweep away /ˈswɪp əˈweɪ/ verb to carry something away very quickly ○ The river flooded and swept away part of the village.

sweeper /ˈswɪpər/ noun a person or machine that sweeps a place

sweeping /ˈswɪpɪŋ/ adj which affects many things or people

sweeping generalisation /ˈswɪpɪŋ ˈɡɛnərəlɪzəʃ(ə)n/ sweeping statement noun a statement which may be partly true but has no facts to support it

sweepstake /ˈswɪpʃteɪk/ noun a form of gambling on a horse race where each person bets on a certain horse, and the holder of the winning ticket takes all the money which has been bet

sweet /swiːt/ adj 1, tasting like sugar, and neither sour nor bitter ○ These apples are sweeter than those green ones.
2, charming, pleasant ○ He sent me such a sweet birthday card.
○ It was sweet of him to send me flowers.
○ What a sweet little girl!
3, used to someone you love ○ How sweet of you to help me with my luggage!
(NOTE: sweeter – sweetest)
■ noun 1, a small piece of sweet food, made with sugar ○ She bought some sweets to eat in the cinema.
○ He likes to suck sweets when he is driving.
2, the last course in a meal, sweet food eaten at the end of a meal ○ What’s on the menu for sweet?
○ I’m afraid I haven’t made a sweet.
○ I won’t have any sweet, thank you, just some coffee.
3, used to someone you love ○ Yes, my sweet, I’ll be with you in a minute.
(NOTE: Do not confuse with suite.)
sweet and sour /ˈswɪt ən ˈsɔːr/ adj made with a sauce containing sugar and vinegar

sweet chestnut /ˈswɪt ˈtʃɛstnət/ noun a chestnut from a sweet chestnut tree, which produces edible fruit

sweetcorn /ˈswɪt kɔːrn/ noun the large yellow seeds of a type of maize, eaten cooked

sweeten /ˈswɪtn/ verb to make something sweet ○ Use honey to sweeten your cereal instead of sugar.

sweetener /ˈswɪtn(ə)r/ noun 1, an artificial substance such as saccharin added to food to make it sweet.
○ She was accused of taking sweeteners from building contractors.

sweeten up /ˈswɪt(ə)n ˈʌp/ verb to give someone money or a present to make sure they help you ○ They decided to sweeten up the inspector by taking him out for a meal.

sweetheart /ˈswɪttʃɑːrt/ noun 1, a way of addressing someone you love ○ Look, sweetheart, I can’t lend you any more money.
2, a boyfriend or girlfriend ○ They were sweethearts when they were at school.

sweetie /ˈswɪti/ noun 1, a sweet (informal)
2, a lovely thing or person ○ I must send her a birthday card, she’s such a sweetie.

sweetly /ˈswɪtlɪ/ adv in a sweet way

sweet pea /ˈswɪt ˈpiː/ noun a climbing plant of the pea family, with scented pink, white or red flowers

sweet potato /ˈswɪt ˈpɒtətəʊ/ noun a vegetable like a long red potato with sweet yellow flesh

sweet-smelling /ˈswɪt əmˈʃliŋ/ adj with a pleasant smell. Synonym aromatic

sweetly /ˈswɪtlɪ/ adv in a sweet way

sweet trolley /ˈswɪt ˈtrɒli/ noun a trolley with different sweet dishes, brought to your table in a restaurant for you to choose from

swell /swel/ verb to get bigger, to make bigger ○ More and more people arrived to swell the crowd outside the palace gates.
○ to swell (up) to become larger or to increase in size ○ She was bitten by an insect and her hand swelled (up).
■ noun the movement of large waves in the open sea ○ The boat rose and fell with the swell.
○ There’s a heavy swell running.

swelling /ˈswɛlɪŋ/ noun a condition where fluid forms in part of the body, making that part swell up

swelter /ˈswɛltər/ verb to be very hot

sweltering /ˈswɛltərɪŋ/ adj very hot

swept /swɛpt/ verb

swerve /ˈswɜːv/ noun a sudden movement to one side ○ He made a swerve to the right to get past the defender.
verb to move suddenly to one side ○ They think the car swerved to the left and hit a wall.
○ She had to swerve to avoid the bicycle.
cheat swindled the old lady out of £10,000.

Synonym cheat
swinder /ˈswindər/ noun a person who swindles someone. Synonym cheat

swine /swain/ noun 1. pigs (old) (NOTE: no plural) 2. an unpleasant man (insult) 3. He’s a swine – he keeps us working all day long and pays us peanuts. 4. You rotten swine!

≈ swing /swɪŋ/ noun 1. a movement of your arm forwards and backwards ≡ to take a swing at someone to try to hit someone 2. Someone took a swing at him with a stick.

Swiss /ˈswɪs/ adj referring to Switzerland

We eat a lot of Swiss cheese. 2. The Swiss banking system protects the identity of its...
radio on – it’s time for the evening news.

coming and outgoing calls to various lines

usual.

The Sw...
husband snores too. I get back pains, and I sympathise with all fellow sufferers. sympathy /ˈsɪmpəθi/ noun a feeling of understanding for someone else’s problems, or after someone’s death. We received many messages of sympathy when my wife died. He had no sympathy for his secretary who complained of being overworked. Agreement with or support for someone or something. I have a good deal of sympathy with the idea. To come out on strike in sympathy to stop work to show that you agree with another group of workers who are on strike. The postal workers went on strike and the telephone engineers came out in sympathy.

symphony /ˌsɪmˈfɒni/ noun a long piece of music in several parts, called ‘movements’, played by a full orchestra (NOTE: The plural is symphonies.)
symphony orchestra /ˌsɪmˈfɒni ˌəˌskɒstreɪ/ noun a large orchestra which has enough musicians to be able to play symphonies (NOTE: usually used in titles: the London Symphony Orchestra)
symposium /ˈsɪmˌpəziəm/ noun a meeting organised to discuss a specialised subject. Synonym conference (NOTE: The plural is symposia.)
symptom /ˈsɪmpətəm/ noun 1. a change in the body, showing that a disease is present. He has all the symptoms of measles. 2. A visible sign which shows that something is happening. Rubbish everywhere on the pavements is a symptom of the economic crisis facing the borough.
synaptic /ˈsɪnæptɪk/ adj showing that something exists (formal) or systematic of which is evidence of. The rash is symptomatic of measles. Her rudeness is symptomatic of unease among the staff.
synagogue /ˈsɪnəɡəʊ/ noun a building where people of the Jewish faith pray and study their religion.
sync /sɪŋk/ noun (informal) in sync synchronised out of sync not synchronised
synchronise /ˈsɪŋkraɪnəz/, synchronize verb 1. to adjust watches to the same time. Synchronise your watches to the town hall clock. 2. To arrange things so that they happen at the same time.
syncopated /ˈsɪŋkəpətɪd/ adj (in music) with a beat which is not usually stressed and so changes the rhythm.
syndicate noun /ˈsɪndɪkat/ a group of people or companies working together to make money. A German finance syndicate
verb /ˈsɪndɪkət/ to produce something such as an article or a cartoon, which is then published in several newspapers or magazines.

sympathiser /ˈsɪmpəθəzər/ noun a person who agrees in general with the policies of a group, without being a member of it.
syrup /ˈsɜːp/ noun a very sweet, containing a lot of sugar. Syrupy drinks are bad for
The film is a syrupy story of adolescent love.

system /ˈsɪstəm/ noun 1. a group of things which work together ○ the system of motorways or the motorway system ○ the London underground railway system 2. the body as a whole ○ Amputation of a limb gives a serious shock to the system 3. a way in which things are organised ○ I’ve got my own system for dealing with invoices.

systematic /ˈsɪstəmætɪk/ adj well-organised. Antonym: disorganised

systematically /ˈsɪstəmætɪkli/ adv in a systematic way

systematise /ˈsɪstəmətaɪz/, systematize verb to arrange into a systematic order

systemic /ˈsɪstəmɪk/ adj which affects a whole body or system

systems analyst /ˈsɪstəmz ˈænəlist/ noun a person who examines computer systems
t /tiː/ noun the twentieth letter of the alphabet, between S and U

ta /ˈtɑː/ interj thank you (informal)
tab /ˈtæb/ noun 1. a small piece of paper or cloth which sticks out from a surface, used, e.g., for pulling open a box
2. a piece of metal which you pull to open a drinks can
3. a little coloured marker attached to index cards so that they can be found easily
4. to pick up the tab to pay the bill (informal) "I’ll take you all out to lunch – the company will pick up the tab"
5. to keep tabs on someone to keep watch on someone
6. I’m not too happy about the performance of our new representative in the Far East – you had better keep tabs on him for a while.
7. the tab key on a keyboard

tabby /ˈtæbɪ/ noun a cat with brown or orange stripes

tab key /ˈtæb kɪd/ noun a key on a keyboard which you press to jump forward to a set place on the line

- table /ˈteɪbl/ noun 1. a piece of furniture with a flat top and legs, used to eat or work at
2. We had breakfast sitting round the kitchen table.
3. He asked for a table by the window.
4. She says she booked a table for six people for 12.30.
5. to lay the table, to set the table to put knives, forks, spoons, plates, etc., on a table ready for a meal
6. Can someone set the table please, the food’s almost ready. The table was laid for six.
7. to clear the table to take away the dirty knives, forks, spoons, plates, etc., after a meal
8. The waitress cleared a table for us and we sat down.
9. a list of figures, facts, or information set out in columns
- verb to suggest at a meeting something you would like to discuss
- The report of the finance committee was tabled.

Synonym propose
- to table a motion to put forward a proposal for discussion

- tableau /ˈteɪbləʊ/ noun a scene where actors represent a historic occasion without moving.

Synonym display (NOTE: The plural is tableaux /ˈteɪbləʊz/)
tablecloth /ˈteɪblklɒθ/ noun a cloth which covers a table during a meal

- table lamp /ˈteɪbl ləmp/ noun a lamp on a table
- table-mat /ˈteɪblmeɪt/ noun a mat put on the surface of a table, so that hot plates will not damage it

- tablespoon /ˈteɪblspɔn/ noun 1. a large spoon for serving food at table
2. an amount held in a tablespoon
3. Add two tablespoons of sugar

- tablespoonful /ˈteɪblspɔnfʊl/ noun an amount held in a tablespoon

- tabloid /ˈteɪblbɪd/ noun a newspaper with a small page size, usually containing a lot of information about famous people, and not much serious news (NOTE: Large format newspapers are called broadsheets)

- taboo /ˈtæbʊ/ adj not talked about because of being rude or embarrassing
- Talking about pay rises is taboo in this office.
- Money used to be a taboo subject at home.

- nood a custom which forbids something
- There is a taboo against eating pork in the Muslim religion.

- ban

- tabular /ˈteɪbjʊlər/ adj arranged in a table.

- flat

- tabulate /ˈteɪbjuːlɪt/ verb to arrange numbers in a table

- tabulation /ˈteɪbjuːleɪʃən/ noun the arrangement of numbers in a table

- tabulator /ˈteɪbjʊlətər/ noun the key on a keyboard which you press to jump forward to a set place on the line (NOTE: usually referred to as the tab key)

- tacit /ˈtæsɪt/ adj (of e.g. an agreement) which is understood but not actually said.

- Synonym unspoken

- taciturn /ˈtæsɪtərn/ adj not saying much and seeming to be unfriendly.

- Antonym talkative
tack /tæk/ noun 1. a small nail with a wide head ○ to get down to brass tacks to start discussing the real problem (informal) 2. (in sewing) a loose stitch used to hold cloth in place when making clothes, which can be removed later ○ She put in a row of tacks to show where the pockets were to go. 3. a movement of a sailing boat in a certain direction as it sails against the wind ○ to change tack to start doing something different ○ Originally he offered to pay all the costs of the party and then changed tack and asked everyone to pay for themselves. 1. verb 1. to nail something down using tacks ○ He tacked down the edge of the carpet. 2. to make a loose stitch which will be taken out later ○ She tacked up the hem of her skirt. 3. (in a sailing ship) to change direction so that wind blows the sails from the other side ○ The yacht had to keep tacking because the wind was blowing away from the harbour. 4. they were tacking up the river they sailed up the river changing direction all the time because the wind was against them ○ tactics /tækˈtɪks/ noun a way of doing something so as to get an advantage (often plural) ○ His tactic is to wait until near closing time, when the supermarket reduces the price of bread. 2. a way of fighting a war ○ Guerilla tactics were successful against the advancing army. tactical /ˈtæktɪk(ə)l/ adj referring to tactics ○ Cutting all our prices was a clever tactical move. ○ The decision was taken for tactical reasons. tactical error /ˈtæktɪkl ərə/ noun a mistake which will affect your future plans tactical weapon /ˈtæktɪkl ˈwepən/ noun a weapon which is used at a relatively short range tactician /ˈtæktɪʃən/ noun a person who is an expert at tactics. Synonym strategist tactile /ˈtæktɪl/ adj involving the sense of touch tactless /ˈtæktls/ adj offensive, not always intentionally. Synonym insensitive. Antonym tactful tactlessly /ˈtæktlɪsli/ adv in a tactless way tadpole /ˈtædpəʊl/ noun a frog in its first stage after hatching, when it has a body and tail taffeta /ˈtæfətə/ noun a stiff shiny material often used to make women’s clothes tag /tæg/ noun 1. a label or a piece of paper attached to something to show e.g. a price, contents, or someone’s name and address 2. a children’s game where the first child has to try to touch another one who then chases the others in turn ○ They were playing tag in the school playground. 1. verb 1. to attach a label to something ○ These coats need to be tagged before you put them on the racks. ○ We tag birds so that we can study their migration routes. 2. to tag along behind someone to follow close behind someone ○ Whenever we go out for a walk my sister insists on tagging along. t’ai chi /t’ai ‘ʃi/ noun a Chinese form of very slow physical exercise aimed at assisting relaxation and improving balance tail /tɛl/ noun 1. a long thin part at the end of the body of an animal or bird, which can move ○ All you could see was a slight movement of the cat’s tail. ○ The dog rushed up to him, wagging its tail. ○ to turn tail to turn round and run away ○ As soon as they heard the dog barking, the burglars turned tail and ran off. 2. an end or back part of something ○ The tail of the queue stretched round the corner and into the next street. ○ I prefer to sit near the tail of the aircraft. 3. tails the side of a coin without the head of a king, etc., on it ○ heads or tails throwing a coin in the air to see which side comes down on top ○ Let’s toss heads or tails for the bill! 4. a long back part of a coat or shirt ○ He tucked the tail of his shirt back into his trousers. 5. men’s evening dress, a black coat with a long tail, black trousers and a white bow tie ○ All the men wore tails to the ball. verb to follow close behind someone (informal) ○ The police tailed the lorry from the harbour to the warehouse. tail away /ˈtɛl əˈweɪ/ same as tail off
tailback /ˈteɪlbæk/ noun a long line of cars that is moving very slowly, or not moving at all. Synonym traffic jam

tailboard /ˈteɪlbɔːrd/ noun a hinged board at the back of a lorry which can be let down to load or unload the contents

tail end /ˈteɪl ˈend/ noun the last part or the back part of something

tail fin /ˈteɪl fɪn/ noun a vertical fin on the tail of a plane which helps the steering

tailgate /ˈteɪlɡeɪt/ noun US a door at the back of a car, that opens to give access to the storage space. He had difficulty shutting the tailgate over the box.

tailgating /ˈteɪlɡətɪŋ/ noun US the act of following closely behind another car

tail light /ˈteɪl lɑːt/ noun a back light of a vehicle

tail off /ˈteɪl əf/ verb to become fainter or less. Synonym fade. Antonym build up

tailor /ˈteɪlər/ noun a person who makes clothes for men. He gets all his clothes made by a tailor in Oxford Street. verb 1. to make clothes which fit closely. 2. to adapt something to fit a particular need. The payments can be tailored to suit your requirements. This course is tailored to the needs of women going back to work.

tailored /ˈteɪlərd/ adj 1. made to fit closely. 2. tailored made to fit certain needs

tailpipe /ˈteɪlpaɪp/ noun US the tube at the back of a motor vehicle from which gases produced by the engine are sent out into the air. (NOTE: The British term is exhaust pipe.)

tailplane /ˈteɪlpɪən/ noun a horizontal wing forming part of the tail of an aircraft

tailspin /ˈteɪlspɪn/ noun a dive by an aircraft which turns round and round

tail wind /ˈteɪl wɪnd/ noun a wind blowing from behind which makes an aircraft, vehicle or runner go faster. Compare headwind

taint /tænt/ noun a trace of something bad. We need a new finance director who is to tally free of the taint of corruption. verb 1. to damage something. 2. His political reputation has been permanently tainted by the scandal.

tainted /təˈtændt/ adj money received in a shop. Today’s take was less than yesterday’s.

take away /ˈteɪk əˈweɪ/ verb 1. to remove something or someone. Synonym resemble

take away /ˈteɪk əˈweɪ/ verb 1. to remove something which someone else was using. Someone has taken the newspaper I was reading.

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We need a new finance director who is to tally free of the taint of corruption.

Someone has taken the newspaper I was reading.
takeaway /ˈteɪkwəri/ noun, adj 1. a shop where you can buy cooked food to eat somewhere else ○ There's an Indian takeaway round the corner. ○ We had a Chinese takeaway. 2. a hot meal which you buy in a shop and eat somewhere else ○ We had a takeaway Chinese meal. (NOTE: The US term is takeout.)
take back /ˈteɪk ɪk ˈbæk/ verb 1. to go back with something ○ If the trousers are too short you can take them back to the shop. 2. to accept something which someone has brought back ○ I took my trousers to the shop where I had bought them, but they wouldn't take them back because I didn't have a receipt. 3. to withdraw something which has been said, and apologise for it ○ I take it all back – they're a marvellous team.
take down /ˈteɪk daʊn/ verb 1. to reach up and bring something down ○ I took the jar down from the shelf. 2. to bring something down which had been put up ○ On January 6th we take down the Christmas decorations. ○ They have finished the roof and are taking down the scaffolding. 3. to write down ○ The policeman took down his name and address.
take in /ˈteɪk ɪn/ verb 1. to bring inside something which was outside ○ In October they took in the lemon trees from the garden. 2. to understand something ○ I don't think she took in anything of what you said. 3. to deceive someone ○ Thousands of people were taken in by the advertisement. 4. to make a piece of clothing smaller ○ Can you take these trousers in? – They're much too loose round the waist. Antonym let out
take into /ˈteɪk ɪntu/ verb to take inside taken with /ˈteɪkən/ the past participle of take

take off /ˈteɪk əf/ verb 1. to remove something, especially your clothes ○ He took off all his clothes or he took all his clothes off. ○ Take your dirty boots off before you come into the kitchen. hat 2. to remove or to deduct an amount ○ He took £25 off the price. 3. (of a plane) to leave the ground ○ The plane took off at 4.30. 4. to start to rise fast ○ Sales took off after the TV commercials. 5. ○ she took the day off she decided not to work for the day 6. to imitate someone in a funny way ○ He likes to make everyone laugh by taking off the head teacher.
takeout /ˈteɪk əut/ noun US a hot meal which you buy to eat back home (NOTE: The British term is takeaway.)
takeover /ˈteɪkəuvər/ noun 1. the buying of a controlling interest in a business by offering to buy more than 50% of the shares ○ The company was taken over by a big group last month. 2. to buy a business by offering to buy most of its shares ○ The company was taken over by a big group last month. 3. to make a takeover bid for a company to offer to buy most of the shares in a company 2. occupying a country and removing the government ○ Many people were killed during the military takeover.
takeover bid /ˈteɪkəuvər bɪd/ noun an attempt to take over a company by offering to buy most of its shares
taker /ˈteɪkər/ noun 1. a person who wants to buy or take something ○ At that price, I'm not surprised there were no takers. ○ a person who takes something or something ○ The hostage-takers asked for a huge ransom. ○ Drug-takers are being targeted by the government publicity campaign.
take to /ˈteɪk tɔ/ verb 1. to start to do something as a habit ○ He’s taken to looking under his bed every night to make sure no one is hiding there. ○ She’s recently taken to wearing trousers to work. ○ He took to drink he started to drink alcohol regularly. 2. to start to like someone ○ She took to her boss right away.
take up /ˈteɪk əp/ verb 1. to occupy or to fill a space ○ This settee takes up too much room. ○ Being in charge of the staff sports club takes up too much of my time. 2. to remove something which was down ○ You will need to take up the rugs if you want to polish the floor. 3. to start to do a certain activity ○ She was over fifty when she took up long-distance running. 4. ○ to take someone on something to accept an offer made by someone ○ He asked me if I wanted two tickets to Wimbledon and I took him up on his offer. 5. to make something such as a skirt or dress shorter ○ Can you take up the hem of this coat?
takings /ˈteɪkɪŋz/ plural noun cash received in a shop or business ○ The day’s takings were stolen from the cash desk. ○ This week’s takings were less than last week’s. Synonym earnings. Antonym expenditure
talcum powder /ˈteɪkləmˈpaʊdər/ noun soft: scented powder, used to soften the skin or reduce rubbing

3. tale /teɪl/ noun 1. a story (literary) ○ A tale of princesses and wicked fairies. 2. ○ to tell tales to tell someone such as a parent or teacher that someone has done something wrong
3. talent /ˈteɪlənt/ noun 1. a natural ability or skill ○ She has a talent for getting customers to spend money. 2. people with natural ability ○ The club is always on the lookout for fresh talent.
talent contest /ˈteɪlənt kənˈteɪnt/ noun a competition to find new performers
talented /ˈteɪləntid/ adj with a lot of talent. Synonym gifted
tailor /ˈteɪlər/ noun an object believed to give protection to somebody carrying or wearing it
3. talk /tɔlk/ noun 1. a conversation, a discussion ○ We had a little talk, and she agreed with what the committee had decided. ○ I had a long talk with my father about what I should study at university. 2. a lecture about a subject ○ He gave a short talk about the history of the town. 3. a general rumour ○ There has been talk of a change of government. 4. verb 1. to say things, to speak ○ I didn’t understand what he was talking about. ○ We must talk to the neighbours about their noisy dog – it kept me awake again last night.
talkative /ˈteɪlkətɪv/ adj who likes to talk a lot or to gossip. Synonym chatty. Antonym reticent
talker /ˈteɪlkər/ noun a person who talks a lot
talking shop /ˈteɪlkɪŋ ʃɒp/ noun a place where things are talked about, but where no action is ever taken (informal)
talking-to /ˈteɪlkɪŋ tɔ/ noun an occasion when you angrily criticise someone’s behaviour (informal) Synonym dressing-down
talk into /ˈteɪlk ɪntu/ verb ○ to talk someone into doing something to persuade someone to do something ○ The salesman talked us into buying a new car.
talk of /ˈteɪlk əv/ verb to mention something that you may be planning to do
talk over /ˈteɪlk əvər/ verb to discuss
talk round /ˈteɪlk ˈraʊnd/ verb to persuade someone to change their mind
talk show /ˈteɪlk ʃɔʊ/ noun a chat show, a talk show where famous people talk to the host
3. tall /tɔl/ adj high, usually higher than normal ○ The bank building is the tallest building in London. ○ Can you see those tall trees over there? ○ He’s the tallest boy in his class. ○ How tall are you? – I’m 1 metre 68 centimetres. ○ His brother is over six feet tall. (NOTE: taller – tallest. Tall is used with people and thin things like trees or scrapers; for things which are a long way above the ground use high: high clouds, a high mountain.)
tall order /ˈteɪl ɔdər/ noun a difficult thing to ask someone to do (informal)
tall story /ˈteɪl ˈstɔrɪ/ noun an unbelievable story (informal)
tally /ˈteɪli/ noun a note, account or score ○ What’s the tally in the race so far? – We’ve had two crashes and four retirements through mechanical failure. ○ The scorer keeps a tally of the runs scored. ○ Did you keep a tally of all your expenses? 2. verb to agree ○ The totals in the two columns don’t tally. ○ The figures in my notebook tally with the computer figures.
talmud /ˈtælməd/ noun a book containing a collection of Jewish writings
talon /ˈtæloʊn/ noun the big claw of a bird of prey
tambourine /ˈtæmbərɪn/ noun a small drum with metal discs attached to the rim, so that they jangle when it is hit
2. tame /teɪm/ adj 1. which is not wild, which is used to people ○ Don’t be afraid of that fox – he’s perfectly tame. 2. not very exciting ○ The film is a lot tamer than the book. 3. verb to make a wild animal tame ○ They tame wild
tamper

tamper  /ˈtæmpər/ verb 1. to tamper with to meddle with something ○ Someone has been tampering with the weighing machine. ○ I hope no one tampered with the test sample.
tampon  /ˈtæmpən/ noun 1. a tube of absorbent material placed inside the vagina to soak up menstrual blood ○ I need to buy a packet of tampons from the chemist. 2. a pad of absorbent material used in operations to soak up blood ○ The surgeon put a tampon into the wound to absorb some of the blood.
tan  /tæn/ adjective brownish-yellow ○ He was wearing tan shoes. 1. noun 1. a brownish-yellow colour ○ Have you got the same shoes, but in tan? 2. a brownish-yellow colour of the skin after being in the sun ○ She tans easily – just half an hour in the sun and she’s quite brown.
tangible assets  /ˈtændʒəbl əˈsetz/ plural noun assets which are visible, such as property, jewels or machines
tangle  /ˈtæŋgl/ noun a mass of something such as threads, string or hair, all mixed together ○ The tangle of shrubs in the back garden needs clearing. 1. in a tangle all mixed up ○ All my wool is in a tangle. 2. to get things mixed together in knots ○ Her hair is so tangled that it’s impossible to comb. 3. to tangle with someone ○ to get into an argument with someone ○ Tourists are advised not to tangle with the local football supporters.
tangled  /ˈtæŋgəld/ adjective twisted in an untidy way
tango  /ˈtæŋgoʊ/ noun a South American dance for two people, where you glide side-ways (NOTE: The plural is tangos.)
tangy  /ˈtæŋɡi/ adjective with a sharp taste or smell ○ tank  /tæŋk/ noun 1. a large container for liquids ○ How much oil is left in the tank? 2. an armoured vehicle with caterpillar tracks and powerful guns ○ Tanks rolled along the main streets of the town.
tankard  /ˈtæŋkərd/ noun a large mug for drinking beer
tanker  /ˈtæŋkər/ noun a ship or lorry for carrying liquids, especially oil
tanned  /ˈtændəd/ adjective brown from having been exposed to the sun

tanning – tanned

tan

tan  /tæn/ verb 1. to brown from being in the sun ○ She tans easily – just half an hour in the sun and she’s quite brown. 2. to treat animal skin to make leather (NOTE: The plural is tannings.)
tan in a tangle for many years.
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tan in a tangle for many years.
tapped (NOTE: tapping – tapped)
tap-dancer /tæpˈdɑːnsər/ noun a person who does tap-dancing
tap-dancing /tæpˈdɑːnsɪŋ/ noun a style of dancing in which the dancer wears special shoes with metal heels and toes which make a loud tapping sound
tape /teɪp/ noun 1. a long narrow strip e.g. of cloth or plastic ○ She stitched tape along the bottom of the hem to stop it fraying.
2. same as magnetic tape: on tape recorded on magnetic tape ○ We have the whole conversation on tape. ■ verb 1. to record something on tape or on video ○ The whole conversation was taped by the police.
○ I didn’t see the programme because I was at work, but I’ve taped it. 2. to attach something with sticky tape ○ She taped up the box before taking it to the post office.
tape deck /ˈteɪp ˌdeɪk/ noun a part of a stereo system, which plays tapes
tape measure /ˈteɪp ˈmeʒər/ noun a measuring tape, a long strip marked in centimetres or inches, used for measuring
taper /ˈteɪpər/ noun a long thin candle, made of a wick covered with a thin layer of wax ○ If you have a lot of candles to light use a taper rather than wasting matches. ■ verb 1. to make something thinner at the end ○ You will need to taper the piece of wood to make it fit into the hole. 2. to become thinner at the end ○ Her new shoes taper to a point.
○ to taper off to become less thick, strong, large, etc. ○ The fuss about the minister’s wife seems to have tapered off.
tape-recorder /ˈteɪp rɪˌkɔːdər/ noun a machine which is used to record sounds on magnetic tape and which can play back what has been recorded
tapestry /ˈteɪpstrɪ/ noun 1. a thick woven cloth with a picture or design, usually hung on walls or used to cover chairs ○ The walls were hung with tapestries.
2. ○ the rich tapestry of life: in all its varied forms ○ Being made manager one week and being switched back to your old job the next is all part of the rich tapestry of life in this office.
tap water /ˈteɪp wɔːts/ noun water which comes through pipes into a building
tar /tɑːr/ noun 1. a thick hard black substance which comes from coal and is melted to make road surfaces ○ They were spreading tar and sand on the road.
○ They spread a coating of tar on the roof to waterproof it. 2. a similar black oily substance which comes from burning tobacco ○ cigarettes with low tar content or low tar cigarettes ■ verb to cover with melted tar ○ a special machine for tarring roads (NOTE: tarring – tarred)
tarantula /təˈræntjʊlə/ noun a large mildly poisonous tropical spider
 tardy /ˈtɑːrdi/ adj late, Antonym punctual (NOTE: tardier – tardiest)
target /ˈtɑːrɪt/ noun 1. an object which you aim at e.g. with a gun ○ His last shot missed the target altogether. ○ She hit the target three times in all.
2. a goal which you try to reach ○ to set targets to fix quantities of work which employees have to produce ○ to meet a target to produce the quantity of goods or sales which is expected ○ We need to set targets for our sales staff to meet. ○ to miss a target not to produce the amount of goods or sales which is expected ○ The factory missed its production targets again this year. ■ verb to aim at customers or possible markets ○ The advertising campaign is targeting the student market.
tariff /ˈtɑːrɪf/ noun 1. a tax to be paid for importing or exporting goods ○ to impose a tariff on something to make a tax payable when you buy something ○ to lift tariff barriers to reduce import taxes 2. a list of prices for things such as electricity, gas or water ○ The new winter tariff will be introduced next week.
tarmac /ˈtɑːrmeɪk/ noun a trademark for a hard road surface made of tar mixed with small stones ○ The sun was so hot, the Tarmac was starting to melt. ■ noun /ˈtɑːrˈmɪk/ the areas of an airport covered with Tarmac, especially a runway ○ The snow ploughs were working flat out to clear the snow from the Tarmac.
tarnish /ˈtɑrnɪʃ/ noun 1. to become discoloured ○ Silver tarnishes easily ○ to ruin a reputation ○ The sex scandal has irreparably tarnished his reputation as a politician.
tarot /ˈtɑrət/ noun a special set of cards with pictures on them, such as the Emperor, the Pope, the Hanged Man and the Fool, used in telling fortunes
tarpaulin /ˈtɑpəlɪn/ noun a piece of thick waterproof canvas, used to cover things left outside
tart /tɑːt/ noun 1. a small pie with a sweet filling ○ an apple tart 2. a prostitute (offensive) ■ adj 1. bitter, sour ○ These apples are very tart. 2. sharp and sarcastic ○ He gave her a tart reply. (NOTE: tarter – tartest) ■ verb ○ to tart something up to make something look smarter, but in a tasteless way (informal) ○ The new management has tarred up the restaurant and increased all the prices.
tartan /ˈtɑːtn/ noun 1. a cloth woven into a special pattern for one of the Scottish clans ○ She wore a tartan kilt. ○ a tartan rug 2. a distinctive pattern in such a cloth, worn by members of a Scottish clan ○ My Scottish
grandmother gave me a rug with the Mackay tartan on it or a Mackay tartan rug.

**task** /task/ noun 1. a job of work which has to be done ○ There are many tasks which need to be done in the garden. ○ He had the unpleasant task of telling his mother about it.

2. ○ to take someone to task for to criticise someone for something ○ She took him to task for not cleaning the bathroom.

taskbar /ˈtaskˌbær/ noun a display on a computer screen with symbols showing which programs are open and operating

**taste** /ˈtæst/ noun 1. one of the five senses, by which you can tell differences of flavour between things you eat, using your tongue ○ I’ve got a cold, so I’ve lost all sense of taste. 2. a flavour of something that you eat or drink ○ The pudding has a funny or strange taste. ○ Do you like the taste of garlic? ○ This milk shake has no taste at all. 3. being able to appreciate things that are beautiful ○ My taste in music is quite different.

**tasteless** /ˈtæstli/ adj with no special flavour ○ The onions in this soup?

**tasteful** /ˈtæstfʊl/ adj showing good taste. Synonym discerning

tasteless /ˈtæstfəls/ adj 1. with no special flavour ○ Chicken can be quite tasteless unless you add herbs to it. 2. showing bad taste ○ a restaurant with tasteless decorations ○ She made a tasteless remark about her mother’s dress.

taster /ˈtæstər/ noun 1. a person whose job is to taste food to test its quality ○ He likes his job as a food taster with a big supermarket.

ket. 2. a short experience of something so you can decide if you like it ○ a weekend taster course learning yoga.

tasty /ˈtæstɪ/ adj with a specially pleasant taste. Synonym delicious (NOTE: taster – tastiest)

ta-ta /ˈtɑːtə/ interj goodbye (informal)

tattered /ˈtætəd/ adj torn and old

tasters ○ in tatters 1. torn ○ His shirt was in tatters. 2. wearing old torn clothes ○ The children were in tatters.

tattoo /ˈtætʊ/ noun 1. a decoration on skin made by pricking with a needle and putting colour into the wound ○ She has a little tattoo of a rose on her left shoulder. 2. a military parade ○ Crowds went to see the tattoo last night. ■ verb to make decorations on someone’s skin by pricking it and putting colour into the wound ○ She has had a little rose tattooed on her left shoulder.

**taut** /ˈtɔt/ adj stretched tight

tauten /ˈtɔtən/ verb 1. to stretch tight ○ You must tauten the canvas on the frame before you start to paint. 2. to become tight ○ The ropes tautened as they became wet.

tautology /ˈtɔtələdʒi/ noun using different words which mean the same thing in the same sentence

tavern /ˈtɑvən/ noun a public house, a place where people can go to drink alcohol (archaic) Synonym inn

tawdry /ˈtɔdri/ adj cheap and in bad taste. Antonym tasteful (NOTE: tawdrier – tawdriest)

tawny /ˈtɔni/ adj orange brown (NOTE: tawnnier – tawniest)

tax /teks/ noun 1. money taken by the government from things such as people’s incomes and sales, to pay for government services ○ The government is planning to introduce a tax on food. ○ You must pay your tax on the correct date. ○ The newspaper headline says ‘TAXES TO GO UP’. 2. exclusive of tax not including tax ○ inclusive of tax including tax ○ All prices are shown inclusive of value added tax. ■ verb 1. to put a tax on something or someone ○ Income is taxed at 25%. 2. to pay tax on something ○ He had forgotten to tax his car. ○ The car is for sale, taxed till next April. 3. to demand a
taxable /ˈtekseɪbl/ adj which you have to pay tax on

taxation /ˈtæksəʃən/ noun the action of imposing taxes

tax evasion /ˈtæks ɪ vəʒən/ noun illegally trying not to pay tax

taxi /ˈtæksi/ noun a car which you can hire with a driver ○ Can you call a taxi to take me to the airport? ○ Why aren’t there any taxis at the station today? ○ There are no buses on Sunday afternoons, so we had to take a taxi to the party. (NOTE: also often called a cab and sometimes taxicab) • verb (of an aircraft) to go slowly along the ground before taking off or after landing ○ The aircraft taxied out onto the runway.

taxicab /ˈtæksɪkæb/ • taxi
taxi driver /ˈtæksi ˈdraɪvə/ noun a person who drives a taxi

taxing /ˈtæksɪŋ/ adj making you use a lot of energy

taxi rank /ˈtæksi ˈræŋk/ noun a place in the street where taxis can wait

taxpayer /ˈtækspeər/ noun a person who pays tax, especially income tax

tax return /ˈtæks ˈriːtərn/ noun a form to be filled in to inform the tax office of your earnings and allowances

TB abbr tuberculosis ○ Outbreaks of TB have started to reappear in Europe.

tea /tiː/ noun 1. a drink made from hot water which has been poured onto the dried leaves of a tropical plant ○ Can I have another cup of tea or some more tea? ○ I don’t like tea – can I have coffee instead? 2. a cup of tea ○ Can we have two teas and two cakes, please? 3. the dried leaves of a tropical plant used to make a warm drink ○ We’ve run out of tea, can you put it on your shopping list? ○ Put a spoonful of tea into the pot and add boiling water. 4. dried leaves or flowers of other plants, used to make a drink ○ I’ll have a cup of peppermint tea. 5. a meal eaten in the late afternoon or early evening ○ The children have had their tea

teebag /ˈtiːbæg/, tea bag noun a small paper bag with tea leaves in it which you put into the pot with hot water

tea break /ˈtiː bréık/ noun a rest period at work, when you can have a drink

teach /tiːʃ/ verb 1. to give lessons, to show someone how to do something ○ She taught me how to dance. ○ He teaches maths in the local school. ○ She taught herself to type. ○ Who taught her to swim? 2. • to teach someone a lesson to punish someone for doing something wrong (informal) ○ I locked up her bike – it will teach her a lesson for going out when she should be doing her homework. □ that’ll teach you that will be a punishment for you ○ That’ll teach you not to forget to do the washing up.

teacher /ˈtiːʃər/ noun a person who teaches, especially in a school ○ Mr Jones is our maths teacher ○ The French teacher is ill today. ○ He trained as a primary school teacher. • pet. Synonym instructor

teaching /ˈtiːʃɪŋ/ noun the work of being a teacher or of giving lessons ○ The report praised the high standard of teaching at the college. ○ He was working in a bank, but has decided to go into teaching instead. ○ the teaching profession all teachers, taken as a group ○ The teaching profession is often blamed by parents if their children do badly at school.
teachings /ˈtiːʃɪŋz/ plural noun political or moral ideas which are taught

teacloth /ˈtɪklɒθ/ noun a cloth which you use for drying things that have been washed, such as plates and dishes

tecap /ˈtɪkæp/ noun a cup for drinking tea out of ○ a storm in a teacup a lot of fuss about something which is not important (informal)
teak /tɪk/ noun 1. the hard wood of a tropical tree, which is resistant to water, and is used for making things such as outdoor furniture ○ We bought some teak furniture for the patio. ○ The table is solid teak. 2. the large tropical tree which produces this wood ○ the teak forests of Indonesia

team /tiːm/ noun 1. a group of people who play a game together ○ There are eleven people in a football team and fifteen in a rugby team. ○ He’s a fan of the local football team. ○ Our college team played badly last Saturday. 2. a group of people who work together ○ They make a very effective team. ○ In this job you have to be able to work as a member of a team. • verb ○ to team up with someone to join someone in order to work together ○ I teamed up with George to tackle the German project.
team-mate /ˈtiːmmeɪt/ noun someone in the same team as you

team spirit /ˈtiːm ˈspɪrɪt/ noun a feeling of loyalty to the team on the part of those who play or work together

teamwork /ˈtiːmwərk/ noun working together as a group. Synonym cooperation

teapot /ˈtiːpət/ noun a pot which is used for making tea in

tear /tiːər/ noun 1. /ˈtiːər/ a drop of salt water which forms in your eye when you cry ○ Tears were running down her cheeks. □ in tears crying ○ All the family were in tears. ○ she burst into tears she suddenly started
tear apart 889 teenage

crying 2. a place where something has a hole in it from being torn  0 Can you mend the tear in my jeans?  
wear and tear  1. to make a hole in something by pulling  0 He tore his trousers climbing over the fence.  0 My anorak is torn — can it be mended?  2. to pull something into pieces  0 He tore the letter in half.  0 She tore up old newspapers to pack the cups and saucers.  0 that's torn it that has ruined what we were planning, that has spoilt everything (informal)  0 That's torn it — there's a policeman coming!  3. to go very fast  0 He tore across the platform, but just missed his train.  0 She grabbed the dress and tore out of the shop.  0 (NOTE: tearing — tore /tɔ/ — torn /tɔrn/) tear apart /tɔr ə pɔrt/ verb to pull something to pieces

tear down /tɔ dəun/ 1. to knock something down  0 They tore down the old town hall and replaced it with a supermarket.  2. to remove a piece of paper or cloth which is hanging up  0 The crowd tore down the pictures of the president.  0 The police tore down the opposition party's election posters. tearful /tərfl/ adj sad, crying

tear gas /tər ɡæs/ noun gas which makes your eyes burn, used by police to control crowds

tease /tiːz/ verb to say or do something to annoy someone on purpose  0 He teased her about her thick glasses.  0 Stop teasing that poor cat.  0 noun a person who teases people  0 He's such a tease. Synonym joker

teaspoon /ˈtɛsˌpʊn/ noun 1. a small spoon for stirring tea or other liquid  0 Can you bring me a teaspoon, please?  2. the amount contained in a teaspoon  0 I take one teaspoon of sugar in my coffee.
teat /tiːt/ noun 1. a rubber cap on a baby's feeding bottle through which the baby sucks milk  0 The baby's bottle and teat should be sterilised before each feed. (NOTE: Another US term is nipple.)  2. a nipple on a cow's udder through which the calf drinks milk  0 A cow is milked by squeezing and pulling on the teats.
tea towel /tiː ˈtəul/ noun a cloth which you use for drying plates and dishes

technical /ˈtekənɪkəl/ noun a little, usually unimportant, detail which relates to something  0 technically /ˈtekənɪkl/ adv 1. in a technical way  0 It's technically possible to make a light bulb that would never wear out.  2. technically (speaking) according to the exact meaning or rules  0 Technically, he isn't a member of the club because he hasn't paid this year's subscription. synonym method

techno /ˈtekənəʊ/ noun a type of fast dance music using electronic instruments  0 technological /ˈtekənəlɪkəl/ adj referring to technology. synonym technical

technology /ˈtekənələdʒi/ noun the use or study of industrial or scientific skills  0 We already have the technology to produce such a machine.  0 The government has promised increased investment in science and technology.  0 the introduction of new technology putting new electronic equipment into a business or industry.  0 high technology, information technology

teddy bear /ˈtedi ˈbɛə/ noun 1. a child's toy bear  0 The little boy was clutching his old teddy bear. (NOTE: The plural is teddies.)
tedious /ˈtɛdɪəs/ adj boring. Antonym interesting
tediously /ˈtɛdɪəsli/ adv in a tedious way
tedium /ˈtɛdiəm/ noun boredom, being boring

tee /tiː/ noun 1. a raised grass area on a golf course where the ball is placed when you begin to play each hole  0 He is walking towards the sixteenth tee.  2. a little peg which is pushed into ground, on which the golf ball is placed to start playing a hole  0 The ground is so hard I can hardly stick my tee in.  0 verb  0 to tee off to hit the ball from a tee  0 At what time do we tee off?
teem /tiːm/ verb 1. to be full of something  0 In spring the rivers are teeming with rain (informal)
teen /tiːn/ noun an informal word for a teenager

teeneady /ˈtiːnədʒi/ adj referring to young people aged between 13 and 19  0 the teenage years  0 The teenage market for their records is enormous.
teenaged /tɪˈneɪd/ adj aged between 13 and 19 ○ He has two teenaged daughters. (NOTE: only used before a noun)

teenager /ˈtiːnɪdʒə/ noun a young person aged between 13 and 19 ○ Most of the people who come to the club are teenagers. Synonym adolescent
teens /tɪnz/ plural noun the age between 13 and 19. Synonym adolescence
teeny /ˈtiːni/ adj very small (informal) Synonym tiny. Antonym enormous

teeny-bopper /ˈtiːni bɒpə/ noun a teen-aged girl pop fan (informal)
teeny-weeny /ˈtiːni ˈwiːni/ adj extremely small (informal)
tees /tiːz/ noun a light shirt with no buttons or collar, usually with short sleeves
tee-shirt /ˈtiːʃɛrt/, T-shirt noun a light shirt
teedle /ˈtiːdəl/ verb to wobble, to be very unstable. Synonym totter
tooth /ˈtʊθ/ noun a tooth

toothache /ˈtʊθeɪk/ noun pain in a tooth

teeth /ˈtɪθ/ plural noun the first teeth starting to grow ○ The baby wakes up at night because he is teething.
toothache /ˈtʊθeɪk/ noun pain in a tooth

toothless /ˈtʊθlɪs/ adj without teeth

teething /ˈtiːθɪŋ/ noun the period when a baby’s first teeth start to grow "His baby is going through a teething spree.”
toothache /ˈtʊθeɪk/ noun pain in a tooth

teething problems /ˈtiːθɪŋ ˈprɒbləmz/ plural noun problems which happen when a new process or system is being introduced ○ We are experiencing some teething problems with the new software system.
teetotal /ˈtiːtɔʊtəl/ adj who never drinks alcohol

teetotaller /ˈtiːtɔʊtələ/ noun a person who never drinks alcohol (NOTE: The US spelling is teetotaler)

TEFL /ˈtɛfəl/ abbr teaching of English as a foreign language

Teflon /ˈtɛflɒn/ trademark a trademark for a non-stick surface used on cooking pans
tel /əl/ telephone
tele- /ˈteləl/ prefix over a distance
telecommunications /ˌtəlɪkəmjuːˈnɪkəlɪz/ plural noun a communication system using e.g. telephone, radio, TV, satellites ○ Thanks to modern telecommunications, the information can be sent to our office in Japan in seconds. (NOTE: also shortened to telecoms /ˈtɛlɪkmɔːm/) telecommuter /ˌtəlɪkəmˈmjuːtər/ noun a person who works from home, using email and telephone as their main means of communicating with the company they work for
teleconference /ˌtəlɪkəˈfɛnɔːrəns/ noun a meeting held by people in different places using telephone and television

telegram /ˈtɛlɪɡrəm/ noun a message sent by telegraph
telegraph /ˈtɛlɪɡrɑf/ noun a system of sending messages along wires ○ The order telling him to return home was sent by telegraph. ○ verb to send someone a message by telegraph ○ They telegraphed him to tell him to return immediately. ○ Can you telegraph the money to our office in Australia?
telegraph pole /ˈtɛlɪɡræf pɔl/ noun a pole which holds up a telephone line
telemarketing /ˌtɛlɪˈmɑːrkɪnɪŋ/ noun the activity of selling goods and services by telephone
telepathic /ˈtelɪˈpæθɪk/ adj. referring to telepathy ○ She said she could receive telepathic messages from members of the audience. 2. appearing to know what other people are thinking ○ How did you know I like yellow roses – You must be telepathic!
telepathy /ˈtelɪpæθə/ noun sending thoughts or mental images from one person to another without using the senses ○ telephone /ˈtɛlfəʊn/ noun a machine which you use to speak to someone who is some distance away ○ I was in the garden when you called, but by the time I got to the house the telephone had stopped ringing. ○ She lifted the telephone and called the ambulance. ○ to answer the telephone to lift the receiver when the phone rings and listen to what the caller is saying ○ Can’t someone answer the telephone – it’s been ringing and ringing. ○ by telephone using the telephone ○ He booked his plane ticket by telephone. ○ She reserved a table by telephone. ○ verb to call someone using a telephone ○ Your wife telephoned when you were out. ○ Can you telephone me at ten o’clock tomorrow evening? ○ I need to telephone our office in New York. (NOTE: Telephone is often shortened to phone: phone call, phone book, but not in the expressions exchanges switch-board, telephone operator, telephone exchange.)
telex /ˈtelɪks/ noun a device for sending messages over long distance
telephone /ˈtɛlɪfon/ noun a device for sending messages over long distance

telephone /ˈtɛlɪfoʊn/ noun a device for sending messages over long distance ○ phone book, but not in the expressions exchanges switch-board, telephone operator, telephone exchange.
telephone box /ˈtɛlɪfon bɒks/ noun a shelter with windows round it containing a public telephone (NOTE: often shortened to phone box)
telephone directory /ˈtɛlɪfon dəˈrɪkərɪ/ noun a book which lists names of people and businesses in alphabetical order with their phone numbers and addresses
telephone exchange /ˈtɛlɪfon ɪksˈtʃɛndʒ/ noun a central telephone switchboard
telephone number /ˈtɛlɪfon nʌmbər/ noun the number of a particular telephone (NOTE: often shortened to phone number)
telesales /ˈtɛlɪsɛlz/ noun same as telemarketing
telescope /ˈtɛlɪskəʊp/ noun a tube with a series of lenses for looking at objects which are very far away ○ With a telescope you can see the stars very clearly. ○ He discovered a comet using the telescope in his back garden. ○ verb to push the ends of something together, so that one piece slides into another ○
telescopic 891
televised live the show is being broadcast as it takes place, and not recorded and broadcast later.

television /tēˈvīzən/ noun 1. sound and pictures which are sent through the air or along cables and appear on a special machine. 2. a piece of electrical equipment which shows television pictures. 3. a person who works from home, using telephone and electronic equipment which shows television programmes.
television /tēˈvīzən/ verb to broadcast something on television; to broadcast something on a special machine.
teleworker /tēˈləwərkər/ noun a person who works from home, using telephone and email as their principal way of communicating with the company they work for.
telescope /ˈteləskəp/ noun 1. a device for viewing distant objects. 2. a looking glass. 3. a sniper’s rifle with telescopic sights. 4. a looking glass which has a certain effect, revealing things which are not visible.
telewhite /ˈteləˌwaɪt/ adj white. 2. white.
teleworker /tēˈləwərkər/ noun a clerk in a bank who counts votes in the House of Commons.
telelogy /tēˈlələdʒi/ noun a telling way of explaining something.

tempestuous /ˈtempəstjuəs/ adj with strong emotions being displayed.

In the crash, several of the carriages of the express train were telescoped.

A sniper’s rifle has telescopic sights. 2. A telescopic umbrella should be small enough to fit into your bag.

The radio has a telescopic aerial. 2. A telescopic umbrella should be small enough to fit into your bag.

The show is being televised live. The show is being broadcast as it takes place, and not recorded and broadcast later.

The temperature in the swimming pool is 25°C. 2. The temperature of water in the swimming pool is 25°C. 3. The temperature in the swimming pool is 25°C. 4. The temperature of water in the swimming pool is 25°C. 5. to tell the truth.

1. to tell /tel/ verb 1. to communicate something to someone, e.g. a story or a joke. 2. to give information to someone. 3. to tell someone what to do to give someone instructions. 4. to notice something. 5. to tell the time to be able to read the time from a clock. 6. He’s only three, but he can already tell the time. (NOTE: telling – told)

teller /ˈtelər/ noun 1. a clerk in a bank who takes in money or pays it out to customers. 2. a member of parliament who counts votes in the House of Commons.

tellingly /ˈtelənlı/ adv in a telling way.

tempest /ˈtempest/ noun a big storm (literary). 2. a tempest in a teacup. 3. a tempest in a teacup. 4. a tempest in a teacup. 5. a tempest in a teacup.

tempestuous /ˈtempəstjuəs/ adj with strong emotions being displayed.

We have two temps working in the office this week. 2. to work as a temp. 3. to have done some temping jobs. 4. to temper something. 5. to temper something. 6. to temper something. 7. to temper something.

temperate /ˈtemprət/ adj 1. likely to have bad moods, likely to be in a bad temper for no particular reason. 2. likely to break down. 3. likely to break down.

We can’t watch anything – our television has broken down. 2. Switch off the television – that programme’s stupid. 3. When my husband comes home in the evening he just pours himself a beer, turns on the television and goes to sleep. (NOTE: Television is often written or spoken as TV, as TV.)

The doctor says he’s got a temperature. 2. She has done some temping jobs. 3. the temperature is below zero.

The policeman told them how to get to the post office. 2. He told the police that he had seen the accident take place. 3. Don’t tell my mother you saw me at the pub. 4. Nobody told us about the picnic. 5. to tell someone what to do to give someone instructions. 6. The teacher told the children to stand in a line. 7. Give a shout to tell us when to start. 8. to notice something. 9. He can’t tell the difference between butter and margarine. 10. You can tell he is embarrassed when his face goes red.

The temperature of water in the swimming pool is 25°C. 2. Temperatures in the Arctic can be very low. 3. I can’t start the car when the temperature is below zero. 4. Put the thermometer in the patient’s mouth – I want to take her temperature. 5. an illness where your body is hotter than normal.

He has a violent temper. 2. The chef has a reputation for being temperamental.

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template 892 tennis

tempi or tempo /tempi/ noun 1. a rhythm or the beat of music. 2. the speed at which something happens. He found it difficult to keep up with the tempo of life in the City.

tempt /temp/ verb 1. to try to persuade someone to do something, especially something pleasant or wrong. 2. to tempt someone to do something, especially something pleasant or wrong. He was tempted to leave his job and work for them.

tempestuous /tempestjuəs/ adj. holding on tightly to something, determined to have your own way. We have to deal with several very tenacious tenants.

tenacity /tenəsiti/ noun being determined to do something.

tenancy /tenansi/ noun a period during which a tenant has an agreement to rent a property. Synonym occupancy.

tenant /tenanti/ noun a person or company that rents e.g. a room, a flat, a house, an office, or land, in which to live or work.

tender /tendə/ adj. 1. of food that is easy to cut or chew. 2. tender (of food) easy to cut or chew. a plate of tender young beans.

tenant /tenənt/ noun a person or company that rents e.g. a room, a flat, a house, an office, or land, in which to live or work.

tend /tend/ verb 1. to look after something. 2. to tend to do something to be likely to do something. She tends to lose her temper very easily.

tend to /tend toi/ verb 1. to offer to do something at a certain price. 2. to offer to do work at a certain price.

tenderness /tendərnes/ noun the way in which someone or something is likely to act.

tendering for /tendəriŋ fɔr/ verb 1. to tender for a job to offer to do work at a certain price. 2. to offer to do work at a certain price.

tenderly /tendəli/ adv. gently; with kindness.

tender offer /tendər ofər/ noun an offer to do work at a certain price.

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tenor noun 1. a man who sings with the highest male voice. The tenors start the song, followed by the sopranos. 2. a general mood or attitude. He was upset by the threatening tenor of his speech. 3. the general way of doing something. The dangerous tenor of life in the refugee camps. 4. adj with a high pitch, similar to that of a tenor. He has a pleasant tenor voice.

ten-pin bowling noun a game where you roll a large ball and try to knock down ten targets, shaped like bottles.

tense tense noun a state of nervous anxiety. Tension built up as we waited for the result. 2. a state of hostility between countries or races. There is tension in the area caused by fighting between tribes. 3. the state of being tight. You need to adjust the tension in your tennis racket. 4. voltage. High-tension cables.

tent noun a shelter made of cloth, held up by poles and attached to the ground with ropes. To pitch a tent is to put up a tent. We pitched our tent in a field by a little mountain stream.

tentacle noun a long arm with suckers, such as that of an octopus.

tentative adj 1. which has been suggested but not accepted. Done in an uncertain way because you are not sure what will happen. I made a tentative proposal in order to find out what the response would be. We put forward a tentative proposal for the committee to consider. 2. adv in a tentative way.
	
tenterhooks noun impatiently waiting, anxious and uncertain.

tenth noun referring to 10. The tenth of April or the tenth April (April 10th). That’s the tenth phone call I’ve had this morning. We spend a tenth of our income on food. The tenth century. The period from 900 to 999.

tenuous adj not strong, very slight. Antonym convincing.

tenure noun 1. a right to hold property or a position. Freehold farmers have tenure of their land. 2. a period when you hold an office during his tenure as honorary secretary. 3. in a college or university. A right to hold a job permanently. He’s on a contract but hopes to get tenure next year.

tepid adj slightly warm. There was no hot water left so my bath was only tepid. There’s only a bit of coffee left in your mug and it’s probably tepid.

tepid reaction noun to my great plan disappointed me. Synonym lukewarm.

tequila noun a strong Mexican alcoholic drink.

term noun 1. an official length of time. His term as President was marked by a lot of disagreement. She was sent to prison for a term of three years. 2. in the long term for a long period from now. In the short term for a short period from now. In the long term, this investment should be very profitable. 2. one of the parts of a school or university year. A school year has three terms: autumn, spring and summer. Cricket is played during the summer term only, and football in both the autumn and spring terms. The autumn term ends on December 15th. Next term I’ll be starting to learn the piano. 3. a word or phrase which has a particular meaning. He used several technical terms which I didn’t understand. Some people use ‘darling’ as a term of affection.

terminally adv at the end of something. Terminally ill in the last stages of an illness before death. Synonym fatally.

terminate verb to finish something, to end something. Synonym end.

termination noun bringing something to an end. Formal Synonym end.

terminological adj referring to specialist terms.

termology noun special words or phrases used in a particular field.

terminus noun a station at the end of a railway line. Waterloo Station is the terminus for Eurostar trains from Paris and Brussels. 2. the place at the end of a journey by bus or coach. We got off two stops before the terminus. (Note: The plural is termini.)

termite noun a tropical white insect, like a large ant, which eats wood.
other area stone or tiled floor, which is raised above an-
earth or planet L50765 L50263 L50263
stellar 2. plus bonuses which are agreed before something else is
agreement? L50263 L50263
they refuse to talk to each other terms
as regards terms of reference /tə'mɛriz/ plural noun areas which a com-
mittee has to examine or discuss

terrace /'terəs/ noun 1. a flat area with a
stone or tiled floor, which is raised above an-
other area. The guests had drinks on the ter-
race before going in to dinner. 2. a row of
similar houses connected together. 3. a field flat cut out of the side of
a hill Farmers make terraces for their rice paddies.
terraced /'terəst/ adj made into a flat
raised area. The sides of the valley are ter-
raced to form small rice fields.
terraces /'terəs/ plural noun rows of
wide steps in a sports stadium on which the
spectators stand
terracing /'terəsing/ noun the act of build-
ing earth terraces on the side of a mountain,
to create small flat fields
terracotta /'terəkɔtə/ noun 1. a red clay
used to make little statues, pots and tiles. 2. Terracotta flowerpots can crack in very cold
weather. 3. a dull red brown colour. She
brightened up her fence by painting it in blue
and terracotta. 3. a statue made of red clay. A
display of Greek terracottas
terrain /'terərɛn/ noun a particular type of
land surface.
terrestrial /'terəstrɛəl/ adj 1. referring to
the planet Earth. 2. (of an animal or plant) which lives on
land, not in water. 3. Mice and rats are ter-
restrial animals. (NOTE: Animals and plants of
live in terrestrial habitats.)
terrible /'terəb(ə)l/ adj 1. very bad We
shouldn't have come to this party – the mu-
 sic's terrible. 2. There was a terrible storm
last night. 2. frightening. It must have been
terrible to be in the car which ploughed into
the river.
terribly /'terəbli/ adv 1. very. I'm terri-
bly sorry to have kept you waiting. 2. The sit-
uation is terribly serious. Synonym extremely. Antonym slightly 2. in a very
bad way. The peasant farmers suffered ter-
ribly from drought.
terrier /'teriə/ noun a small dog, originally
one used in hunting
terroric /'tɛrərɪk/ adj 1. wonderful. We
had a terrific time at the party. 2. very big or
load. There was a terrific bang and the
whole building collapsed.
terrifically /'tɛrərɪkli/ adv extremely. Syn-
onym very. Antonym slightly
terriified /'terɪfaɪd/ adj very frightened
terrify /'terɪfaɪ/ verb to make someone very
frightened. Antonym comfort

terrifying /'terɪfɪŋ/ adj very frightening. Antonym reassuring
territorial /'terɪtoriəl/ adj referring to
territory
territorial waters /'terɪtoriəl 'wɔtəz/ plural noun sea waters near the coast of
a country, which are part of that country and
which are governed by the laws of that country
territory /'terɪtori/ noun 1. a large
stretch of land. They occupied all the terri-
ory on the east bank of the river. 2. land
which belongs to a country. A group of sol-
diers had wandered into enemy territory. 3. an area visited by a salesperson. His terri-
tory covers all the north of the country. 4. an
area which an animal or bird thinks belongs
only to it. Animals often fight to defend
their territories. (NOTE: The plural is territo-
ries.)
terror /'tɛrə/ noun 1. great fear. They
live in constant terror of racist attacks. 2. a
reign of terror. a period when law and order
have broken down and people live in a con-
tinuous state of fear. 2. a naughty child.
Their daughter's a little terror. 3. a terror
for something. very insistent on something
(informal). The new manager is a terror for
hygiene in the shop.
terrorism /'tɛrərizəm/ noun a policy of
using violence in a political cause. 2. Acts of
terrorism continued during the whole sum-
mer. 3. The government has said that it will
not give in to terrorism. Synonym

intimidation
terrorist /'terɪstrist/ noun a person who
practises terrorism. Antonym biijacked a
plane and told the pilot to fly to Rome. 3. adj
referring to terrorism. 4. Terrorism attacks
have increased over the last few weeks.
terse /ˈters/ adj concise, short, using few words  
tertiary /ˈterəri/ adj 1. referring to a third stage, especially to the level of education after the secondary ○ She’s studying at the local tertiary college. 2. ○ tertiary sector or industry the section of the economy which provides services such as banking or insurance  
Terylene /ˈterəlin/ trademark a type of man-made thread  
TESOL abbr Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages  
○ test /test/ noun 1. an examination to see if you know something ○ We had an English test yesterday. ○ She passed her driving test. 2. an examination to see if something is working well ○ The doctor will have to do a blood test. ○ It is a good test of the car’s ability to brake fast. 3. ○ England lost the third test against Pakistan. ■ verb 1. to find out how well someone can do something, etc. ○ The teacher tested my spoken German. 2. to examine someone or something to see if everything is working well ○ We need to test your reactions to noise and bright lights. ○ He has to have his eyes tested. ○ She tested her new car in the snow.  
testament /ˈtestaman/ noun ○ last will and testament a document written by someone which says what they want to happen to their property after they die ○ This is the last will and testament of the late James Smith.  
test case /ˈtest kəs/ noun a court case in which the decision will establish a principle which other cases can follow  
test-drive /ˈtest drāv/ verb to drive a car before buying it to see if it works well. Synonym try out  
tester /ˈtestər/ noun 1. a person who tests something 2. a small sample of something such as makeup  
tests /ˈtestiz/ plural of testis  
testicle /ˈtestikəl/ noun one of the two male sex glands which produce sperm. Also called testis  
testicular /ˈtestikjʊlər/ adj referring to the testicles  
testify /ˈtestifai/ verb to give evidence in court.  
testimonial /ˈtestimənijəl/ noun 1. a written report about someone’s character or ability ○ She asked her boss if he would give her a testimonial. 2. a written document praising someone’s good qualities, often one which is presented at a ceremony ○ At a function in the Town Hall, the mayor presented testimonials to six members of the staff. ○ to attend a testimonial dinner to go to a dinner organised to give a present to someone ○ The mayor was guest of honour at the testimonial dinner for six retiring council workers.  
testimony /ˈtestimanı/ noun a statement given in court about what happened  
testing /ˈtestinıŋ/ noun which is difficult to deal with ○ This has been a testing time for the whole family. ○ In the second interview they will ask you more testing questions. Synonym challenging. Antonym easy ○ noun the act of examining something to see if it works well ○ During the testing of the engine several defects were corrected.  
testis /ˈtestis/ noun a testicle (NOTE: The plural is testes /ˈtestiʒ/)  
testosterone /ˈtestostərəʊn/ noun a male sex hormone. Compare progesterone  
test run /ˈtest rʌn/ noun a trial made on a machine  
test tube /ˈtest tjuːb/ noun a small glass tube, open at the top and with a rounded bottom, used in laboratories to hold liquids during experiments ○ Position the base of the test tube over the flame.  
test tube baby /ˈtest tjuːˌbi/ noun a baby which develops after the mother’s eggs have been removed, fertilised with the father’s sperm in a laboratory, and replaced in the mother’s womb to continue developing normally (informal)  
tetanus /ˈtɛtənəs/ noun a serious disease caused by infection of a wound by bacteria in the soil, which affects the spinal cord and causes the jaw muscles to stiffen. Also called lockjaw  
tête-à-tête /tət əˈtɛt/ noun a private conversation between two people  
tether /ˈtɛðər/ noun 1. a rope which attaches an animal to a post ○ The horse had slipped its tether and was galloping away down the street. 2. ○ to be at the end of your tether to be unable to stand any more, to have lost all patience ○ He was at the end of his tether and resigned after just one month in the job. ■ verb to attach an animal to a post with a rope ○ He tethered his horse to a post. ○ text /tekst/ noun 1. the main written section of a book, not the notes, index or pictures ○ It’s a book for little children, with lots of pictures and very little text. 2. the original words of a speech ○ the text of the Gettysburg Address ■ verb to send a text message to someone  
textbook /ˈtekstbuk/ noun a book which students use to learn about the subject they are studying  
textile /ˈtekstaɪl/ noun cloth. Synonym fabric  
text message /ˈtekst ˌmesɪdʒ/ noun a message sent by telephone, using short forms of words, which appear on the screen of a mobile phone
text messaging /ˈtekstˌmesɪŋ/ noun the action of sending text messages
text processing /ˈtekst prəˌsɛsɪŋ/ noun the process of using a computer to produce, check and change things, e.g. documents, reports and letters
textual /ˈtekst tjuːl/ adj referring to a text. Synonym written
texture /ˈtekstʃuər/ noun 1. the way in which the surface of a material can be felt. 2. the soft texture of velvet. 3. the heavy texture of clay soil
Thai /ˈθɛɪ/ adj referring to Thailand. 1. If you’re fond of Thai food let’s go to a Thai restaurant. 2. an inhabitant of Thailand. 3. Thais are famous for their hot, spicy cooking. 4. The two economics students are Thais. 2. the language spoken in Thailand.
thank /θæŋk/ verb 1. to say or do something that shows you are grateful to someone for doing something for you. 2. She thanked the policeman for helping her to cross the street. 3. Don’t forget to thank Aunt Ann for her present.

thank less /θæŋkləs/ adj for which no one will thank you. Antonym rewarding
thank you /θæŋk ju/ interj showing that you are grateful. 1. Thank you very much for your letter of the 15th. 2. Did you remember to say thank you to your grandmother for the present? 3. Would you like another piece of cake? – No thank you, I’ve had enough.
thanks /θæŋks/ noun a word showing, and adjectives like ‘glad’ or ‘disappointed’, and after ‘so’ or ‘such’. 1. The restaurant was so expensive that we could only afford one dish. 2. It rained so hard that the street was like a river. 3. We had such a lot of work that we didn’t have any lunch. 4. There was such a long queue that we didn’t bother waiting.

thank you very much /θæŋk ju vərɪ ˈmʌk/ letter or note letter or note written to thank someone for something.
that /ðæt/ adj used to show something or someone that is further away or in the past. 1. Can you see that white house on the corner over there? 2. Do you remember the name of that awful hotel in Brighton? Compare this (NOTE: The plural is those.) pron something or someone that is further away. 2. That’s the book I was talking about. 3. Do you know who that is sitting at the next table? 4. Is that the one? 5. Yes, that’s it. Compare this (NOTE: The plural is those.) relative pron used to give more information about someone or something just mentioned. 1. Where is the parcel that she sent you yesterday? 2. Can you see the man that sold you the ticket? 3. There’s the suitcase that you left on the train! (NOTE: When it is the object of a relative clause that can sometimes be left out: Where’s the letter he sent you? Here’s the box you left in the bedroom. When it is the subject, that can be replaced by which or who: a house that has red windows or a house which has red windows; the man that stole the car or the man who stole the car.)

thankfulness /θæŋklɪʃn/ noun a religious occasion where thanks are given to God, often for someone who has recently died
Thanksgiving /ˈθæŋkɪŋvɪŋ/ noun an American festival, celebrating the first harvest of the Pilgrims who settled in the United States, on the fourth Thursday in November.

text processing
thatched /θæt/ adj covered with a straw roof

thaw /θəʊ/ noun a time of warm weather which makes snow and ice melt ○ The thaw came early this year. 1. verb 1. to melt ○ The ice is thawing on the village pond. 2. to unfreeze something which is frozen ○ Thaw the turkey for 12 hours. ○ Can you thaw those raspberries? 3. to become less formal ○ After a period of tension, relations between the two countries have begun to thaw.

the /θi:/ before a vowel /θ/ article 1. meaning something in particular, as opposed to ‘a’ ○ Where’s the book you brought back from the library? 2. That’s the cat from next door. ○ The town centre has been made into a pedestrian zone. 2. used with something of which only one exists, in particular in geographical names ○ an expedition to the Antarctic ○ a spacecraft landed on the moon. ○ The sun came up over the hills. 3. meaning a particular example, as opposed to ‘an’ ○ a pedestrian zone.

theatre /ˈθɛərə/ noun a building in which plays are shown ○ I’m trying to get tickets for the theatre tonight. ○ What is the play at the local theatre this week? ○ We’ll have dinner early and then go to the theatre. (NOTE: The US spelling is theater.) ○ the theatre 1. the art of presenting plays on the stage ○ I like the theatre better than the cinema. 2. the business of presenting plays on the stage ○ She wants to work in the theatre as a designer.

theatrical /ˈθiətrɪkəl/ adj 1. referring to the theatre ○ She had a distinguished theatrical career before going into films. 2. exaggerated, dramatic and not natural ○ Throwing the letter on the floor and stamping on it was a bit theatrical.

theft /θeft/ noun 1. the practice of stealing ○ We have brought in security cameras to protect the hotel against theft. ○ The shops are trying to stop theft by members of the public. 2. an act of stealing ○ Thefts in supermarkets have increased enormously.

their /ˈθeər/ adj 1. belonging to them ○ After the film, we went to their house for supper. 2. referring to them ○ The family were eating their dinner when the fire broke out. (NOTE: Do not confuse with there, they’re.) ○ theirs /əʊz/ pron the one that belongs to them ○ Which car is theirs – the Ford? ○ She’s a friend of theirs. ○ The girls wanted to borrow my car – theirs wouldn’t start.

them /ðəm, ðem/ pron 1. referring to people or things that have been mentioned before ○ Do you like cream cakes? – No, I don’t like them very much. ○ There’s a group of people waiting outside. – Tell them to come in. ○ She saw her friends and asked them to help her. 2. referring to a singular, used instead of ‘him or her’ ○ If someone phones, ask them to call back later.

thematic /ˌθɛmətɪk/ adj referring to themes

theme /θiːm/ noun 1. the main subject of a book or article ○ The theme of the book is how to deal with illness in the family. 2. the main idea ○ The theme of the exhibition is ‘Europe in the twenty-first century’. 3. the main tune in a piece of music ○ The theme comes again at the end of the symphony.

theme park /ˈθiːm pɑːrk/ noun an amusement park based on a single theme such as a medieval castle

theme tune /ˈθiːm tuːn/ noun a tune or song played several times in a film or TV serial by which you can recognise it

themselves /ˈθɛmz selvz/ pron 1. referring to the same people or things that are the subject of the verb ○ Cats always spend a lot of time cleaning themselves. ○ It’s no use going to the surgery – the doctors are all ill themselves. 2. by themselves all alone ○ The girls were all by themselves in the tent. ○ They did it all by themselves. 3. used to emphasise ○ The children themselves said the film was rubbish.

then /ðen/ adv 1. at that time in the past or future ○ He had been very busy up till then. ○ Ever since then I’ve refused to eat oysters. ○ We’re having a party next week. – What a pity! I’ll be in Scotland then, 2. after that, next ○ We all sat down, and then after a few minutes the waiter brought the menu.

thence /ˈθens/ adv 1. from that place, from there 2. so, therefore
verse

2. month. have been to China? – Yes, I went there last rain during the night.

planation of why something happens /L50237

velops theories /L50263

x

eo put forward the theory that the earth turns round the sun. In theory

1. Interj. There's someone at the door asking for you.

2. Interj. There's a little door leading onto the patio.

3. Interj. There, there, don't get upset.

There, what did I say? The plane's late. – Let's go there tomorrow.

1. Adv. There, there, don't get upset. ○ There, sit down for a little while and you'll soon feel better.

2. Adv. There, showing pity ○ There, don't get upset. ○ There, sit down for a little while and you'll soon feel better.

3. Adv. There, making a decision ○ If you don't want to come with me, I'll go all by myself, so there!

4. Adv. There's a little door leading onto the patio. ○ There's someone at the door asking for you.

5. Adv. There are some pages missing in my newspaper. ○ Were there a lot of people at the cinema? ○ There seems to have been a lot of rain during the night.

thereabouts /ˈðeəˌbɔːts/ adj 1. near that place ○ They live in Glasgow or thereabouts. 2. about that number ○ They owe us £230 or thereabouts.

thereafter /ˈðeərəˌθɔːr/ adv after that. Antonym previously

thereby /ˈðeərəbli/ adv by doing that ○ therefore /ˈðeɪθər/ adv for this reason ○ I therefore have decided not to grant his request. ○ They have reduced their prices, therefore we should reduce ours if we want to stay competitive. Synonym consequently

therein /ˈðeɪrɪn/ in that

thereof /ˈðeərəf/ adv for this reason ○ They have reduced their prices, therefore we should reduce ours if we want to stay competitive.

therapist /ˈθɛərəpɪst/ noun a person who is specially trained to give therapy. Synonym psychoanalyst

therapy /ˈθɛərəpi/ noun the treatment of a patient to help cure a disease or condition ○ there /ðeər/ adv 1. in that place ○ Is that black van still there parked outside the house? ○ Where have you put the tea? – There, on the kitchen counter. 2. to that place ○ We haven't been to the British Museum yet. – Let's go there tomorrow. ○ Have you ever been to China? – Yes, I went there last month.

3. used when giving something to someone ○ There you are: two fish and chips and they all got sunburnt.

4. used usually before the verb 'to' be' when the real subject follows the verb ○ There's a little door leading onto the patio. ○ There's someone at the door asking for you.

5. There are some pages missing in my newspaper. ○ Were there a lot of people at the cinema? ○ There seems to have been a lot of rain during the night.

theology /ˈθɛlədʒi/ noun the study of religion and the belief in God. Synonym divinity

theorem /ˈθɪərəm/ noun a statement which can be proved in mathematics. Synonym proposition

theoretical /θɪˈɛrɛtɪkl/ adj 1. referring to theories ○ a theoretical study of the universe 2. not proved in practice ○ She has the theoretical power to dismiss any of the stuff. theoretically /θɪˈɛrɛtɪklɪ/ adv in theory, but not in practice

therefore /ˈθɛrərɔː/ adverb •••

theorise /θɪˈɔːrɪz/ verb to make up a theory about something ○ theorist /θɪˈɔːrist/ noun a person who develops theories ○ theory /θɪˈɔːri/ noun 1. an explanation of which has not been proved but which you believe is true ○ I have a theory which explains why the police never found the murder weapon. 2. a careful scientific explanation of why something happens ○ Galileo put forward the theory that the earth turns round the sun. ○ the theory of evolution a theory, developed by Charles Darwin, that species evolve by a process of natural selection 3. a statement of general principles which may not apply in practice ○ In theory the treatment should work, but no one has ever tried it. (NOTE: The plural is theories.)

therapeutic /θɪˈɛrəpɪtɪk/ adj which is given in order to cure a disease or disorder ○ therapist /θɪˈɛrəpɪst/ noun a person who is specially trained to give therapy. Synonym psychoanalyst

thesis /ˈθɪəsɪs/ noun 1. a long piece of written research prepared by a candidate for a higher university degree ○ She is writing her thesis on the place of women in Spanish literature. 2. a particular point of view ○ His thesis is that, the lower the income tax rate, the more people will spend. (NOTE: The plural is theses /ˈθɪəsɪz/)
thicken

piece of thick rope. 2. close together  0 They tried to make their way through thick jungle.  
  0 The field was covered with thick grass.  0 through thick and thin, even when things are going badly (informal)  0 She stuck with him through thick and thin.  0 they're as thick as thieves (of two people) they are great friends, they share each other's secrets.  0. (of a liquid) which cannot flow easily  0 If the paint is too thick add some water.  0 A bowl of thick soup is just what we need on a cold day like this.  0, which you cannot see through easily  0. through thick and thin, which you cannot see through at all  0 His argument is a bit thin. (NOTE: thinner — thinnest)  0 adv thinly  0 Don't spread the butter too thin.  0 verb 1. to make a bit thick: it's not very fair  0 It’s a bit thick, having to work on Saturday when everyone else has the day off.  0 adv thickly, in a thick way  0 Put the plaster on thick so that it covers up the cracks.  0 to lay it on thick to praise someone excessively (informal)  0 It was laying it on a bit thick to say that she plays the violin like Menuhin.  0 thick and fast rapidly and often  0. (informal) (of two people) they are very close friends  0. thick skin able to stand a lot of criticism. Synonym: tough  0 He's a bit thick (stupid, not very intelligent)  0. thing noun 1. something which is not living, which is not a plant or animal  0 Can you see that black thing in the pan of soup?  0 What do you use that big blue thing for?  2. a usually kind way of talking to or about a person or animal  0 You silly thing!  0 The lady in the sweet shop is a dear old thing, 3. something in general  0 They all just sat there and didn’t say a thing  0 The first thing to do is to call an ambulance.  0 That was a stupid thing to do!  0 a good thing something lucky  0 It’s a good thing there was no policeman on duty at the door.  0 first thing in the morning as soon as you get up  0 First thing in the morning, he does his exercises.  0 last thing at night just before you go to bed  0. a problem or worry  0 It never stops, it’s just one thing after another.  0. to have a thing about something to have strong feelings about something (informal)  0 He has a thing about spiders.  0 She’s got a thing about men with beards.  0 things noun 1. clothes or equipment  0 Did you bring your tennis things?  0 She left her painting things in the car.  0. a general situation  0 Things aren’t going well at the office.  0 He always takes things too seriously.  0 thingy noun something whose name you don’t know or can’t remember  0 think think/ verb 1. to use your mind  0 We never think about what people might say, we always do what we think is right.  0 to think twice to consider very carefully  0 Think twice before you sign that contract.  0 I’d think twice about spending all the money you’ve saved.  0. to have an opinion  0 I think London is a nicer town to live in than Frunfurt.  0 Everyone thinks we’re mad to go on holiday in December.  0 The weather forecasters think it’s going to rain.  0 The gang is
think about thought to be based in Spain. 3. to make a plan to do something ① We’re thinking we might open an office in New York. (NOTE: thinking – thought [ˈθɪŋkt]) ② noun (informal) a period when you think, the act of thinking ① Let me have a little think and I’ll tell you what we should do. ② Have a think about what I’ve just said. ③ We really need to have another think about the plan. ④ to have another think coming to have to change think in your mind ③ ④ plan in your mind to have to change be solved tant problems and suggest how they should be solved think about /ˈθɪŋk əˈbaʊt/ verb to have someone or something in your mind ① I was just thinking about you when you phoned. ② to have another think coming to have to change think out another think coming to have to change think through to have another think about the plan. ③ to have another think coming to have to change think another think about to have another think about the plan. ③ to have another think coming to have to change think up /ˈθɪŋk ʌp/ verb to invent a plan or new idea thinly /ˈθɪnli/ adv not thickly thinning /ˈθɪnɪŋ/ adj which is getting thinner third /θɜːd/ adj referring to three ① She came third in the race. ② The cake shop is the third shop on the right. ③ It will be her third birthday next Friday. ④ Her birthday is on the third of March or March the third (March 3rd). ⑤ the third century the period from 200 to 299 A.D. ⑥ noun one part out of three equal parts ⑦ A third of the airline’s planes are jumbos. ⑧ Two-thirds of the staff are part-timers. thirdly /ˈθɜːrdli/ adv as the third item on a list. Compare firstly, secondly, thirdly third party /ˈθɜːrd pɜːtɪ/ noun any person other than the two main parties involved in a contract or a civil case third person /ˈθɜːrd pɜːrson/ noun ① in the third person from the point of view of someone other than the speaker or the person being spoken to, using the pronouns ‘he’, ‘she’, ‘it’ or ‘they’. ② This novel is written in the third person. third-rate /ˈθɜːrd rɛt/ adj quite bad. Compare first-rate, second-rate Third World /ˈθɜːrd wɜːdl/ noun the countries of Africa, Asia and South America which do not have highly developed industries and where people are generally poor thirsty /ˈθɪσθɪ/ adj, noun a feeling of wanting to drink ① Digging the garden has given me such a thirst! ② They ran to the mountain stream to quench their thirst. ③ a feeling of wanting something ④ He studied at night to satisfy his thirst for knowledge. ⑤ verb ⑥ to thirst after or for something to want something strongly (formal) ⑦ He thirsted after excitement. thirsty /ˈθɪσθɪ/ adj feeling that you want to drink ① It’s so hot here that it makes me thirsty. ② are you thirsty? would you like a drink? ③ to be thirsty work to require hard work which makes you thirsty ④ Moving all this furniture is thirsty work. thirteen /ˈθɜːtɪn/ noun the number 13 ① He’s only thirteen (years old), but he can drive a car. ② She’ll be thirteen next Monday. ③ the thirteen hundreds (1300s) the period from 1300 to 1399 thirteenth /ˈθɜːtniθ/ adj, noun referring to 13 ① The thirteenth of September or September the thirteenth (September 13th). ② It’s her thirteenth birthday on Monday. ③ Friday the thirteenth (Friday 13th) day which many people think is unlucky ④ the thirteenth century the period from 1200 to 1299 thirty /ˈθɜːtni/ noun the number 30 ① He’s thirty (years old). ② She must have more than
thirty pairs of shoes. 1. they are both in their third thirties aged between 30 and 39 years old. 2. the (nineteen-) thirties (1930s) the period from 1930 to 1939.

1. this /ðəs/ adj, pron used to show something which is nearer or in the present, in contrast to something else. 2. This is the shop I was telling you about. 3. I prefer these earrings to those ones. 4. I saw him on the train this morning. 5. My mother is coming for tea this afternoon. 6. I expect to hear from him this week. (NOTE: The plural is these.)

3. thorough /ðəθər/ adj so much so that I knew you were going to be late, but I didn’t expect you to be this late.

3. thoroughly /ðəθərli/ adv a thorough mess of it.

1. thistle /ˈθɪs(ə)l/ noun a large wild plant with prickly leaves and purple flowers

This is the shop I was telling you about. 3. I prefer these earrings to those ones. 4. I saw him on the train this morning. 5. My mother is coming for tea this afternoon. 6. I expect to hear from him this week. (NOTE: The plural is these.)

4. thread /θred/ noun a rubber sandal held on by a strap between the toes. Also called flip flop

3. thorn /θɔrn/ noun 1. a sharp spine on a prickly plant. 2. a thorn in someone’s flesh a constant annoyance to someone. 3. She’s been a thorn in the management’s flesh ever since she joined the company.

1. thorny /θɔrni/ adj, covered with thorns.

1. thoroughly /θərəli/ adv careful and detailed. 2. The police have carried out a thorough search of the woods. 3. They made a thorough mess of it. 4. It was a thorough waste of time.

1. thoroughbred /θərəbrɛd/ noun a horse of high quality whose parents and other relatives are all known.

1. thoroughfare /θərəˈfeər/ noun a main road through a town, usually where there is a lot of traffic. 2. No thoroughfare a sign showing that the public cannot use a certain road. 3. I hadn’t seen the ‘no thoroughfare’ sign and found myself in the garden of the town hall.

1. thoroughly /θərəli/ adv 1. in a complete and careful way. 2. We searched the garden thoroughly but couldn’t find his red ball. 3. totally. I’m thoroughly fed up with the whole business.

1. those /ðəz/ that

1. though /θəʊ/ adv, conj 1. in spite of the fact. 2. Though tired, she still kept on running. 3. We don’t employ a computer programmer, though many companies do.

1. odd

1. even though in spite of the fact that.

1. He didn’t wear a coat, even though it was snowing. 2. as though as if. 3. His voice sounded strange over the telephone, as though he was standing in a cave. 4. That shirt doesn’t look as though it has been ironed. 5. It looks as though there is no one in. 6. but. 7. It is unlikely though possible.

1. thought /θɔt/ noun 1. an idea which you have when thinking. 2. He had an awful thought – suppose they had left the bathroom taps running? 3. the process of thinking. 4. He sat deep in thought by the window. 5. after much thought after thinking a lot about something.

1. thoughtless /θɔtəls/ adj without thinking about other people.

1. thoughtfully /θɔtəfləli/ adv in a considerate way.

1. thousand /ˈθauz(ə)n/ the number 1,000. 2. We paid two hundred thousand pounds for the house (£200,000). 3. thousands of people had their holidays spoiled by the storm. 4. thousands of a large number of (informal). 5. Thousands of people lost money in the scheme.

1. thousandth /ˈθauz(ə)nθ/ adj referring to one thousand.

1. thrash /θræʃ/ verb 1. to beat someone severely. 2. His father caught him stealing and thrashed him.

1. thrashing /θræʃɪŋ/ noun 1. a severe beating.

1. thrash out /θræʃ ˈaʊt/ verb 1. to try to hit wildly in all directions. 2. He thrashed out at the youths with his stick. 3. to discuss something until a solution is found.

1. thread /θred/ noun 1. a long strand of cotton, silk, or other fibre. 2. A spider spins a thread to make its web.

1. to lose the thread of the conversation
to miss what the conversation is about 3. a ridge going round and round a screw or the inside of a nut 4. it’s difficult to tighten the nut because the thread is very worn.  

1. to put a piece of cotton through the eye of a needle 2. my eyesight is getting so bad, i can’t even thread a needle. 2. to make something go through a hole 3. put the reel on the projector and then thread the end of the film through this aperture. 3. to put beads on a thread 4. to thread a necklace 4. to thread your way somewhere to go carefully between things 5. she threaded her way through the piles of boxes. 5. we threaded our way through the crowds of christmas shoppers.

threadbare

threadbare /ˈθredbər/ adj very worn

thread /ˈθred/ noun 1. a warning to someone that you are going to do something unpleasant, especially if he or she does not do what you want 2. her former husband had been making threats against her and the children. 3. the police took the threat to the prime minister very seriously. 3. do you think they will carry out their threat to bomb the capital if we don’t surrender? 2. a person or thing which may cause harm 3. defective cars are a threat to other road users.

threaten /ˈθretən/ verb 1. to warn that you are going to do something unpleasant, especially if someone doesn’t do what you want 2. she threatened to go to the police. 3. the teacher threatened her with punishment. 2. to be likely to have a bad effect on something 3. the collapse of the stock market threatened the stability of the currency.

threatening /ˈθretənɪŋ/ adj suggesting that something unpleasant will happen

three /θri/ noun 1. the number 3 2. she’s only three (years old), so she can’t read yet. 3. come and see me at three (o’clock). 3. three men walked into the bank and pulled out guns. (note: three (3) but third (3rd) – 3-d / ˈθriː ˈdiː/ noun vision in three dimensions 4. same as three-dimensional 5. third /θriːt/ noun (of a picture) which has depth as well as length and breadth

three-piece /ˈθriː pɪs/ adj with three parts

three-quarter /ˈθriː kwɔtər/ adj covering three-quarters of a whole 2. a three-quarter length coat a coat which comes above the knee

three-quarters /ˈθriː kwɔtərz/ plural noun three fourths, 75% 3. three-quarters of an hour forty-five minutes 4. we had to wait an hour and three-quarters.

threshold /ˈθrɛʃould/ noun 1. a bar across the floor of a doorway 2. she stopped at the threshold and looked back into the room. 2. a point where something begins 3. she’s on the threshold of a great career in teaching. 3. a point at which you start to react to have a very low boredom threshold to get bored easily

throw /θru/ noun 1. (1) to throw (note: do not confuse with through.)

throw /θru/ verb 1. to throw something such as a ball into the air so that it flies through the air before falling to the ground 2. to throw a paper airplane 3. to throw a party 4. to throw your weight around 5. to throw a fit

three /θriː/ noun 1. the tube which goes from the back of your mouth down the inside of your neck 2. i’ve got a sore throat.

three /θriː/ verb 1. to clear your throat to give a little cough 2. to clear your throat to feel unable to speak because you are so upset or so happy 3. she had a lump in her throat as she saw her little girl dance across the stage. 2. to clear your throat to feel unable to speak because you are so upset or so happy 3. she had a lump in her throat as she saw her little girl dance across the stage.

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three /θriː/ noun 1. the tube which goes from the back of your mouth down the inside of your neck 2. i’ve got a sore throat.
succeed to the throne to become king or queen or He succeeded to the throne when his grandfather died. 2 to give up the throne to resign from being king or queen or He gave up the throne and retired to live in the country.

throng /θrɒŋ/ noun a great crowd of people (literary) or The stars had difficulty making their way through the throng of fans outside the cinema. Antonyn less few or verb to crowd together or The children thronged round the TV star. or The shopping precinct was thronged with shoppers in the days before Christmas.

throttle /θɔːtl/ noun a valve on a pipe in an engine, which allows variable quantities of fuel to pass into an engine or He had to retime from the race when his throttle jammed. 2 to open up the throttle to make the engine go faster or Open the throttle right up and let's see how fast the boat can go. 3 at full throttle as fast as possible or He had the engine going at full throttle. 4 verb to strangle someone by squeezing the neck, and preventing him or her breathing or I could throttle him sometimes when he gives me that sort of answer.

through /θru/ prep 1. across the inside of something; going in at one side and coming out of the other or The bullet went straight through the centre of the town. 2. during a period of time or They insisted on talking all through the film. 3. by or We sent the parcel through the ordinary mail. 4. We heard of his wedding through the newspaper.

4. caused by or We marked him as absent through illness. 5. We missed the deadline through her forgetting to mark it in her diary. 5. US up to and including or Monday through Friday from Monday to Friday inclusive or adv 1. going in at one side and coming out of the other side or Someone left the gate open and all the sheep got through. 2. speaking by telephone or I can't get through to New York. 3. Can you put me through to Simon? 3. to see something through to make sure that something is finished or adj 1. not stopping or through traffic which is going through a town and doesn't stop or Through traffic is being diverted to the bypass. 2. through with something finished using something, not wanting something any more or Are you through with the newspaper? or She's through with her boyfriend.

throughout /θruːaut/ prep, adv everywhere, all through or Throughout the country floods are causing problems on the roads.

throughput /θrʊːpʊt/ noun an amount of work done or goods produced during a certain period

throughway /θrʊːweɪ/ noun US

throw /θru/ verb 1. to send something through the air or How far can he throw a cricket ball? 2. They were throwing stones through car windows. 3. She threw the letter into the wastepaper basket. 4. He was thrown into the air by the blast from the bomb. 2. to throw a party to organise a party or They threw a reception for the prize winners. 3. to shock someone or At first, what the boss said threw me. 4. to make a clay pot on a wheel (NOTE: throwing – threw – has thrown – thrown)

throw away /θəʊə wɛi/ verb to get rid of something which you don’t need any more or throwback /θəʊəbæk/ noun a person or thing that seems to belong to a time in the past.

throw in /θəʊə in/ verb to add something extra as a bargain or When we bought our new oven, they threw in a set of saucepans as a free gift.

throw-in /θəʊə in/ noun (in football) the act of throwing the ball back into play from the touchline

throw /θru/ verb 1. to add something

throw away /θəʊə wɛi/ verb to get rid of something which you don’t need any more

throw off /θəʊə ɔf/ verb 1. to remove something quickly or She threw off the bedclothes and ran out of the room. 2. to recover from an illness or She’s had a cough for several days, and can’t throw it off.

throw out /θəʊə əут/ verb 1. to push someone outside or When they started to fight, they were thrown out of the restaurant. 2. to get rid of something which you don’t need or I’m throwing out this old office desk. 3. to refuse to accept something or The proposal was thrown out by the planning committee.

throw up /θəʊə ʌp/ verb 1. to be sick, to bring up partly digested food from the stomach into the mouth (informal) or The cat threw up all over the sofa. 2. to give up something or She’s thrown up her job and gone to live in Australia. 3. to throw up your arms to lift your arms rapidly or She threw her arms up in horror.
thru /θru/ prep, adv, adj US same as through

thrust /θrʌst/ noun 1. a force which pushes someone or something. a thrust of the engines pushed him back in his seat. 2. the act of pushing something. He was killed with a thrust of his opponent’s sword. ■ verb 1. to push something somewhere suddenly and hard. He thrust the newspaper into his pocket. 2. to thrust the documents into her briefcase. 3. to thrust yourself on someone to force someone to accept you as a guest or companion (informal). thrusway /θriːswi/ noun US a fast main road (NOTE: also spelt throughway)
thud /θʌd/ noun a dull, heavy noise. His head hit the ground with a sickening thud. They could hear the thud of gunfire in the distance. ■ verb to make a dull noise. A stone thudded into the wall behind him. (NOTE: thudding – thudded)

thug /θʌg/ noun a violent person

thumb /θʌm/ noun 1. a short thick digit which is slightly apart from the other four fingers on each hand. The baby was sucking its thumb. How she cried when she hit her thumb with the hammer! 2. my fingers are all thumbs. I am awkward when trying to do something with my hands. Can you help me untie this knot? my fingers are all thumbs. ■ verb 1. to thumb a lift to ask a car driver or lorry driver to take you as a passenger, usually by signalling with the thumb while holding a sign with your destination written on it. 2. Her car broke down and she thumbed a lift from a passing motorist.
thumbnail sketch /θʌmˌnɛlˈskɛtʃ/ noun a little drawing or description of something or someone, giving just a few details. thumbs down /θʌmszˈdaʊn/ noun a gesture to show you disapprove. thumbs up /θʌmszˈʌp/ noun a gesture to show that you approve or that things are all right.
thumbtack /θʌmtæk/ noun US a pin with a large flat head, used for pinning papers to a wall or a surface (NOTE: The British term is drawing pin.)

thump /θʌmp/ noun 1. a dull noise. There was a thump from upstairs as if someone had fallen out of bed. 2. a punch, a heavy blow with the fist. She was so annoyed she gave him a good thump on the arm. ■ verb 1. to hit someone hard with your fist. He rushed up to the policeman and started thumping him on the chest. 2. to make a dull noise. How can we possibly get to sleep with the music thumping away next door? I was very frightened and I could feel my heart thumping furiously.
thumping /θʌmpɪŋ/ adj very large (informal)
thunder /ˈθʌndər/ noun 1. a loud noise in the air following a flash of lightning. a tropical storm accompanied by thunder and lightning. He was woken by the sound of thunder. 2. a loud noise. the thunder of horses’ hooves on the paving stones. He took his hat off to a thud of applause. ■ verb 1. to make a loud noise in the air following lightning. It thundered during the night. 2. to make a loud rumbling noise. Lorries thumped past on the motorway all night. 3. to speak in a very loud voice. Shut up, he thumped the little boy in the back row.
thunderbolt /θʌndərˈbɔːlt/ noun 1. a flash of lightning and thunder. 2. a sudden unpleasant surprise.
thunderclap /θʌndərˈklæp/ noun a sudden loud noise made by thunder.
thundercloud /θʌndərklaʊd/ noun a large black cloud which brings rain and a thunderstorm.
thunderous /ˈθʌndərəs/ adj making a very loud noise, often of applause. Synonym deafening.
thunderstorm /θʌndərsˈtɔːm/ noun a storm with rain, thunder and lightning.
thunderstruck /θʌndəstrʌkt/ adj very surprised. Synonym incredulous.
thundery /θʌndəˈri/ adj (of weather) when thunder is likely.

Thurs. abbr Thursday

Thursday /ˈθɜːzdεɪ/ noun the day between Wednesday and Friday, the fourth day of the week. Last Thursday was Christmas Day. Shall we arrange to meet next Thursday? Today is Thursday, April 14th. The club meets on Thursdays or every Thursday. The 15th is a Wednesday, so the 16th must be a Thursday.

thus /ðəs/ adv 1. in this way. The two pieces fit together thus. She is only fifteen, and thus cannot vote. 2. as a result. She is only fifteen, and thus is not eligible for the over-sixteens competition.

thwart /θɔːt/ verb to prevent someone doing something. He was thwarted by the police in his attempt to get into the building. His career move was thwarted by the new manager. Synonym frustrate. Antonym aid. ■ noun a seat across a rowing boat, for a rower to sit on. They sat side-by-side on the thwart and each took an oar.
thyme /θaɪm/ noun a common herb used as a flavou ring

tiara /ˈtɪərə/ noun a small jewelled crown
tibia /ˈtɪbɪə/ noun one of the two large bones between your knee and ankle
tic /tɪk/ noun a twitch of the muscles, usually in the face, which cannot be controlled. Synonym twitch
tick /tɪk/ noun 1. a sound made every second by a clock ○ The only sound we could hear in the room was the tick of the grandfather clock. 2. a mark written to show that something is correct ○ Put a tick in the box marked ‘R’. (NOTE: The US term is check.) 3. a short moment (informal) ○ Wait a tick, my shoelace has come undone. ○ Wait there, I’ll be with you in a tick. 4. credit (informal) ○ All the furniture in the house was bought on tick. 5. a small insect which lives on the skin and sucks blood ○ Sheep can be affected by ticks. ■ verb 1. to mark something with a tick to show that you approve ○ Tick the box marked ‘R’ if you require a receipt. (NOTE: The US term is check.) 2. to make a regular little noise like a clock ○ All you could hear was the clock ticking in the corner of the library. ○ Watch out! That parcel’s ticking! ○ what makes someone tick the thing that is the reason for what someone does (informal) ○ I’ve been trying to find out what makes her tick.
ticket /ˈtɪkt/ noun 1. a piece of paper or card which allows you to travel ○ They won’t let you get onto Eurostar without a ticket. ○ We’ve lost our plane tickets – how can we get to Chicago? 2. a piece of paper which allows you to go into a place, e.g. a cinema or an exhibition ○ Can I have three tickets for the 8.30 show please? ○ We tried several theatres but there were no tickets left anywhere. 3. a label, a piece of paper which shows something ○ Keep the ticket in case you want to change the trousers later. 4. US a party’s list of candidates for election to political office ○ He ran for governor on the Republican ticket.
ticket collector /ˈtɪkt kəˌlɛktə/ noun an official who takes tickets from passengers on a train
ticket tout /ˈtɪkt ˈtɔut/ noun a person who sells tickets at high prices to people in the street
tickle /ˈtɪkl(ə)l/ noun an irritated spot which makes you cough ○ I’ve got a nasty tickle in my throat. ■ verb to touch someone in a sensitive part of the body in order to make him or her laugh ○ She tickled his toes and made him laugh.
ticklish /ˈtɪklɪʃ/ adj 1. easily tickled ○ She’s very ticklish, you’ve just got to wave your finger at her and she starts to giggle. 2. tricky, not easy to deal with ○ We’re in rather a ticklish situation.
tick off /ˈtɪk ˈɒf/ verb 1. to mark something with a tick ○ She ticked off the names on the list. 2. ○ to tick someone off to say that you are annoyed with someone (informal) ○ The policeman ticked them off for running across the road in front of a bus.
tick over /ˈtɪk ˈəʊvə/ verb ○ to be ticking over to go on working in the usual way ○ Make sure the office keeps ticking over while the boss is on holiday.
tick-tack-toe /ˈtɪk tæk ˈtou/, tic-tac-toe noun US a game where each player puts either a zero or a cross on a grid, the first to get three in a row being the winner (NOTE: The British term is noughts and crosses.)
tidal /ˈtɪdl(ə)l/ adj referring to the tide ○ The river below the lock is tidal. ○ a tidal stretch of a river a part of a river near its mouth where the movement of the tides is noticeable ○ The tidal stretch of the Thames reaches over 40 miles from the sea to Teddington Lock.
tidal wave /ˈtɪdl ˈweɪv/ noun a huge wave in the sea, caused by an underwater earthquake and not by the tide. Also called tsunami
tidbit /ˈtɪdbɪt/ noun US same as titbit
tidily-winks /ˈtɪdli wɪŋks/ noun a game where small discs have to be flicked into a little cup
tide /ˈtɪd/ noun 1. the regular rising and falling movement of the sea ○ The tide came in and cut off the children on the rocks. ○ The tide is out – we can walk across the sand. ○ the tide has turned the tide has started to go up or down 2. ○ the tide of public opinion the general trend of feeling among the public ○ to tide someone over to help someone get through a difficult period by lending money ○ Can you lend me £30 to tide me over until pay day? tidily /ˈtɪdlɪ/ adv in a tidy way
tidiness /ˈtɪdniəs/ noun the fact of being tidy. Synonym neatness
tidy /ˈtɪd/ adj 1. neat, in order ○ I want your room to be completely tidy before you go out. ○ She put her clothes in a tidy pile. Antonym untidy 2. quite a large amount or sum ○ When he dies his children will inherit a tidy sum. (NOTE: tidier – tidiest) ■ verb ○ to tidy up to make everything completely tidy ○ Mother asked us to help her tidy up after the party. tidy /ˈtaɪd/ noun 1. a long piece of coloured cloth which men wear round their necks under the collar of their shirts ○ He’s wearing a blue tie with red stripes. ○ They won’t let you into the restaurant if you haven’t got a tie on. 2. a result in a competition or election where both sides have the same score ○ The result
tiebreaker 906 till

tiebreaker /tai brefka/ noun a way of deciding the winner of a game or a competition, e.g. by asking an extra question

tie down /tai daun/ verb 1. to attach something to the floor, to the ground, etc. 2. to make someone accept certain conditions

tie-in /tai in/ noun something such as a book which is brought out in connection with a successful film or television programme

tier /tai/ noun 1. one of a series of steps, usually a row of seats in a theatre 2. a wedding cake with two tiers a cake made of two separate cakes balanced one on top of the other 3. a situation

tie up /tai ap/ verb 1. to put string or rope round something 2. The parcel was tied up with thick string. 3. You should tie that dog up or it will bite someone. 2. to be tied up to be busy 3. I’m rather tied up at the moment – can we try to meet next week some time? 3. to buy something, so that the money is not available for other purposes 4. All his fortune is tied up in property.
tiff /tift/ noun a small argument or quarrel (informal). Synonym quarrel

tiger /tiجر/ noun a large wild animal of the cat family living mainly in India and China; it is yellow in colour, with black stripes (NOTE: The female is a tigress.)
tight /tait/ adj 1. fitting too closely 2. These shoes hurt — they’re too tight. 2. packed close together 3. a tight fit a situation where there is not enough space to fit 4. We can get one more person into the taxi but it will be a tight fit. 4. a tight schedule a schedule where many meetings are very close together 5. The doctor has a very tight schedule today and cannot fit in any more appointments. 3. money is tight there is not very much money available 4. holding firmly 5. Keep a tight hold of the bag, we don’t want it stolen. 5. drunk (informal, dated) 6. He got rather tight at the Christmas party. (NOTE: tighter – tightest) 5. adv 1. firmly and securely 6. Make sure the windows are shut tight. 6. The chair was pushed tight against the wall. 2. to hold tight to hold something firmly 7. Hold tight — we’re about to take off. 8. to sit tight to stay where you are (informal) 9. Sit tight, and someone will come to help you.
tighten /tait(ə)n/ verb to make tight or become tight. Antonym loosen 8. to tighten your belt to be ready to spend less 9. The government warned that we must tighten our belts.
tighten up on /tait(ə)n 'ap ən/ verb to control something more carefully
tight-listed /tait 'fistid/ adj miserly, not wanting to spend money

tightfitting /taitfitiŋ/ adj which fits the body tightly
tight-knit /tait nit/ adj (of a group of people) who are good friends together
tight-lipped /tait 'lipt/ adj not prepared to comment on a subject

tightly /taitli/ adv in a tight way
tightrope /taitrɔp/ noun a rope stretched between two poles on which someone can walk or perform tricks 1. to walk a tightrope 2. to go carefully in a difficult situation 3. The government has to walk a tightrope between pleasing the unions and pleasing the employer.
tights /taitz/ plural noun a piece of clothing made of thin material, covering your hips, and your legs and feet separately, worn especially by girls, women and dancers 3. Look — you’ve got a hole in your tights! (NOTE: no singular: for one item say ‘a pair of tights’. The US term is panty hose.)
tigress /taiəgres/ noun a female tiger (NOTE: The plural is tigresses.)
tikka /tikɔ/ noun a type of Indian cooking done in a hot clay oven with red curry sauce

tile /tai/ noun 1. a flat piece of baked clay used as a covering for floors, walls or roofs 2. The floor is covered with red tiles. 3. We are putting white tiles on the bathroom walls. 2. a similar piece of another kind of material used to cover floors or walls 3. They put cork tiles on the walls. 3. verb to cover the surface of a roof, a floor or a wall with tiles 4. a white-tiled bathroom 5. They have tiled the kitchen with red floor tiles.
till /tıl/ prep, conj until, up to the time when 6. I don’t expect him to be home till after nine o’clock. 7. They worked from morning till night to finish the job. 8. We worked till the sun went down. 9. noun a drawer for keeping cash in a shop 10. There was not much money in the till at the end of the day. Synonym cash register 11. verb to plough and cultivate soil, to make it ready for growing crops 12. In some parts of the world farmers are still using oxen to till the land.
France for a long time.

5. /L50263

The closing time for the office is 5.30.

/L50765

The time is exactly 3.30. It’s must be nearly time for dinner – I’m hungry.

Is it time for the children to go to bed? 3. an amount of hours, days, weeks, months or years. There’s no need to hurry – we’ve got plenty of time. Do you have time for a cup of coffee? He spent all that time watching the TV. If the fire alarm rings, don’t waste time putting clothes on – run out of the hotel fast.

4. a certain period. We haven’t been to France for a long time. We had a letter from my mother a short time ago. in ... time after a particular period from now. We’re going on holiday in four weeks’ time.

2. to take time to need a certain amount of time. It didn’t take you much time to get dressed. Don’t hurry me, I like to take my time.

There’s no time to be lost we must hurry to make up for lost time to do things rapidly because time has been wasted.

Your time’s up the amount of time allocated to you is over. Bring back your boat, your time’s up. to do time to serve a prison sentence (informal) He’s doing time for theft. 5. the system of hours on the clock. a particular moment when something happens. They didn’t hear anything as they were asleep at the time. By the time the ambulance arrived the man had died. You can’t do two things at the same time.

For the time being temporarily. For the time being I’m staying at my mother’s while I’m waiting for my flat to be redecorated.

At times on some occasions. At times I think he’s quite mad.

at all times always. Passengers should keep hold of their baggage at all times.

next time the following moment when something happens.

Next time, try to be nice to your mother.

sometimes a period when things are pleasant or bad. Everyone had a good time at the party. We had an awful time on holiday – the hotel was dreadful, and it rained solidly for ten days.

one of several moments or periods when something happens. I’ve seen that James Bond film on TV four times already.

That’s the last time I’ll ask them to play cards. Next time you come, bring your swimming things. to time after time, time and again repeatedly, again and again.

I’ve told her time after time not to do it. Times multiplied by. Six times twenty is one hundred and twenty.

This book is three times as expensive as that one.

She’s a hundred times more efficient than the old secretary.

10. the rhythm of a piece of music. It’s difficult keeping time in a modern piece like this.

He tapped his foot in time to the music.

verb. to count something in hours, minutes and seconds.

I timed him as he ran round the track. Don’t forget to time the eggs – they have to cook for only three minutes. 2. to choose the right moment.

She timed her holiday right – it was the hottest week of the year.
timepiece 908

**timepiece** /ˈtʌmpɪs/ noun a watch or clock (old)

**timer** /ˈtʌmər/ noun 1. a device which times things ○ The timer buzzed to show that the five minutes were up. 2. a time-switch ○ I set the timer so that the oven came on at six o'clock. ○ Don't forget to change the central heating timer when the clocks are put back. ○ The police found explosives and timers in the garage.

**timescale** /ˈtʌmskeɪl/ noun the period of time during which something should be completed ○ According to the timetable, there should be a time-switch when the clocks are put back.

**timeshare** /ˈtʌmʃeə/ noun a property which you own together with other people, each having the right to use it for a period each year ○ time-sharing The police found explosives and timers in the garage.

**time-switch** /ˈtʌm ˌswɪtʃ/ noun a printed list which shows the times of something, e.g. classes in school or trains leaving ○ We have two English lessons on the timetable today. ○ A graduate of a time-switch, there should be a train to London at 10.22. ■ verb to schedule, to arrange the times for something ○ You are timetabled to speak at 4.30.

**time trial** /ˈtʌm ˌtrɪəl/ noun the act of testing competitors by timing each one over a track, especially in car and bicycle races

**time zone** /ˈtʌm seɪn/ noun one of 24 areas in the world in which the same standard time is used

**timid** /ˈtʌmd/ adj afraid to do something. Antonym bold

**timidity** /ˈtʌmdɪdɪti/ noun the fact of being timid. Antonym boldness

**timidly** /ˈtʌmdɪli/ adv in a timid way

**timepiece** /ˈtʌmpɪs/ noun the act of arranging the time at which something happens

**timpani** /ˈtɪmpəni/ noun a set of kettle drums in an orchestra

**tin** /tin/ noun 1. a silver-coloured soft metal ○ A rosy tint in the eastern sky was the first sign of dawn. ○ Do you prefer this blue with a tint of grey in it? 2. a metal container in which food or another substance is sold and can be kept for a long time ○ I’m lazy – I’ll just open a tin of soup. ○ She bought three tins of cat food. ○ We’ll need three tins of white paint for the ceiling. (NOTE: In British English also called can, especially for drinks. The US term is can.) 3. any metal box ○ Keep the biscuits in a tin or they’ll go soft. ○ She puts her spare coins into a tin by the telephone.

**tin can** /ˈtɪn ˈkæn/ noun a round metal box in which food or drink is sold and can be kept for a long time

**tinfoil** /ˈtɪnfəʊl/ noun a thin sheet of aluminium, used to cover food ○ A yellow-peach tinted with pink.

**tinge** /ˈtɪŋdʒ/ noun a slight colour or feeling of something ○ She has blonde hair with tinges of red. ○ The fabric is red with a blue tinge. ○ There was a slight tinge of sadness in the air as they left the house for the last time. Synonym hint ■ verb to give a slight colour or taste to something ○ The setting sun tinged everything orange. ○ Her mother’s ill health tinged her last trip home with sadness. Synonym tint

**tinged** /ˈtɪŋdʒd/ adj △ tinged with a little of ○ She said goodbye in a voice tinged with sadness. ○ A yellow-peach tinged with pink.

**tinkle** /ˈtɪŋkl/ noun a sharp prickling feeling ○ It didn’t hurt, I just felt a tingle in my leg. ○ We felt a tingle of excitement as we queued for the roller coaster. ■ verb 1. to have a sharp prickling feeling ○ ‘Are your fingers tingling?’ asked the doctor. ○ It will tingle when I put the antiseptic on your cut. 2. △ to tingle with excitement to be very excited ○ The children are tingling with excitement as Christmas approaches.

**tinker** /ˈtɪŋkər/ verb △ to tinker with something to try to make something work better, but not very successfully ○ He spent Saturday morning tinkering with his car. ○ The government are just tinkering with the economy when they should be taking strong action. n noun a maker of saucepans who travels from place to place (old)

**tinkle** /ˈtɪŋkl/ noun 1. a noise like the ringing of a little bell ○ the gentle tinkle of cowbells on alpine pastures 2. a telephone call (informal) ○ I’ll give you a tinkle when we’ve sorted out the details. ■ verb to make a little ringing noise ○ The little bell tinkled as she went into the shop.

**tinned** /ˈtɪnd/ adj preserved and sold in a tin ○ tinned food ○ A rosy tint in the eastern sky was the first sign of dawn. ○ Do you prefer this blue with a tint of grey in it? 2. a dye used to colour your hair ○ Her hair is such a dull colour – she should put a tint in it. ■ verb to give something a slight shade of colour ○ tinted glass ○ Windows of aircraft are tinted to re-
duce the glare from the sun. ○ He was wearing tinted spectacles. ○ How much would it cost to have my hair tinted? Synonym: dye

- tiny /ˈtaɪni/ adj very small ○ Can I have just a tiny bit more pudding? ○ The spot is so tiny you can hardly see it. ○ She lives in a tiny village in the Welsh mountains. Synonym: minute. Antonym: enormous (NOTE: tinier – tiniest)

- tip /tip/ noun 1. the end of something long ○ She reads Braille by touching the page with the tips of her fingers. ○ He poked the pig with the tip of his walking stick. ○ It's on the tip of my tongue I'll remember it in a moment, I'm trying hard to remember it (informal) ○ it's the tip of the iceberg it's only a small obvious part of something bigger and usually unpleasant ○ Those errors in the accounts were just the tip of the iceberg – the staff had been stealing money and stock for years. 2. money given to someone who has provided a service ○ The taxi driver was annoyed because I only gave him a 20p tip. ○ The service hasn't been very good – should we leave a tip for the waiter? ○ The staff are not allowed to accept tips. 3. advice on something which could be profitable ○ He gave me a tip about a horse which was likely to win. ○ She gave me a tip about a cheap restaurant just round the corner from the hotel. 4. a place where household rubbish is taken to be thrown away ○ I must take these bags of rubbish to the tip. 5. a dirty or untidy place (informal) ○ Just look at your bedroom – it's a tip! ○ verb 1. to pour something out ○ He picked up the box and tipped the contents out onto the floor. ○ She tipped all the food out of the bag. 2. to give money to someone who has helped you ○ I tipped the waiter £1. ○ Should we tip the driver? 3. to predict that something may happen, especially who will win ○ He's tipped to win the election. ○ He's tipped to be (sick and) tired of something to be bored and annoyed with something, to have had enough of something ○ I'm sick and tired of waiting for the doctor. ○ to get tired of something to become bored with something ○ They're getting tired of always having to do all the washing up. ○ Can't we do something else – I'm getting tired of visiting museums.

tired /ˈtaɪəd/ adj 1. feeling sleepy ○ I'm tired – I think I'll go to bed. ○ If you feel tired, lie down on my bed. 2. feeling that you need rest ○ We're all tired after a long day at the office. 3. to be (sick and) tired of something to be bored and annoyed with something, to have had enough of something ○ I'm sick and tired of waiting for the doctor. ○ to get tired of something to become bored with something ○ They're getting tired of always having to do all the washing up. ○ Can't we do something else – I’m getting tired of visiting museums.

tired out /ˈtaɪəd ˈaʊt/ adj feeling very sleepy or needing a rest. Synonym: exhausted. Antonym: energetic

tireless /ˈtaɪərɛls/ adj full of energy, never needing to rest. Antonym: weary

tiresome /ˈtaɪəzəm/ adj annoying
	tering /ˈtaɪərɪŋ/ adj which makes you tired. Synonym: exhausting

- tissue /ˈtʃuːz/ noun 1. a soft paper handkerchief ○ There is a box of tissues beside the bed. 2. groups of cells which form an animal or plant ○ animal tissue grown in a laboratory ○ They took a sample of tissue from the lung.

tissue paper /ˈtʃuːziˈpəpə/ noun thin soft paper used for wrapping glass and other delicate objects

tit /tit/ noun 1. a type of common small bird, usually with blue and yellow or black plumage ○ Several varieties of tit come to our bird table to feed. ○ We haven't had blue tits in the garden for a long time. 2. a woman's breast (vulgar)
	titan /ˈtaɪtən/ noun a very large or very important person. Synonym: giant. Antonym: nobody
sidetopic

3. from 11.30 to 8.30 the following morning.
leaves at a quarter to eight (7.45).
running?
thing

4. a right to own a property
a word such as Dr, Mr, Professor, Lord, Sir or Lady put in front

1. title noun 1. the name of something, e.g. a book, play, painting or film
He's almost finished the play but hasn’t found a title for it yet.
2. a word such as Dr, Mr, Professor, Lord, Sir or Lady put in front of a name to show an honour or a qualification

3. (in sport) the official position of champion o What are his chances of retaining the Formula One title for a second year running?
4. a right to own a property o He holds the title to the property.

1. title page noun a page at the beginning of a book, which gives the title, the name of the author and the name of the publisher
title role noun the part in a play or film which gives the name to the play or film
titter /ˈtɪtə/ (with a, tu, tu/t/) noun a little laugh || verb to give a little laugh
T-junction /tɪː/ noun 1. a junction where one road joins another at right angles
TNT abbr trinitrotoluene o to prep. to, tu, tu/t/ 1. showing direction or place o They went to the police station. o Do you know the way to the beach?
2. showing a period of time o The office is open from 9.30 to 5.30. Monday to Friday. o She slept from 11.30 to 8.30 the following morning.
3. showing time in minutes before an hour o Get up – it’s five to seven (6.55). o The train leaves at a quarter to eight (7.45). (NOTE: To is used for times between the half hour and o’clock: 3.30 = twenty-five to four; 3.45 = a quarter to four; 3.55 = five minutes to four. For times after the hour see past.)
4. showing a person or animal that receives something o Take the book to the librarian.

tit for tat noun paying back a blow with another blow. Synonym tit for tat (in sport) the official position of champion o What are his chances of retaining the Formula One title for a second year running?

1. titanic /ˈtɪtnɪk/ adj very large or important. Synonym colossal. Antonym insignificant

titanium /ˈtɪtəniəm/ noun a light grey metal which does not rust, used in making aircraft and satellites

tiny /ˈtɪni/ adj very small (informal) Synonym diminutive

tobacco /ˈtæbəkəʊ/ noun the dried leaves of a plant used to make cigarettes and cigars, and for smoking in pipes (NOTE: no plural)
tobacconist /ˈtəbəkənɪst/ noun a person who sells tobacco, cigars and cigarettes
toboggan /ˈtəbəgən/ noun a sled made of a long flat piece of wood curved upwards at the front, designed for sliding downhill on snow or ice o The children pulled their toboggans to the hill. Synonym sleigh || verb to slide on a toboggan || They tobogganed down the hill.
tobogganist /ˈtəbəgənist/ noun the sport of sliding on toboggans

to day /ˈtəd/ noun 1. this day o Today’s the day! o What’s the date today?
2. this present time o The young people of today have far more...
money than I had when I was their age. I said he wanted to see me today, but he hasn’t come yet. Today week, a week today in exactly seven days’ time. A week today, we’ll be sitting on the beach.

toddle /ˈtɒd(ə)l/ verb 1. (of a little child) to walk unsteadily. The little girl toddled across the pavement and into the road. 2. to walk. I’ll just toddle down to the post office.
toddler /ˈtɒd(ə)lə/ noun a child who has just learnt to walk

to-do /tɔˈduː/ noun excitement, confusion, bother (informal) Synonym fuss
to-do list /tɔˈduː lɪst/ noun a list of the things you must do, usually in a specific period of time.

toe /tɔ/ noun 1. one of the five parts like fingers at the end of the foot. She trod on my toe and didn’t say she was sorry. 2. the big toe the largest of the five toes. 3. the little toe the smallest of the five toes. 4. to keep someone on their toes to keep someone ready or alert. My job is to make sure the staff are always on their toes.

together /ˈtəɡəðər/ adv. 1. doing something with someone else or in a group. Tell the children to stay together or they’ll get lost. 2. If you’re going to the cinema, and we’re planning to go too, why don’t we all go together? 3. joined with something else or with each other. Tie the sticks together with string. 4. Do you think you can stick the pieces of the cup together again? 5. If you add all the figures together, you’ll get the total sales. 6. We’ve had three sandwiches and three beers – how much does that come to all together? 7. With as well as. The ice together with the wind made climbing dangerous. 8. at the same time. Don’t wash those two shirts together. Compare altogether
togetherness /ˌtəɡəˈθɛrnɪs/ noun a feeling of friendliness and closeness with a person or people you know well

toggle /ˈtɔɡ(ə)l/ noun a short piece of wood attached to a coat with string, used in place of a button. A duffel coat has toggles not buttons. Verb (in computers) to change between two states. The symbol can be toggled on and off the display.
toll /tɔl/ noun hard work (old or literary) 1. a life of endless toil. Antonym relaxation verb to work hard. 2. They toiled for months to try to improve the conditions of the workers. 3. She was toiling away at a hot stove.
toilet /ˈtɔɪlɛt/ noun 1. a bowl with a seat on which you sit to get rid of waste matter from your body. There is a shower and toilet in the bathroom. 2. to flush a toilet to press a handle to make water flow through the toilet bowl to clear it. 3. Don’t forget to flush the toilet. 4. a room with a toilet bowl in it. 5. The ladies’ toilet is at the end of the corridor. 6. The gents’ toilets are downstairs and to the right. 7. There’s a public toilet at the railway station. 8. to go to the toilet. 9. to use a toilet to remove waste matter from the body. 10. The children all want to go to the toilet at the same time. 11. to remove waste matter from the body. 12. Mum! The cat’s been to the toilet on the sitting room carpet.
toilet bag /ˈtɔɪlɛt bæɡ/ noun same as sponge bag

toilet paper /ˈtɔɪlɛt ˈpeɪpər/ noun soft paper for wiping your bottom after going to the toilet

toiletries /ˈtɔɪlətrɪz/ plural noun things, e.g. soap, cream and perfume, which are used in washing the body or making yourself smell nice

toilet roll /ˈtɔɪlɛt rəʊl/ noun a roll of toilet paper

toilet water /ˈtɔɪlɛt wɔrət/ noun a type of light perfume. Synonym cologne

token /ˈtɔʊkən/ noun 1. a thing which is a sign or symbol of something. Please accept this small gift as a token of our gratitude. 2. by the same token in the same way. You have every right to complain about him, but, by the same token, you mustn’t get upset if he complains about you. 3. to make a token charge to make a small charge which does not cover the real costs. 4. to make a token gesture to make a small and insignificant action done to show that you are intending to deal with a problem. The motion criticising the government was simply a token gesture by the opposition parties. 5. to make a token payment to make a small payment to show that a payment is being made.

money

cooking sugar and butter

paste made from soya beans

beach
ken strike to hold a short strike to show that the workers want to make a complaint about something ○ a token woman or black a woman or black person appointed to a position, e.g. on a committee, in an attempt to show that there is no sexual or racial discrimination 2, a piece of paper or card, which is used in the place of money ○ You can use these tokens to pay for meals. ○ book token or flowertoken a card which is bought in a shop and given as a present: it can only be exchanged for books or flowers 3, a plastic or metal disc, which is used instead of money ○ She put a token into the slot machine.

told /told/○ tell /təl/ /verb/ 1. bearable ○ The noise in the ironworks was barely tolerable. Antonym intolerable 2. fairly good ○ We had a tolerable meal in the hotel restaurant. tolerably /verb/ in a fairly good way ○ a tolerably good film quite a good film.
tolerance /noun/ 1. the practice of tolerating something, such as unpleasant behaviour ○ The police showed great tolerance faced with a crowd of youths throwing bottles and stones. 2. the practice of allowing something to exist which you do not agree with to exist. Antonym intolerance 3, the ability of the body to stand the effect of a drug or a poison ○ He has been taking the drug for so long that he has developed a tolerance to it. 4, an amount by which something can vary from a particular size ○ The specifications allow for a tolerance of 0.003 mm.
tolerant /adj/ who shows tolerance. Antonym intolerant
tolerate /verb/ to allow something which you do not agree with to exist without complaining about it ○ She does not tolerate singing in the classroom. 2. to allow something which you do not agree with to exist ○ Opposition parties are not tolerated in that country. ○ He is not known for tolerating people with opposing views to his. 3. to accept the effect of a drug or a poison ○ The body can tolerate small amounts of poison.
toleration /noun/ the practice of allowing something which you do not agree with to exist. Antonym prejudice
toll /tɔ:l/ /noun/ 1. a payment for using a service, usually a road, bridge or ferry ○ You have to pay a toll to cross the bridge. ○ There’s a disc, which at the bridge where the man collects the tolls. 2. the number of people hurt, of buildings damaged, etc. ○ to take a toll of something to destroy or damage something ○ The storm took a heavy toll of ships in the harbour. ○ The wind took its toll of trees in the park. 3. the solemn ringing of a bell ○ The toll of the great bell could be heard across the marshes. ○ verb to ring a bell slowly, as for a funeral ○ The bell was tolling as the coffin arrived at the church.
toll bridge /noun/ a bridge where you have to pay a toll to cross toll free /noun/ toll adj, adv US without having to pay the charge for a long-distance telephone call
tom /noun/ 1. a male cat 2. a large cat.
tomato /noun/ 1. a small round red fruit used in salads and cooking ○ Tomatoes cost 30p per kilo. ○ We had salad of raw cabbage and tomatoes. ○ Someone in the crowd threw a tomato at the speaker on the platform. ○ tomato sauce or ketchup sauce made with tomatoes and flavourings ○ Do you want tomato sauce with your fish and chips? 2. a tomato plant, a plant which produces tomatoes ○ He planted six tomatoes in his back garden. (NOTE: The plural is tomatoes.)
tomb /noun/ 1. a grave, sometimes one with an underground vault 2. a tombstone a card which is bought in a shop and given as a present: it can only be exchanged for books or flowers 3. a large stone placed on a grave with the name of the dead person written on it. Synonym headstone
tomcat /noun/ a male cat
tone /noun/ 1. a way of saying something, or of writing something, which shows a particular feeling ○ His tone of voice showed he was angry. ○ She said hello in a friendly tone of voice. ○ You could tell from the tone of his letter that he was annoyed. 2. (on the phone) a special noise which indicates something ○ Please speak after the tone. 3. a slight difference in colour ○ She prefers pastel tones like pale pink or pale blue. 4. the general spirit of a place ○ Having
tone deaf 913  toothpaste

to fit in well or to harmonise with something

to make something less offensive. Synonym

to make something less offensive

to make your speech less offensive. Synonym

tone deaf /ˈtɔnık/ adj (in music) not able to recognise the differences between musical notes
tone down /ˈtɒn daʊn/ verb to make something less offensive. Synonym

tone up /ˈtɒn ʌp/ verb to make your body firmer or fitter
tongue /ˈtɒŋg/ plural noun a type of board with a projecting tongue along one edge which fits into a corresponding groove along the edge of the next board, often used to create panelling
tongue-twister /ˈtɒŋtwɪstər/ noun a phrase like ‘red lorry, yellow lorry,’ which is difficult to say quickly
tonic /ˈtɒnik/ noun something which makes you stronger  o He’s taking a course of iron tonic tablets.  o Going on holiday will be a tonic for you.
tonic water /ˈtɒnik ˈwɔtər/ noun fizzy water made with quinine, used as a cooling drink

tonsillitis /ˈtɔnsɪlɪtɪs/ noun an inflammation of the tonsils
tonsil /ˈtɔnsɪl/ noun one of two soft lumps of tissue at the back of the throat
toon /ˈtuːn/ noun a space for cargo in a ship, measured in tons

toon /ˈtuːn/ noun a metric ton, a weight of 1,000 kilograms

tool /ˈtuːl/ noun an instrument which you hold in your hand to do specific work, such as a hammer or a spade  a set of tools for mending the car
tool bar /ˈtuːlbɑːr/ noun a line of icons on a computer screen which you click on to get the computer to do certain things
tool shed /ˈtuːl ʃed/ noun a small wooden shed in a garden where tools are kept
tool /ˈtuːl/ noun a short sound made by a horn  o As he went past us he gave a toot on his horn.  o verb to blow a horn sharply

tooth /ˈtuːθ/ noun 1. one of a set of hard white objects in the mouth which you use to bite or chew food  o Children must learn to clean their teeth twice a day.  o I’ll have to see the dentist – one of my back teeth hurts.  o The dentist took one of her teeth out.  2. to have a sweet tooth to like sweet food  o He’s very fond of puddings – he’s got a real sweet tooth!  o Don’t put the chocolates next to her – she’s got a very sweet tooth.  o long in the tooth old  o She’s getting a bit long in the tooth for scuba diving.  3. one of the row of pointed pieces on a saw, comb or a zip o Throw that comb away, half its teeth are broken. (NOTE: The plural is teeth)
toothache /ˈtuːθkeɪ/ noun a pain in a tooth (NOTE: no plural)
toothbrush /ˈtuːθbraʃ/ noun a small brush which you use to clean your teeth

toothpaste /ˈtuːθpeɪst/ noun a soft substance which you spread on a toothbrush and then use to clean your teeth (NOTE: no plural: some toothpaste, a tube of toothpaste)
to discuss something
something on top
/L50263
finally falls over.
spinning top loses momentum, it wobbles and
/L50263
down.


present time
part heavier than the bottom, and so likely to
topic of where to go on holiday.
/L50263
the computer.
in the upper part of the body
/L50263
came top in the competition.


top-secret /ˈtop ˌsiːkrət/ adj absolutely


topsy-turvy /ˈtopsi ˈtɜːvvi/ adj in disorder
or all upside down. Synonym confused
top-up /ˈtop əp/ verb to add liquid to fill
completely something which is half empty.
top-up /ˈtop əp/ noun the liquid which you add to
a half-empty cup or glass to make it full again.


Torah /ˈtɔrə/ noun the first five books of the


Jewish bible
torch /ˈtɔtʃ/ noun 1. a small portable
electric lamp ○ Take a torch if you’re going
into the cave. ○ I always carry a small torch
in the car. (NOTE: The US term is flash-light.) 2. a flaming light, carried in the hand ○ The demonstrators marched through the
streets carrying torches. (NOTE: The plural is torches.) ○ verb to set fire to something on
purpose ○ The rioters torched the police station.


torchlight /ˈtɔrtʃlaɪt/ noun the light from a
torch. Synonym beam
torpedo /ˈtɔrpədəʊ/ noun a missile like a
shell which travels under the water ○ The
submarine fired a torpedo. ○ The ship was
hit by three torpedoes and sank immediately.
(Note: The plural is torpedoes.) ○ verb 1.
to sink a ship using a torpedo ○ The ship was torpedoed by an enemy submarine. 2. to ruin someone's plans ○ His grandiloquent scheme for a leisure complex was torpedoed by the council planning department.
torrid /ˈtɔːrɪd/ adj. very hot ○ The torrid tropical afternoon. 2. intensely sexual ○ A tale of torrid romance and intrigue.
torrid /ˈtɔːrid/ adj. like a torrent
torrent /ˈtɔːrənt/ noun 1. a fast rushing stream ○ To get to the farm we had to cross a mountain torrent. 2. a fast flow ○ The rain came down in torrents. 3. a torrent of abuse a large number of insults which are spoken rapidly ○ She let out a torrent of abuse.
tortoise /ˈtɔrtəs/ noun 1. a reptile covered with a hard shell, which moves very slowly on land and can live to be very old (NOTE: British English uses the word turtle for similar animals which live in water; American English uses tortoise for both.)
tortoise-shell /ˈtɔrtəsˌʃel/ adj. noun speckled brown material from the shell of a turtle used for making objects like combs and frames for glasses
tortoise-shell cat /ˈtɔrtəsˌʃɛl/ noun a brown, yellow, white and black cat
tortuous /ˈtɔrtjuːs/ adj. 1. which twists and turns ○ Because of the roadworks we have to take a long and tortuous route back home. 2. very complicated ○ I won't start explaining the tortuous procedure we had to go through to recover our money.
torture /ˈtɔrtjʊər/ noun 1. making someone suffer pain as a punishment or to make them reveal a secret ○ They accused the police of using torture to get information about the pilot. 2. extreme mental or physical pain. Synonym agony. ○ verb to inflict mental or physical pain on someone ○ The soldiers tortured their prisoners. ○ was tortured with doubts. Synonym torment
Tory /ˈtɔri/ adj. referring to the Conservative party ○ A Tory government ○ the last Tory Prime Minister ○ noun a member of the Conservative party ○ The Tories have recently elected a new leader. (NOTE: The plural is Tories.)
○ toss /tɔs/ noun 1. the act of throwing something into the air ○ to win the toss (in sport) to guess correctly which side of the coin comes down on top and so have first choice or play first 2. a sharp movement up and down of the head ○ With a toss of its head, the horse galloped off. 2. verb to throw something up into the air ○ He tried to toss the pancake and it fell on the kitchen floor. ○ She tossed me her car keys. ○ to toss a coin to throw a coin to decide something according to which side is on top when it comes down ○ We tossed a coin and I had to do the washing up. ○ let's toss for it let's throw a coin in the air and the person who guesses right starts to play first or has first choice 2. to move something about ○ The waves tossed the little boat up and down. ○ the horse tossed its head the horse made a sharp movement of the head 2. ○ to toss a salad to mix a salad ○ to toss and turn to move about in bed, not able to sleep
toss up /tɒs ˈʌp/ verb to throw a coin to see which side is on top when it comes down
tot /tɒt/ noun 1. a little child ○ She took the tot by the hand and led him back into the house. ○ There are special classes where they teach tiny tots to swim. 2. a small glass of alcohol ○ A tot of whisky before dinner won't do you any harm. ○ total /təʊˈləl/ adj. complete or whole ○ The expedition was a total failure. ○ Their total losses come to over £400,000. 2. noun the whole amount ○ The total comes to more than £1,000. 3. verb to add up to ○ The bill totalled £600. 4. He was declared bankrupt, with debts totalling more than £1m. (NOTE: totalling – totalled. The US spelling is totaling – totalled.)
totalitarian /ˈtɔtəlɪˌtɪəriən/ adj. having total power and not allowing any opposition or personal freedom. Synonym authoritarian. 2. noun a political system where the state has total power over the citizens ○ totally /ˈtɔʊli/ adv. completely ○ The house was totally destroyed in the fire. ○ I had totally forgotten that I had promised to be there. ○ He disagrees totally with what the first speaker said. Antonym democratic
totter /ˈtɒtər/ noun 1. to walk unsteadily or to wobble ○ I cannot bear to look at her tottering along in those platform shoes. ○ The
tot up /ˈtɒt/ verb to add up (NOTE: tot- ting – totted)  

- **touch** /tʃ/ noun 1. one of the five senses, the sense of feeling with the fingers  
  - *The sense of touch is very acute in blind people.*  
  2. contact, the passing of news and information  
  - *to get in touch with someone to contact someone*  
  3. a slight attack of indigestion  
  - *I had a touch of indigestion after eating too much.*  
  4. to use to live next door, but we’ve lost touch with them now that they’ve moved to London.  
  5. to put someone in touch  
  - *I’ll try to get in touch with the bank.*  
  6. to arrange for someone to have contact with someone  
  - *I’ll try to get in touch with a local lawyer.*  

- **touch up** /tʃʌp/ verb to add a small amount of paint to a surface  
  - *Don’t mention his red hair – he’s very touchy about it.*  
  2. which is likely to cause offence  
  - *Don’t mention his divorce – it’s a very touchy subject at the moment.*  

- **touchstone** /ˈtʃʌstən/ noun something which is an excellent example and is a standard by which to judge other things  
  - *This meat is as tough as old boots.*  
  2. extremely tough  
  - *My steak’s a bit tough – how’s yours?*  
  3. toughened glass  
  - *Cooking the meat too much will make something perfect.*  
  4. to make tougher, stronger or harder  
  - *This is an excellent example and is a standard by which to judge other things.*  
  5. unfortunate  
  - *It’s tough that you can’t come to the party.*  

- **touchdown** /ˈtʌkəd/ noun 1. the landing of a plane or spacecraft  
  2. (in rugby) scoring a try by touching the ground behind the opponents’ line with the ball  
  3. US scoring a goal in American football by taking the ball over the opponents’ line  
  4. to complete a pass for the winning touchdown  
  5. to get some fresh bread every day  
  - *He burst on touchdown.*  
  2. a journey on business to various places coming back eventually to the place you started from  
  - *She gave us a tour round the old castle.*  
  2. a journey round various places where you perform or speak  
  - *He is leading a group of businessmen on a tour of Italian factories.*  
  3. a journey round various places where you perform or speak.
The Prime Minister went on a tour of the North East.

The tourists were talking German.

They were parties of tourists visiting all the churches.

Trafalgar Square is always full of tourists.

The opera company toured Eastern Europe last year.

The exhibition will be held towards the end of the month.

They moved their office to the centre of town.

They are building a row of town houses belonging to someone who also has a house in the country.

The Prime Minister went to the nearest garage.

The exhibition will be held towards the middle of October.

The motorways were motorways,

The opera company toured Eastern Europe last year.

The Prime Minister went to the nearest garage.

The opera company toured Eastern Europe last year.

The Prime Minister went to the nearest garage.

The opera company toured Eastern Europe last year.
toxaemia /ˈtɔksɪmə/ noun blood poisoning, a condition caused by bacteria in the blood (NOTE: The US spelling is toxemia.)
toxic /ˈtɔksɪk/ adj harmful. Synonym poisonous. Antonym harmless
toxic waste /ˈtɔskɪk ˈwɛst/ noun waste which is poisonous or harmful to the environment
toxin /ˈtɔksɪn/ noun a poisonous substance produced inside the body by germs. Synonym poison

2 toy /tɔɪ/ noun a thing for children to play with, e.g. a toy boy

2 trace /trel/ noun 1. something which shows that something existed 2. a very small amount 3. There was a trace of powder on his coat. 4. She showed no trace of anger. 5. to follow and catch someone, e.g. a criminal 6. Did you track down your old boss? 7. to track something down to manage to find something or someone 8. I finally tracked down that file which you were looking for.

1 track /træk/ noun 1. a rough path 2. We followed a track through the forest. 3. off the beaten track, in a place which is not normally visited by many people 4. you’re on the right track, you’re working the right way in order to succeed, you’re doing the right thing 5. We haven’t solved the problem yet, but we’re certainly on the right track. 6. you’re on the wrong track, you’re working in the wrong way 7. a path for races 8. a line of parallel rails for trains 9. The train will be late because of repairs to the track. 10. to have a one-track mind, to think about only one thing or to have only one thing which interests you (informal)

4 tracks /trækz/ plural noun a series of footprints left by an animal or marks left by things like wheels 11. to make tracks for to go towards 12. They made tracks for the nearest hotel.

3 tracksuit /ˈtræksˌwʊt/ noun a pair of matching trousers and top, in warm material, worn when practising sports

3 trach/ˈtræʃ/ noun 1. the main air passage which runs from the larynx to the lungs, where it divides (technical) Also called windpipe

2 trackball /trækˈbɔl/ noun a ball used instead of a computer mouse to control the cursor on a computer screen

1 track down /ˈtræk ˈdəʊn/ verb 1. to track someone down to follow and catch someone, e.g. a criminal 2. Did you track down your old boss? 3. to track something down to manage to find something or someone 4. I finally tracked down that file which you were looking for.

track record /ˈtræk ˈrekərd/ noun the success or failure of someone or a business in the past

1 trade /træd/ noun 1. a large area of land 2. Whole tracts of forest have been contaminated by acid rain. 3. a short pamphlet, usually on a religious subject 4. Someone pushed a tract on the dangers of alcohol through our letterbox. 5. a system of organs and tubes in the body which are linked together 6. The respiratory tract takes air into the lungs. 7. traction /ˈtrækʃən/ noun 1. pulling a broken leg or other part of the body with weights and pulleys so as to straighten it 2. After we have set the bone, the leg will require traction. 3. in traction having a broken limb attached and pulled so that it becomes straight 4. She was in traction for several weeks. 5. of a tyre the gripping power between a tyre and the road surface 6. These tyres are so old they have no traction at all on ice. 7. the force of pulling

2 tractor /ˈtræktr/ noun a heavy vehicle with large back wheels, used for work on farms

3 trade /ˈtreɪd/ noun 1. the business of buying and selling 2. Britain’s trade with the rest of Europe is up by 10%. 3. to do a good trade in a range of products to sell a large number of a range of products. 4. to do a roaring trade to sell a lot very fast 5. The ice cream sellers have been doing a roaring trade during the hot weather.
trade deficit
corporations that deal in the same type of product or service.

trade fair
an occasion when manufacturers and producers exhibit their products and services to try to sell them.

trade in
verb to give in an old item, such as a car or washing-machine, as part of the payment for a new one.

trade off
verb to balance one thing against another to get a final result.

trade on
verb to exploit or to use something to your advantage.

trade price
a special wholesale price paid by a retailer to a wholesaler or manufacturer.

trade union
a group of warehouses and factories built together.

traffic
a branch of the police force dealing with traffic on roads.

traffic accidents
a tragic accident on the motorway.

traffic on
a person who deals illegally in drugs.

traffic on
a person who deals illegally in drugs.

traffic off
verb to stop moving forward.

traffic price
the amount paid for a new one.

traffic Jam
a situation where cars, lorries, buses and other vehicles cannot move forward on a road because there is too much traffic.

traffic police
a branch of the force dealing with traffic on roads.

traffic signs
lights for making traffic move forward.

traffic circle
a place where several roads meet, and traffic has to move in a circle round a central area.

traffic light
red, green and amber lights for making traffic move forward.

traffic lights
red, green and amber lights for making traffic move forward.

traffic on
a person whose job it is to see that cars are legally parked, and to give parking tickets to those who are parked illegally.
train

trail /trəl/ noun 1. tracks left by an animal or by a criminal. The burglar left in a red sports car, and a police car was soon on their trail. 2. a path or track. Keep to the trail otherwise you will get lost. 3. mountain trail a path through mountains. something that follows behind. The car left a trail of blue smoke. The dogs followed the trail of drops of blood to a warehouse. 4. The storm left a trail of destruction across the south of the country.

train /trɛn/ noun 1. a person who trains an athlete. His trainer says he’s in peak condition for the fight. 2. a small aircraft in which pilots learn to fly trainers /ˌtrɛnəz/ plural noun light sports shoes. She needs a new pair of trainers for school. He comes to work every morning in trainers.

trainer /ˈtræner/ noun 1. being taught a skill or being trained. The shop is closed on Tuesday mornings for staff training. There is a ten-week training period for new staff. 2. practising for a sport. To be in training. To practise for a sport. She’s in training for the Olympics.

training /ˈtræning/ noun 1. something that follows behind. The train of events which led to the accident. The police are trying to piece together the train of events which led to the accident.

trailer /ˈtrɛrlə/ noun 1. a small goods vehicle pulled behind a car. We carried all our camping gear in the trailer. 2. parts of a full-length film shown as an advertisement for it. We saw the trailer last week, and it put me off the film.

trainee /ˈtrɛni/ noun a person who is being trained. Synonym: apprentice

tramp /træmp/ noun 1. a noise of heavy feet hitting the ground. The streets were filled with the tramp of marching soldiers. 2. a long walk. We went for a tramp along the cliffs last Sunday. 3. a person who has nowhere to live and walks from place to place looking for work or begging for food or money. The farmer was surprised to find a tramp asleep in one of his barns. (NOTE: The US term is hobo.)

tramping /ˈtræməŋ/ plural noun 1. the rails in a street along which a tram runs. Don’t stand on the tramlines — a tram may come round the corner. 2. the two side lines on a tennis court. He sent a passing shot down the tramlines.

tramp /træmp/ noun 1. to walk with heavy feet. They tramped through the snow to get to the camp. You could hear soldiers tramping through the streets at night. 3. a person who has nowhere to live and walks from place to place looking for work or begging for food or money. The farmer was surprised to find a tramp asleep in one of his barns. (NOTE: The US term is hobo.)

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trample /træməlp/ verb 1. to crush something by walking on it. They trampled on the enemy flag and then burnt it. 2. to crush something violently. Several children were trampled...
trampoline

to death in the riot. ○ The government has trampled on the rights of the ordinary citizen.
trampoline /ˈtræmplən/ noun a large sheet of elastic material stretched across a frame, which you can bounce or jump on.

tramway /ˈtræmwæ/ noun the rails on which a tram runs.

trance /ˈtræns/ noun a state when you are not alert but not asleep, and do not notice what is going on around you.

tranquil /ˈtræŋkwɪl/ adj calm or peaceful.

tranquilise /ˈtræŋkwɪlɪz/, tranquilize verb to make someone calm by giving them drugs. Synonym sedate (NOTE: The US spelling is tranquilize.)

tranquillity /ˈtræŋkwɪlɪtɪ/ noun being calm or peaceful (NOTE: The US spelling is tranquility.)

transact /ˈtrænzəkt/ verb to transact business to carry out a piece of business ○ He has been banned from transacting business on the Stock Exchange. ○ The council will meet next week to transact the following business.

transaction /ˈtrænzəkʃn/ noun a piece of business. Synonym deal.

transatlantic /ˈtrænzətəlæntɪk/ adj 1. across the Atlantic ○ Transatlantic flights take about six hours depending on the wind. ○ Prices for transatlantic phone calls have been reduced. 2. on the other side of the Atlantic ○ Our transatlantic trading partners.

transcend /ˈtrænzənd/ verb to go better or further than something or to be much more important than something.

transcendent /ˈtrænzəndnt/ adj very great (formal).

transcendental /ˈtrænzəndnt(ə)/ adj which rises above the level of ordinary thought or reasoning.

transcontinental /ˈtrænzəntənkʃnt(ə)/ adj across a continent.

transcribe /ˈtrænskraɪb/ verb 1. to write out the text of something which is heard ○ His speech was transcribed from the radio tape. ○ The sound of each word has been transcribed into phonetic characters. 2. to rewrite a piece of music for a different instrument than the one for which it was originally written ○ The piece was originally written for the violin and then transcribed for piano.

transcript /ˈtrænskrɪpt/ noun a written record of something which has been noted in shorthand, or text of what was said on a radio programme, at a meeting, etc.

transcription /ˈtrænskrɪpʃn/ noun words which have been transcribed.

transfer /ˈtrænfər/ noun 1. the action of moving something or someone to a new place ○ I’ve applied for a transfer to our London branch. ○ on the transfer list on the list of footballers who can go to work for other teams. 2. changing to another form of transport. 3. a decoration which is taken off a piece of paper and is stuck on to a surface ○ She has little transfers of flowers and animals on her arms.

verb 1. to move something or someone to another place ○ The money will be transferred directly to your bank account. ○ She transferred her passport from her handbag to her jacket pocket. ○ He’s been transferred to our New York office. 2. to change from one type of travel to another ○ When you get to London airport, you have to transfer onto an internal flight. (NOTE: transferring – transferred)

transferable /ˈtrænsfərəbl/ adj which can be transferred ○ transferable skills skills which you can use in several different types of job ○ this ticket is not transferable this ticket cannot be given or lent to anyone else to use.

transfix /ˈtrænsfɪkʃən/ verb to prevent someone from moving because of a shock.

transfixed /ˈtrænsfɪkst/ adj prevented from moving because of a shock.

transform /ˈtrænzfɔrm/ verb to change the appearance of someone or something completely. Synonym alter.

transformation /ˈtræ nzfərˈmeɪʃn/ noun a complete change of appearance. Synonym alteration.

transformer /ˈtrænzfɔrmər/ noun a device for changing the voltage of an alternating current.

transgenic /ˌtrænzənˈdʒenɪk/ adj referring to an animal or plant with genes from a different species.

transgress /ˈtrænzɡrɛs/ verb to go against a rule. Synonym misbehave. Antonym behave.

transgression /ˈtrænzɡrɛʃn/ noun the act of transgressing. Synonym wrongdoing.

transient /ˈtrænzɪnt/ adj which will not last ○ Fame for most pop groups is very transient. Synonym fleeting. Antonym permanent.

transistor /ˈtrænzɪstər/ noun a device made of semi-conductors which can control the flow of electric current in a circuit.

transit /ˈtrænsɪt/ noun the movement of passengers or goods on the way to a destination. Synonym transportation ○ In transit in the process of being moved from one place to another ○ The police seized the goods when they were in transit between London and Manchester.
transition /ˈtrænsɪʃən/ noun the process of moving from one situation to another
transitional /ˈtrænsɪʃənəl/ adj referring to transition temporary government between two different regimes
transitory /ˈtrænsɪt(ə)ri/ adj which does not last for long. Synonym fleeting.
transit /ˈtrænstit/ noun a waiting room in an airport where passengers wait for connecting flights
transitory /ˈtrænsɪt(ə)ri/ adj which does not last for long. Synonym fleeting.
transliterate /ˈtrænsliːˌlətər/ verb to put written or spoken words into another language. Can you translate what he said? He asked his secretary to translate the letter from the German agent. She translates mainly from Spanish into English, not from English into Spanish.
transliterate /ˈtrænsliːˌlətər/ verb to put written or spoken words into another language. Can you translate what he said? He asked his secretary to translate the letter from the German agent. She translates mainly from Spanish into English, not from English into Spanish.
translation /ˈtrænsliːˌlefn/ noun text which has been translated. I read Tolstoy’s ‘War and Peace’ in translation. She passed the translation of the letter to the accounts department.
translator /ˈtrænsliːˈlefn/ noun a person who translates
translucent /ˈtrænsliːˈlʌksənt/ adj which light can pass through, but which you cannot see through clearly
transmission /ˈtrænsɪʃən/ noun 1. passing of disease from one person to another. Patients must be isolated to prevent transmission of the disease to the general public. 2. radio or TV broadcast. We interrupted this transmission to bring you a news flash. 3. (in a car) a series of moving parts which pass the power from the engine through the gearbox and clutch to the axles. There’s a strange noise coming from the transmission.
transmit /ˈtrænsɪmıt/ verb, 1. to pass a disease from one person to another. The disease was transmitted to all the people he came into contact with. The disease is transmitted by fleas. 2. to send out a programme or a message by radio or TV. The message was transmitted to the ship by radio. (NOTE: transmitting – transmitted)
transmitter /ˈtrænsɪmɪtər/ noun apparatus for sending out radio or TV signals
transparency /ˈtrænsprənsi/ noun 1. the quality of being transparent. The transparency of the water allows you to see the coral reefs. 2. being clear when making decisions, and being open to the public about official actions. The government insists on the importance of transparency in all its actions. 3. a photograph which is printed on transparent film so that it can be projected on to a screen. Transparency is another name for ‘slide’. Do you want to have prints or transparencies? (NOTE: The plural in this meaning is transparencies)
transparent /ˈtrænsprərənt/ adj 1. which you can see through. The meat is wrapped in transparent plastic film. 2. which is completely obvious. His explanation was a transparent lie. 3. clear and open about official actions. The government insists on the importance all its actions being transparent.
transpire /ˈtrænspər/ verb 1. to become obvious. It transpired that she had never seen the letter. 2. (of a plant) to lose water through the surface of a leaf. In tropical rainforests, up to 75% of rainfall will transpire into the atmosphere.
transplant /ˈtrænspɔlt/ noun a) the act of taking an organ such as the heart, or tissue such as a piece of skin, and grafting it onto a patient to replace an organ or tissue which is diseased or damaged. He had a heart transplant. b) The kidney transplant was rejected. c) an organ or piece of tissue which is transplanted. verb /ˈtrænspɔlt/ to move an organ or piece of tissue onto a patient to replace an organ or tissue which is diseased or damaged. They transplanted a kidney from his brother.
transport noun /ˈtrænspɔrt/ the movement of goods or people in vehicles. Air transport is the quickest way to travel from one country to another. Rail transport costs are getting lower. What means of transport will you use to get to the hotel? verb /ˈtrænspɔrt/ to move goods or people from one place to another in a vehicle. The company transports millions of tons of goods by rail each year. The visitors will be transported to the factory by helicopter. Synonym convey.
transportation /ˈtrænspɔrtəʃən/ noun the action or means of moving goods or people. The company will provide transportation to the airport. Synonym transport.
transpose /ˈtrænspəuz/ verb to make two things change places.
transverse /ˈtrænzvərs/ adj lying across something.
transvestite /ˈtrænzvɛstət/ noun a person who wears the clothes of the opposite sex.
trap /træp/ noun 1. a device to catch an animal. We have a mouse in the kitchen so
we will put down a trap. 2. a way of catching a person by surprise or tricking them 3. an impolite word for a mouth 4. keep your trap shut! don’t say anything 4. a bend in a waste pipe which is filled with water, and so stops unpleasant smells coming back up the pipe from the sewer 5. verb to catch or hold ⊗ several people were trapped in the wreckage of the plane: ⊗ he was trapped in video as he tried to burglarize the bank. (note: trapping – trapped)

trapeze /træˈpiːz/ noun a bar which hangs like a swing from ropes high up in a circus tent, used by acrobats

trapezium /trəˈpiːziəm/ noun 1. GB a flat four-sided geometric shape, where two of the sides are parallel and the other two sides are not (note: the US term is trapezoid.) 2. US a flat four-sided geometric shape, where none of the sides are parallel (note: the British term is trapezoid)

trapezoid /trəˈpiːziəd/ noun

trapped /træpt/ adj in an awkward situation and unable to move

trappings /træpˈpiŋz/ plural noun ornaments, clothes and ceremonies which are associated with a particular position ⊗ at the end of his time as mayor, he had to give up the trappings of office. ⊗ Enjoy all the trappings of power while you can – they won’t last for ever.

trash /træʃ/ noun 1. US useless things ⊗ throw out all that trash from your bedroom. (note: the British term is rubbish.) 2. something of bad quality, e.g. a newspaper ⊗ verb 1. to smash up ⊗ someone trashed the telephones 2. to ruin someone’s reputation ⊗ she wrote an article trashing the pop singer.

trashcan /træʃˈkeɪn/ noun US a large plastic or metal container for household rubbish (informal) Also called garbage can (note: the British term is dustbin.)

trashy /træʃɪ/ adj of bad quality

trauma /ˈtræmə/ noun a mental shock caused by a sudden unpleasant experience, which was not expected to take place

traumatic /ˈtræmətɪk/ adj which gives a sharp and unpleasant shock. Synonym shocking

traumatise /trəˈmætəs/ verb to shock someone

travel /trævəl/ noun the action of moving from one country or place to another ⊗ Air travel is the only really fast method of getting from one country to another. ⊗ verb to move from one country or place to another ⊗ He travels fifty miles by car to go to work every day. ⊗ He has travelled across the United States several times on his motorbike. ⊗ the bullet must have travelled several metres before it hit the wall. Synonym journey (note: travelling – travelled)

travel agency /trəˈvɛrəli/ noun an office which arranges tickets and accommodation for travellers

travel agent /trəˈvɛrənt/ noun a person or company that arranges tickets and accommodation for its customers

travel insurance /trəˈvɛrəns/ noun insurance taken out by a traveller against accident, loss of luggage, and illness

traveller /trəˈvɛrl/ noun 1. a person who travels ⊗ travellers on the 9 o’clock train to London ⊗ travellers to France are experiencing delays because of the dock strike. 2. a person who has no fixed home and who travels around the country ⊗ the fields were full of hippies and travellers. 3. a salesman, especially one who travels long distances (dated) (note: all senses) the US spelling is traveler.

traveller’s cheque /trəˈvɛrəlz/ noun a cheque which you buy at a bank before you travel and which you can then use in a foreign country (note: the US spelling is traveler’s check)

travelling companion /trəˈvɛrlɪŋ kəmˌpænɪn/ noun a person who travels with someone

travelling expenses /trəˈvɛrlɪŋ ekˈspɛnsz/ noun money spent on travelling and hotels for business purposes

travels /trəˈvɛls/ plural noun long journeys abroad

travel sickness /trəˈvɛls/ noun sickness caused by the movement of a car, aircraft, bus or train (note: no plural in this meaning) ⊗ travel sickness pills ⊗ taken to prevent travel sickness

travesty /trəˈvɛstɪ/ verb to go across. Synonym cross

travesty /trəˈvɛstɪ/ noun a ridiculous or poor imitation ⊗ it’s a travesty of the truth. Synonym charade (note: to imitate something in a ridiculous way)

trawl /trɔːl/ noun a long net shaped like a bag, pulled behind a trawler to catch fish ⊗ a trawl is used for fishing in deep waters. ⊗ verb 1. to trawl through something for something to search through something for something ⊗ He spent hours trawling through boxes of files until he came to the letter he was looking for. 2. to fish with a trawl ⊗ They were trawling for herring.

trawler /trɔːlə/ noun a fishing boat which pulls net behind it
treacherous. 2. not to be trusted. He was shot by a treacherous bodyguard. His treacherous behaviour led to the downfall of the minister.

treachery [ˈtreɪʃəri] noun the act of betraying or of being a traitor to your country, friends, etc. Synonym deceit. Antonym loyalty (NOTE: no plural: for the plural say acts of treachery).

treachy [ˈtreɪʃɪ] noun a thick dark-brown liquid produced when sugar is being refined. You can use treacle in Christmas cakes and Christmas puddings. (NOTE: The US term is molasses.)

tread [triːd] noun 1. the top part of a stair or step which you stand on. The carpet on the bottom tread is loose. Metal treads are noisy. 2. a pattern of lines cut into the surface of a tyre. You need to change your tyres – the tread's worn. He walked up to the door with a firm tread.

verb to step or to walk. She trod on my toe and didn't say she was sorry. Watch where you're treading – there's broken glass on the floor. to tread on someone's toes to offend someone. to tread water to move your legs in water as if walking, so as to keep upright.

treadmill [ˈtreɪdmɪl] noun 1. a device turned by animals as they walk around a circular path or inside a large wheel. Our pet hamster often uses the treadmill in his cage. 2. dull work which has to be done every day.

His wife complains that her life is a boring treadmill of cooking, cleaning and washing.

3. an exercise machine with a moving belt on which you walk or jog without actually moving forward. After ten minutes on the treadmill I'm ready for the Jacuzzi.

 treason [ˈtreɪzn] noun the crime of betraying your country, by giving your country's secrets to the enemy or by helping the enemy during wartime. Synonym sedition.

Antonym patriotism.

treasure [ˈtreʒər] noun 1. jewels, gold, or other valuable things. They are diving in the Caribbean looking for pirates' treasure. 2. the treasures in the British Museum are buried treasure. Gold, silver or jewels which someone has hidden. a treasures. 2. a person who is very useful or important to you. to value something. I treasure the calm life of the fishing village where I live.

She treasures her three cats and wouldn't part with them for anything. Synonym cherish.

treasure hunt [ˈtreʒər ʌnt] noun a game where clues lead you from place to place until you come to a hidden prize.

treasurer [ˈtreʒərə] noun 1. a person who looks after the money of a club, society or other organisation. Please send your subscriptions to the treasurer by May 1st. 2. (in Australia) the minister of finance.

treasures [ˈtreʒəz] plural noun valuable things in a museum.

treat [tritol] noun a special thing which gives pleasure. It's always a treat to sit down quietly at home after a hard day in the shop. a treat in store a special pleasant experience in the future. If you've never seen this film before you've got a treat in store.

this is our treat we are paying the bill.

verb 1. to deal with someone or something. She was badly treated by her uncle. If you treat the stuff well they will work well. He didn't treat my suggestion seriously.

2. to treat someone to something to give someone a special meal or outing as a gift. Come along – I'll treat you all to ice creams! 3. to give medical help to a sick or injured person. After the accident some of the passengers had to be treated in hospital for cuts and bruises. She is being treated for rheumatism.

4. to process in some way to make safe or to protect. Sewage is treated in the council sewage works. The wood has been treated to make it resistant to rot.

treatise [triːˈtrɪz] noun a long piece of formal writing on a specialised subject.

Synonym dissertation.

treatment [trɪˈtreɪʃən] noun 1. a way of behaving towards something or someone. The report criticised the treatment of prisoners in the jail. 2. What sort of treatment did you get at school? We got VIP treatment when we visited China. 3. a way of looking after a sick or injured person. He is having a course of heat treatment.

The treatment for skin cancer is very painful.

treaty [ˈtriːti] noun 1. a written legal agreement between two or more countries. The treaty was signed in 1845. 2. Countries are negotiating a treaty to ban nuclear weapons.

2. a legal agreement between individual persons to sell a house by private treaty to sell by an agreement between the seller and the purchaser, and not by auction.

treble [triːbəl] noun 1. a boy's high-pitched soprano voice. The treble solo rose above the sound of the basses. 2. a boy who sings with a soprano voice. The tenors start the hymn, followed by the treble. 3. a high-pitched musical instrument.
school has six recorders: two bass, two tenors and two trebles. 4. a thing which gives three times as many points. O He hit the inner ring on the dart board and scored a treble. ■ adj 1. referring to a high-pitched voice or music. O The treble part of the piece is to be sung by boy sopranos. ■ clef 2. three times as large. O Their garden is treble the size of ours. ■ adv three times as much. O A dart in the inner ring counts treble. ■ verb to increase by three times. O The council is planning to treble the amount it spends on education. ■ The value of our house has trebled in the last fifteen years.

treble clef /tredbl kl/ noun a musical sign showing that the notes are in a high range.

tree /tri/ noun a very large plant, with a thick trunk, branches and leaves. O The cat climbed up an apple tree and couldn’t get down. O In autumn, the leaves on the trees in the park turn brown and red. O He was sheltering under a tree and was struck by lightning.

treetops /'tri:təps/ plural noun the tops of trees.

trek /trek/ noun a long hard journey. O It’s quite a trek to the centre of town from here. ■ verb to make a long hard journey. O They trekked across the desert in search of water.

Synonym hike (NOTE: trekking – trekked)

trellis /'treli:z/ noun a frame of criss-crossed pieces of light wood, used for plants to climb up. Synonym lattice

tremble /'trembl/ noun a shaking movement. O There was a tremble in her voice. ■ verb to shake because you are cold or afraid, or worried by something. O She was trembling with cold. O I tremble at the thought of how much the meal will cost. Synonym shiver.

■ tremendous /'tri:mendəs/ adj 1. very big. O There was a tremendous explosion and all the lights went out. O There’s tremendous excitement here in Trafalgar Square as we wait for the election result. 2. wonderful. O It would be absolutely tremendous if you won. O Her birthday party was tremendous fun. Synonym enormous.

tremendously /'tri:mendəsli/ adv greatly or extremely. Synonym very. O Antonym slightly.

tremor /'tremər/ noun a slight shaking. O They noticed a tremor in her hands.

trench /'trentʃ/ noun 1. a long narrow ditch. O They dug trenches for drainage round the camp. O He fought in the trenches during the First World War. 2. a deep valley at the bottom of an ocean. O At more than 10,000m deep, the Marianas Trench in the Pacific is the deepest place on the surface of the Earth. (NOTE: The plural is trenches.)

trend /trend/ noun a general tendency. O There is a trend away from old-established food stores. O The government studies economic trends to decide whether to raise taxes or not.

trendsetter /'trendsetər/ noun a person who sets the fashion. Synonym innovator.

trendy /'trendi/ (informal) adj very fashionable. O She’s always wearing the trendiest clothes. O It’s trendy nowadays to care about the environment. (NOTE: trendier – trendiest).

trend speculation /'trepdɪeɪʃən/ noun nervous worry. Synonym fear. O Antonym equanimity

trespass /'trepzəs/ noun going onto someone’s land or property without permission. O The farmer accused him of trespassing. ■ verb to trespass on property to go onto property without the owner’s permission. O The farmer accused him of trespassing on his land.

trespasser /'trepzəsər/ noun a person who trespasses on someone else’s land. Synonym intruder.

■ trial /'traɪəl/ noun 1. a court case held before a judge. O The trial will be heard next week. O to stand trial. to be on trial to appear in court. O She stood trial, accused of murder. O He’s on trial for theft. 2. the act of testing something. O The new model is undergoing its final trials. O on trial being tested to see if it is acceptable. O The system is still on trial. O trial and error testing and rejecting various things until you find the one which works, so learning from mistakes. O We found out the best way of working was simply by trial and error. 3. a game played to select the best players for a team. O Trials to select the England Rugby team will be held this weekend.

trial period /'traɪəl 'pəriəd/ noun time when a customer can test a product before buying it.

trial run /'traɪəl 'rʌn/ noun a test of something which is new to see how good it is.

■ triangle /'traɪənggəl/ noun 1. a shape with three sides and three angles. O The end of the roof is shaped like a triangle. 2. a percussion instrument made of a metal rod bent into the shape of a triangle which you play by hitting it with a little metal bar. O Playing the triangle is not as easy as it looks.

triangular /'traɪənggərəl/ adj shaped like a triangle.

triathlon /'traɪələθən/ noun an Olympic endurance sport in which competitors must complete a 1,500-metre swim, then cycle 40 kilometres and finally run 10,000 metres.
trumped his ace and won the trick.

The Mole is one of the tributaries of the Thames.

We've been tricked, there's nothing we can do.

The explosion was triggered by a fake trick. Synonym: fake

He tricked the old lady into giving him all her money.

Getting the wire through the little hole is quite tricky.

The president does not treat someone seriously.

The police are afraid the demonstration may trigger off a full-scale riot.

A group of people with the same race, language and customs.

The last nut.

Tribe /trɪbl/ adj referring to tribes.

Antonym: trivial

Sterilised by a famous predecessor.

To trick someone into doing something to make someone do something which they did not mean to do by means of a trick.

The police are afraid the demonstration may trigger off a full-scale riot.

A large family group.

We want to be done.

There is a dog in the house.

Getting the wire through the little hole is quite tricky.

That should do what.

We've been tricked, there's nothing in the box.

To trick someone into doing something to make someone do something which they did not mean to do by means of a trick.

To trick someone of something to get someone to lose something by a trick.

To trick someone into doing something to make someone do something which they did not mean to do by means of a trick.
trim /trɪm/ noun 1. being fit o He’s in very good trim after a week at the health farm. 2. the cutting of your hair, a plant, etc. o He went to the barber’s for a trim. o Can you give my beard a trim, please? 3. a decoration on a car, a piece of clothing, etc. o The car is white with a dark blue trim. ■ adj 1. tidy, cut short o She always keeps her hedges trim. 2. slim and fit o He keeps himself trim by going for a long walk every day. (NOTE: trimmer – trimmed) ■ verb 1. to cut something to make it tidy o Ask the hairdresser to trim your beard. 2. to cut back; to reduce o to trim expenditure (3) to decorate o She wore a white blazer trimmed with blue. (NOTE: trimming – trimmed) trimmer /ˈtrɪmər/ noun a device which trims

trimmings /ˈtrɪmpɪŋz/ plural noun 1. an ornament such as braid or lace, added to decorate something o She wore a white blazer with blue trimmings. 2. the usual sauces and vegetables which go with a dish o roast turkey with all the trimmings

trinket /ˈtrɪŋkɪt/ noun a cheap ornament

trio /ˈtrɪsəʊ/ noun 1. a group of three people, especially a group of three musicians 2. a piece of music for three instruments o Mozart’s trio for piano, clarinet and viola (NOTE: The plural is trios.)

trip /trɪp/ noun 1. a short journey o Our trip to Paris was cancelled. o We’re going on a trip to the seaside. 2. a sensation experienced after taking drugs (slang) o She had a bad trip. ■ verb to catch your foot in something so that you stagger and fall down o She tripped as she was coming out of the kitchen with a tray of food. (NOTE: tripping – tripped)

tripartite /trɪpɑrˈtɪt/ adj with three parts or between three countries

triple /ˈtrɪpl/ adj with three parts o He had a triple heart bypass. o The three brothers are marrying three sisters in a triple wedding. ■ verb to become three times as large; to make something three times as large; to reduce something three times as much o Output has tripled over the last year. o We’ve tripled the number of visitors to the museum since we reduced the entrance fee. Synonym treble. Antonym reduce

triplicate /ˌtrɪprɪˈklɪt/ adj in triplicate o All these forms have to be filled in in triplicate.

tripod /trɪpɒd/ noun a stand with three legs

trip over /trɪp ˈʌvər/ verb 1. to catch your foot in something so that you stagger and fall o She was running away from him when she tripped over and fell down. 2. to trip over something to catch your foot in something so that you stagger and fall o She tripped over the wire and fell down the stairs.

trip up /trɪp ˈʌp/ verb 1. o to trip someone up to make someone fall down o She put her foot out and deliberately tripped the waiter up. 2. to make a silly mistake o We tripped up badly in not inviting her to the party. o to trip someone up to force someone to make a mistake o He tried to trip me up by asking a question on a completely different subject.

trite /trɪt/ adj very ordinary and unexciting or used too often. Synonym commonplace

triumph /ˈtraɪml/ noun a great victory or great achievement o They scored a triumph in their game against the French. o The bridge is a triumph of modern engineering. o in triumph celebrating a great victory o After the battle the army entered the city in triumph. ■ verb 1. to win a victory or to achieve something o She triumphed in the 800 metres. 2. o to triumph over something to be successful in spite of difficulties which could have stopped you o He triumphed over his disabilities to become world champion. o to triumph over someone to win a victory or great achievement over someone o Our local team triumphed over their old rivals.

triumphal /ˈtraɪmləl/ adj referring to triumph. Synonym ceremonial

triumphant /ˈtraɪmlənt/ adj victorious or happy because you have won

triumphantly /ˈtraɪmləntli/ adv in a triumphant way

trivia /ˈtrɪvɪə/ noun details which are not important

trivial /ˈtrɪvɪəl/ adj not important. Synonym unimportant. Antonym crucial

trivialise /trɪˈvɪəlaɪz/, trivialize verb to make something trivial. Synonym play down

triviality /trɪˈvɪələti/ noun 1. being unimportant o The triviality of her complaint meant that it was passed to a junior clerk to deal with. 2. an unimportant detail o I don’t have time to deal with trivialities.

trolley /ˈtroʊlɪ/ noun a small cart on wheels o They put the piano onto a trolley to move it out of the house. 2. US a tram

trombone /ˈtrəmboʊn/ noun a brass musical instrument like a large trumpet, where different notes are made by sliding a tube in or out

troop /trʊp/ noun a large group of people o She took a troop of schoolchildren to visit the museum. ■ troops (NOTE: Do not confuse with troupe.) ■ verb to go all together in a group o After the play the whole cast trooped off to the local restaurant. o All the students trooped into the hall. ■ adj referring to soldiers
troops /trʌps/ plural noun soldiers

trophy /ˈtrɒfɪ/ noun 1. a prize given for winning a competition 2. His mantelpiece is full of trophies which he won at golf. 3. Our team carried off the trophies for the third year in a row.

trousers /ˈtraʊzəz/ plural noun clothes which cover your body from the waist down, each leg separately 1. He tore his trousers climbing over the fence.

troupe /trʌp/ noun 1. a group of actors or other performers who perform together.

trousers /ˈtraʊzəz/ plural noun clothes which cover your body from the waist down, each leg separately

Tropic of Cancer the parallel running round the earth at latitude 23°23'N

Tropic of Capricorn the parallel running round the earth at latitude 23°27'S

tropical /ˈtrɒpɪkl/ adj 1. referring to hot countries 2. In tropical countries it is always hot 3. tropical storm a violent storm occurring in the tropics

trot /trot/ noun 1. the action of running with short regular steps, like a horse does 2. I'm tired of hearing the government trot out the same old excuse time and again.

trousers /ˈtraʊzəz/ plural noun clothes which cover your body from the waist down, each leg separately

trod /traʊd/ verb to defeat completely

troop /trʊp/ noun 1. a group of actors or other performers who perform together.

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trousers /ˈtraʊzəz/ plural noun clothes which cover your body from the waist down, each leg separately
trout /traut/ noun a type of edible freshwater fish

trowel /trəʊəl/ noun a hand tool, like a large spoon, used in gardening

truancy /ˈtrjuːənsi/ noun the action of not going to school when you should

truant /ˈtrjuənt/ noun □ to play truant not to go to school when you should □ They didn’t go to school, but played truant and went fishing instead.

true /trjuː/ noun agreement between two armies or enemies to stop fighting for a time. Synonym ceasefire

□ truck /træk/ noun a goods vehicle for carrying heavy loads (informal) □ Trucks thund- dered past the house all night. □ They loaded the truck with bricks. (NOTE: Another British term is lorry.) □ verb to transport something in a truck □ They trucked supplies to the refugees in the mountains.

□ truck driver /ˈtræk draɪvər, ˈtræk kʌr/ noun a person who drives a truck (NOTE: Another British term is lorry driver.)

truckload /ˈtrækləʊd/ noun an amount carried in a truck (NOTE: Another British term is lorryload.)

drudge /dʒrɒʤ/ noun a long and tiring walk □ It was a long trudge back to camp through the mud. Synonym slog □ verb to walk slowly with heavy footsteps □ The defeated army trudged back through the snow. □ He missed the bus and had to trudge to the village to get some milk.

□ true /trjuː/ adj 1. correct or right □ What he says is simply not true. □ It’s quite true that she comes from Scotland. □ Is it true that he’s been married twice? □ truth 2. faithful or firm □ an expression of true love □ She’s a true friend.

□ true to life very realistic 3. correctly adjusted 4. adjusted so that it is level □ You must make sure the panels are perfectly true before you start fitting them. □ out of true not level □ adv correctly □ to come true to happen as was predicted □ Her forecast of bad storms came true. □ the wheel wasn’t running true wasn’t turning straight

true north /trjuː nɔːθ/ noun north towards the North Pole, and not the magnetic north

truffle /ˈtrʌf(ə)l/ noun 1. a type of round black edible fungus found under the earth near trees □ Specially trained pigs are trained to sniff out the best truffles. 2. a soft sweet made of chocolate, often flavoured with rum □ We bought our hosts a bottle of wine and a box of chocolate truffles.

□ truly /ˈtrʌli/ adv 1. really □ He truly believes that was what happened. □ I’m truly grateful for all your help. □ Do you love me, really and truly.

trump /trʌmp/ noun 1. (in card games) a suit which is chosen to have a higher value than the other suits □ Hearts are trumps. □ She wondered if she should play a trump. 2. □ to turn up trumps to be very generous or helpful (informal) □ When my car wouldn’t start, my neighbour turned up trumps and gave me a lift to the station. □ verb □ to trump a card to play a card of the suit which is trumps, and so win □ She trumped his ace and won the trick.

trump card /ˈtrʌmp kɑːd/ an advantage which is kept ready for use in an emergency

trumped-up charge /ˈtrʌmpt əp /ˈtrʌmp dʒʌp/ noun a charge which is based on false information, or on information which has been invented

trumpet /ˈtrʌmpɪt/ noun 1. a brass musical instrument with three pistons which are worked by pressing down on keys □ He played the trumpet in the school orchestra. □ She practises the trumpet in the evenings. 2. □ to blow your own trumpet to boast about what you have done (informal) □ He’s always blowing his own trumpet.

truncated /ˈtræktʃənd/ adj cut off or shortened (informal)

truncheon /trʌnʃən/ noun a short, thick stick used by policemen as a weapon □ to draw your truncheon to pull your truncheon out of its holder, ready for use □ The police drew their truncheons as they came close to the barricade.

trundle /ˈtrʌndəl/ verb to push or roll along something heavy or to move in a heavy way

trunk /trʌŋk/ noun 1. the thick stem of a tree □ Ivy was climbing up the trunk of the oak tree. 2. an elephant’s long nose 3. the main part of a person’s body 4. a large box for storing or sending clothes □ They sent a trunk of clothes in advance to the new house. 5. US a space at the back of a car, where you put luggage □ They stowed the boxes in the trunk. (NOTE: The British term is boot.)

trunk road /trʌŋk rəʊd/ noun a main road

trunks /trʌŋks/ plural noun short worn by a man when swimming

truss /trʌs/ noun 1. a bundle of straw or fruit □ a truss of tomatoes 2. a beam holding up a bridge or a roof 3. a belt to support a hernia (NOTE: The plural is trusses.) □ verb 1. to tie up straw into bundles 2. □ to truss up to tie up □ The prisoners were trussed up.

trust /trʌst/ noun 1. a belief that something will work well or that someone will do something □ Don’t put too much trust in his navigating skills. □ to take something on
trust to take something without looking to see if it is all right  O We took his statement on trust. 2. a legal arrangement to pass valuables or money to someone to look after  O He left his property in trust for his grandchildren. 3. a company which manages money for its clients 1. to be sure of someone, to be confident that someone is reliable  O You can trust his instructions – he knows a lot about computers. 2. I wouldn’t trust him farther than I could kick him. 3. to hope or to believe  O I trust she will not get lost. 4. to trust someone with something to give someone to someone to look after  O Can she be trusted with all that cash?

trusty /trəˈsti/ noun a person who administers a trust or who directs a charity or other public institution

trust fund /ˈtræst fənd/ noun an investment fund which is managed on behalf of another person

trustworthiness /trʌstˈwɜːðɪnɪs/ noun being trustworthy. Synonym honesty. Antonym dishonesty

trustworthy /trʌstˈwɜːðɪ/ adj who can be depended upon. Synonym dependable

truth /truθ/ noun being true; a true story

truthful /ˈtruθfʊl/ adj 1. who always tells the truth  O She’s a very truthful child. 2. giving true facts  O To be truthful, I’m not quite sure where we are. 3. The young man gave a truthful account of what happened.

truthfully /ˈtruθfʊli/ adv in a truthful way. Synonym honestly. Antonym dishonestly

try /traɪ/ noun 1. an attempt, making an effort to do something  O She’s going to make a try at water skiing. 2. He had two tries before he passed his driving test. 3. Let’s give it a try 4. He scored a goal in the rugby  O They scored two tries. (Note: The plural is tries.) 5. to make an effort to do something  O The burglar tried to climb up the tree. 6. Don’t try to ride a motorbike if you’ve never ridden one before. 7. Why don’t you try to get a ticket yourself? 8. to test or to see if something is good  O You must try one of my mother’s cakes. 9. I tried the new toothpaste and I didn’t like the taste. 10. Have you ever tried eating cheese with fruit? 11. to hear a civil or criminal case in court  O The case will be tried by a judge and jury. (Note: trying – tried)

trying /ˈtraɪŋ/ adj annoying and difficult to deal with. Synonym soothing

try on /ˈtrɛɪn/ verb 1. to put on a piece of clothing to see if it fits  O You must try the trousers on before you buy them. 2. Did you try on the shoes at the shop? 3. to try it on to try to trick someone (informal) 4. Don’t believe him – he’s just trying it on. 5. to try out /ˈtraɪ ‘aʊt/ verb to test something, to see if it is good

tsp. abbr teaspoon

tub /ˈtʌb/ noun 1. a round wooden container  O There’s a tub of daffodils by their front door. 2. a small, round cardboard box for ice cream  O Girls went round the audience during the interval, selling small tubs of ice cream. 3. Our kids prefer ice cream cones to tubs. 4. a bath  O The children splashed so much in the tub that the bathroom floor was awash. 5. an old ship  O The Tramp steamer was a rusty old tub which was ready to be scrapped.

tuba /tjuːbə/ noun a large bass brass instrument
tubby /ˈtʌbi/ adj short and fat (informal) Antonym skinny (Note: tubbier – tubbiest)

tube /tjuːb/ noun 1. a long pipe for carrying liquids or gas  O He was lying in a hospital bed with tubes coming out of his nose and mouth. 2. Air flows down this tube to the face mask. 3. A soft container with a screw top, which contains substances like handcream or toothpaste  O I forgot to pack a tube of toothpaste. 4. I need a tube of glue to mend the cup. 5. She bought a tube of mustard. 6. (in London) the underground railway system O It’s quicker to take the tube to Oxford Circus than to go by bus. 7. You’ll have to go by bus because there’s a tube strike. (Note: The US term is subway.)

tuberc /ˈtjuːbər/ noun a fat part of an underground root or stem which has buds from which new shoots grow
tubing /ˈtjuːbɪŋ/ noun tubes in general (Note: no plural)
tubular /ˈtjuːbələr/ adj 1. shaped like a tube  O She wore a tubular pink skirt. 2. made of tubes  O The house is furnished with tubular steel chairs from the 1930s.

TUC abbr Trades Union Congress
tuck /tʌk/ noun a little fold in a piece of cloth  O I put a tuck in the skirt to make it fit better round the waist. 1. to put into a narrow or small place  O The shop is tucked away down a little lane. 2. I offered him a £10 note, which he tucked away into his shirt pocket.
tucker /ˈtʌkər/ noun (in Australia) food (informal)
tuck in

**tuck in** /tʌk 'ɪn/ **verb 1.** to fold something around and push the ends in ○ She tucked the blanket in around the baby or she tucked the baby in. ○ He tucked his trousers into his boots. 2. to start eating enthusiastically ○ Come on, the food’s ready, everyone can tuck in. ○ After our long walk we all tucked in to a huge lunch.

tuck shop /tʌk ʃɒp/ **noun** a shop attached to a school, selling sweets, chocolate and drinks *(dated)*

tuck up /tʌk 'ʌp/ **verb** ○ to tuck someone up in bed to push the edge of the bedclothes around and push the ends in ○ By eight o’clock the children were all tucked up in bed.

Tudor /ˈtjuːdə/ referring to the time of Henry VII, Henry VIII, Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I in the later fifteenth century and the sixteenth centuries *(NOTE: Although, strictly speaking, Elizabeth I was a Tudor monarch, the adjective used to refer to her period is usually Elizabethan.)*

**Tues.** **abbr** Tuesday ○ **Tuesday** /ˈtjuːzɪdɪ/ **noun** the second day of the week, the day between Monday and Wednesday ○ I saw him in the office last Tuesday. ○ The club always meets on Tuesdays. ○ Shall we meet next Tuesday evening? ○ Today is Tuesday, April 30th. ○ The 15th is a Monday, so the 16th must be a Tuesday. ○ We went to the cinema last Tuesday.

tuft /tʌft/ **noun** a small bunch of something like grass or feathers. **Synonym** clump

tug /tʌg/ **noun 1.** a sudden pull ○ He felt a tug on the line – he had caught a fish! 2. a powerful boat which pulls other boats ○ Two tugs helped the liner get into the harbour. **verb 1.** to pull hard ○ He tugged on the rope and a bell rang. *(NOTE: tugging – tugged)*

tugboat /ˈtʌgboʊt/ **noun** a powerful boat which pulls other boats

tug-of-war /ˈtʌg əv ˈwɜː/ **noun 1.** a competition in which two teams pull against each other on a rope ○ There will be a tug-of-war between teams from the two village pubs. 2. bitter struggle between two sides ○ After the divorce the children were caught in a tug-of-war between their parents.

tuition /ˈjuːʃən/ **noun** the teaching of students

tulip /ˈtjuːlɪp/ **noun** a common spring bulb with flowers in brilliant colours, shaped like cups

tumble /ˈtʌmbl/ **verb** to fall ○ He tumbled down the stairs head first. ○ She arrived home late after the party and just tumbled into bed. ○ noun a fall ○ She took a tumble on the ski slopes.
tunnel vision

over the mountains.  ■ verb to dig a long pas-

sage underground.  ○ They decided to tunnel

dering between hills rather than build the road

round it. Synonym excavate (NOTE: tunnel-

ing = tunneled.)

tunnel vision /ˈtʌnəl viʒən/ noun 1. seeing

only the area immediately in front of the

eye. 2. having the tendency to concentrate

on only one aspect of a problem

turban /ˈtɜːr-bən/ noun a long piece of cloth

worn wrapped round your head

turbine /ˈtɜːr-bən/ noun a machine which

produces power from the action of water, gas

or steam turning a wheel with blades which

run a generator

turbocharger /ˈtɜːr-bə-kɑːr-ər/ noun

turbo /ˈtɜːr-bə/ noun a gas turbine which turns at

a very high speed and is powered by the gases

from a car’s exhaust, increasing the power of

the engine

turbulence /ˈtɜːr-bə-ləns/ noun a disturb-

ance in air or water currents

turbulent /ˈtɜːr-bə-lənt/ adj. 1. which is

moving violently  ○ Watch out for turbulent

water near the rocks.  2. likely to have riots or

civil war  ○ It was a turbulent period in the

country’s history.

turf /tɜːrf/ noun 1. a lump of excreta

turf /tɜːrf/ noun 1. an area of grass which is

mown and looked after.  ○ After the rain, the

dry springy turf suddenly turned wet and

sticky underfoot.  2. a piece of grass and soil

which can be planted to form a lawn  ○ Make

sure the ground is flat before laying the strips

of turf.  ○ It is quicker to lay turfs than to sow

grass seed.  3. (in Ireland) a block of peat for

burning (NOTE: plural for 2 and 3 is turfs or

turfes /ˈtɜːrfz/)  4.  the turf the world of

horse-racing  ○ Enthusiasts of the turf are

flocking to Epsom for the Derby.  ■ verb 1. to

make a lawn by putting turfs on flat soil  ○

Spring is the best time of year to turf a lawn.

2.  ○ to turf someone out to throw someone

out (informal)  ○ He was turfed out of the res-

taurant for refusing to wear a tie.  ○ We

turfed out our old office furniture.

turf accountant /tɜːrf ˈkaʊntənt/ noun

a person who takes bets on the result of races.

Synonym bookmaker

Turk /tɜːrk/ noun a person from Turkey  ○

Many Turks travel to Germany in search of

work.

turkey /tɜːrkri/ noun a large farm bird,
similar to a chicken but much bigger, often

eaten at Christmas  ○ We had roast turkey

and potatoes.  ○ Who’s going to carve the

turkey?

Turkish /tɜːr-kəf/ adj referring to Turkey, a

country in the eastern Mediterranean  ○ The

Turkish flag is red with a white crescent and

star.  ■ noun the language spoken in Turkey

○ I couldn’t understand what they were say-
ing since they were speaking Turkish.

Turkish delight /ˈtɜːrkəʃ dɪˈlɔːnt/ noun a

sweet substance made of jelly, flavoured with

scented water and containing chopped nuts

turmoil /ˈtɜːrmɔɪl/ noun a state of disorder

and confusion. Synonym chaos

○ turn /tɜːrnt/ noun 1. a movement in a circle

○ He gave the bottle top a couple of turns.  ○

Don’t forget to give the key an extra turn to
double-lock the door.  2. a change of direc-
tion, especially of a vehicle  ○ The bus made

a sudden turn to the left.  3. a road which

leaves another road  ○ Take the next turn

on the right.  4. the chance to do some-

thing in order, one after the other  ○ You have
to wait for your turn to see the doctor.  ○ It’s

my turn on the piano now.  ○ Let me go now.

— No, it’s my turn next.  ○ in turn one after

the other in order  ○ Each of the children will

sing a song in turn.  ○ out of turn not in the

correct order  ○ People don’t like it if you go

out of turn.  5.  ○ to take turns.  ○ to take it in

turns to do something one after the other, to

help each other  ○ They took it in turns to

push the car or they took turns to push the
car.  6. a performance in a show  ○ Their

juggling act is one of the most popular turns of

the evening.  7.  ○ to do a good turn to do

something to help  ○ one good turn deserves

another if you do something to help some-

one they should do something to help you,

a slight illness or an attack of dizziness  ○ She

had one of her turns.  ○ He had a bad turn at

the office.  ○ you gave me a turn you gave

me a shock  ■ verb 1. to go round in a circle

○ The wheels of the train started to turn

down.  ○ Be careful – the blades of the

lawnmower go on turning for a few seconds

after the engine has been switched off.  2. to

make something go round  ○ Turn the handle

to the right to open the safe.  3. to change di-

rection, to go in another direction  ○ Turn left

at the next traffic lights.  ○ The car turned the
corner too fast and hit a lamppost.  ○ The

path turns to the right after the pub.  ○ the
tide has turned the tide has started to go up

or down  4. to move your head or body so that

you face in another direction  ○ Can everyone

turn to look at the camera, please.  5. to

change into something different  ○ Leaves

turn red or brown in the autumn.  ○ When he

was fifty, his hair turned grey.  6. to go past

certain time  ○ It’s turned nine o’clock, and

they still haven’t come home.  ○ she’s turned

sixty she is more than 60 years old  7. to find

a page in a book  ○ Please turn to page 65.

turnaround /ˈtɜːnərənd/ noun same as turn

aside
turn away /tɜːn ˈweɪ/ verb 1. to send people away ○ The restaurant is full, so we have had to turn people away. 2. to turn so as not to face someone ○ He turned away because he didn’t want to be photographed.

turn back /ˈtɜːrn ˈbæk/ verb 1. to turn round and go back in the opposite direction 2. to tell someone to go back ○ The police tried to turn back the people who had no tickets. ○ to turn the clocks back 1. to change the time on clocks to one hour earlier 2. to try to go back to a previous period

turn down /ˈtɜːrn ˈdaʊn/ verb 1. to refuse something which is offered ○ He was offered a job in Australia, but turned it down. ○ She has turned down a job or turned a job down in the town hall. 2. to make less noisy, less strong ○ Can you turn down the radio – I’m trying to work. ○ Turn down the gas or turn the gas down – the soup will burn. 3. to fold back a sheet on a bed, so that the pillow is uncovered

turn in /ˈtɜːrn ɪn/ verb 1. to take someone or something to someone in authority ○ Everyone was asked to turn in their guns. ○ He caught the thief and turned him in to the police. ○ to turn yourself in to give yourself up to the police 2. to go to bed ○ It’s after eleven o’clock – time to turn in!

turning /ˈtɜːrnɪŋ/ noun a road which goes away from another road

turning point /ˈtɜːrnɪŋ ˈpɔɪnt/ noun the time when an important or decisive change takes place. Synonym: crossroads

turn into /ˈtɜːrn ˈɪntu/ verb 1. to change to become something different ○ The witch turned the prince into a frog. ○ We are planning to turn this room into a museum. 2. to change direction and go into something ○ We went down the main road for a short way and then turned into a little lane on the left

turnip /ˈtɜːrnɪp/ noun a common vegetable, with a round white root

turn off /ˈtɜːrn ˈɒf/ verb 1. to switch off ○ Don’t forget to turn the TV off when you go to bed. ○ Turn off the lights or turn the lights off – father’s going to show his holiday films. 2. to leave a road you are travelling on ○ You can turn off the High Street into one of the car parks. ○ When you get to the next crossroads turn off the main road and go down a little path towards the river.

turn on /ˈtɜːrn ˈɒn/ verb 1. to switch on ○ Can you turn the light on or turn on the light – it’s too dark to read. ○ Turn on the TV or turn the TV on – it’s time for the news. 2. to attack someone suddenly ○ The dog suddenly turned on the girl. ○ The newspapers suddenly turned on the prime minister.

turn out /ˈtɜːrn ˈaʊt/ verb 1. to force someone to go out ○ They were turned out of their house when they couldn’t pay the rent. 2. to produce or make ○ The factory turns out more than 10,000 cars a week. 3. to switch off ○ Please turn out all the lights or turn all the lights out before you go up to bed. 4. to happen in the end ○ We got talking, and it turned out that she was at school with my brother. ○ The party didn’t start very well, but everything turned out all right in the end. 5. to come out ○ The whole town turned out to watch the cycle race.

turnout /ˈtɜːrnəut/ noun a crowd of people who come to a show or a meeting ○ The football match attracted only a small turnout. ○ There was a record turnout for the flower show.

turn over /ˈtɜːrn ˈəʊvər/ verb 1. to roll over ○ The lorry went round the corner too fast and turned over. ○ Their boat turned over in the storm. 2. to show the other side ○ He turned over the burger to see if it was done. 3. ○ turn over the page, turn the page over to turn the page of a book ○ She turned over two pages together. 4. to have a certain amount of sales ○ We turn over about three million pounds per annum.

turnover /ˈtɜːrnəʊvər/ noun 1. the amount of sales of goods or services by a business ○ Our turnover is rising each year. 2. a type of small sweet pie made with pastry containing a fruit filling ○ an apple turnover

turn round /ˈtɜːrn ˈroʊnd/ verb to move your head or body so that you face in another direction

turnround /ˈtɜːnˌraʊnd/ noun the process of receiving orders and sending out goods ○ There is a turntable at the end of the line so that the engines can turn round.

turntable /tɜːnˈtɜːrl/ noun a little revolving gate which has a counter to record the number of people going through it

uncovered /ˌʌnˈkʌvərd/ verb to uncover, to remove something that is covering or hiding something ○ Her uncovery to the police /ˈpoliːs/ noun 1. a group of people who are trained to keep law and order 2. a police force ○ The police carried out a search of the house when they couldn’t find the missing money. ○ The police searched the house for the missing money.

turntable /ˈtɜːntərbəl/ noun 1. a flat part of a record player which turns with the record on it ○ Don’t think the turntable is aligned correctly – the records seem to turn at the wrong speed. 2. a flat turning platform with rails on it, which allows a railway engine to be turned round to face a different direction ○ There is a turntable at the end of the line so that the engines can turn round.

turn up /ˈtɜːn əp/ verb 1. to arrive ○ The food was spoiled because half the guests didn’t turn up until nine o’clock. ○ He turned up unexpectedly just as I was leaving the office. 2. to be found ○ The police searched everywhere, and the little girl finally turned up in Edinburgh. ○ The keys turned up in my trouser pocket. 3. to make louder, stronger ○ Can you turn up the radio or turn the radio up – I can’t hear it. ○ Turn up the gas or turn the gas up, the potatoes aren’t cooked yet. 4. to unfold ○ To keep warm he turned up his coat collar.
turquoise /tɜːkwəʊz/ noun a blue-green precious stone ○ Her earrings are made of turquoise.

turtle /ˈtɜːtl/ noun 1. a sea animal with a hard shell, similar to a tortoise ○ Turtles come up onto the beach to lay their eggs. 2. to turn turtle to turn over ○ The raft turned turtle and threw us all into the water. ○ A big wave caught us sideways and we turned turtle.

turtleneck pullover /ˈtɜːtl(ə)l/ noun a pullover with a high rolled neck.

tusk /tʌsk/ noun the long tooth of some animals such as elephants and walruses.

tussle /ˈtʌs(ə)l/ noun a fight or argument ○ He got into a tussle with his friend over the television set.

tutor /ˈtjuːtər/ noun a teacher, especially a person who teaches only one student or a small group of students ○ He was a private tutor to some German children. verb to teach a small group of students ○ She earns extra money by tutoring foreign students in English.

tut-tut /tʌtˈtʌt/ noun a sound made with your tongue to show you disapprove.

tuxedo /ˈtʌksidəʊ/ noun US a man’s formal black or white jacket, worn with a bow tie. (NOTE: The British term is dinner jacket.)

TV /ˈtiːv/ noun 1. a television ○ They watch TV every night. ○ The TV news is usually at nine o’clock. 2. a television set ○ He’s bought a portable TV. ○ Our TV is broken so we had to listen to the radio instead. ○ We have a TV in our bedroom.

twang /twæŋ/ noun a sound made as when the string of a musical instrument or a taut wire is pulled and released ○ You could hear the twang of his guitar. ○ There was a loud twang as the cable snapped. verb to make a twang ○ He was twanging away at his guitar.

turnup 934 twice
twiddle /ˈtwɪdl/ verb 1. to twist something aimlessly □ She twiddled the knobs, hoping to find a German radio station. 2. □ to twiddle your thumbs holding your hands together, to turn your thumbs round and round as a sign of not having anything to do □ Why should we pay them wages when they just sit there twiddling their thumbs?
twig /twɪɡ/ noun a little branch of a tree or bush □ There is a bud at the end of each twig.
□ The blackbird made its nest of twigs and leaves. □ verb to understand at last (informal) □ It took ages for him to twig what had happened. □ At last she twigged.
twilight /ˈtwɪlaɪt/ noun a time when the light is weak, between sunset and night. Synonym dusk
twill /ˈtwɪl/ noun a thick cloth woven in diagonal lines
□ twin /twɪn/ adj, noun one of two babies born at the same time to the same mother □ he and his twin brother □ She's expecting twins. □ verb □ to twin one town with another town to arrange a special relationship between a town in one country and a similar town in another country, to encourage international understanding □ Richmond is twinned with Fontainebleau.
twin beds /ˈtwɪn ˈbedz/ plural noun two single beds placed in a bedroom
twine /twɪn/ noun a strong rough string □ He tied the roses to the wall with thick twine.
□ verb to wind around □ She twined her arms round him. Synonym coil
twinge /twɪnɡz/ noun a short sharp pain. Synonym pang □ to experience a twinge of anxiety to worry for a moment □ She felt a twinge of anxiety as she stood at the top of the ski slope.
twinkle /ˈtwɪŋkəl/ noun a little glitfer □ There was a twinkle in his eyes as he gave her the present. Synonym sparkle □ verb (of stars or eyes) to shine with a little moving light □ His eyes twinkled as he showed the children the sweets he had bought. □ We could see the lights of the harbour twinkling in the distance.
twin room /ˈtwɪn ˈrʊm/ noun a room for two people with two beds
twirl /ˈtwɜːrl/ noun 1. the movement of making something spin □ The model on the catwalk gave a twirl of her skirt. □ Start it moving by giving the wheel a twirl. 2. a curly shape □ The pattern was full of twists and twirls. □ verb 1. to spin round □ Models twirled round on the catwalk. 2. to twist something round in your hand □ I wish I could twirl a baton like the cheerleader.
□ twist /twɪst/ noun 1. a thing which has been twisted □ Put a twist of lemon (peel) in the drink. □ the twists and turns of the road through the mountains □ It is difficult to follow the twists and turns of government policy. 2. a different way of telling a story □ He put a new twist on the story about the process. □ verb 1. to turn in different directions □ The path twisted between the fields. 2. to wind something round something □ She twisted the string round a piece of stick. □ to twist someone round your little finger to make someone do what you want (informal) 3. to bend a joint in the wrong way □ She twisted her ankle running to catch the bus. □ to twist someone's arm to put pressure on someone to persuade them to do what you want (informal) □ I had to twist his arm to get him to lend me his car.
twisted /ˈtwɪstɪd/ adj 1. severely out of shape 2. unkink or cruel
twister /ˈtwɪstə/ noun US a tornado, whirlwind
twist /twɪst/ noun a sudden little movement of a muscle in the face or hands. Synonym tic □ verb to make small movements of the muscles. Synonym jerk
twister /ˈtwɪstə/ noun a fanatic bird-watcher (informal)
twitter /ˈtwɪtə/ noun a little call made by birds □ she was all of a twitter she was very excited □ verb to make little sounds like birds □ The little birds were twittering in their cage.
□ two /tuː/ noun the number 2 □ There are only two peppermints left in the box. □ His son's only two years old), so he can't read yet. □ She didn't come home until after two o'clock. □ one or two some, a few □ Only one or two people came to the exhibition. □ to put two and two together to draw a conclusion from something □ They put two and two together and decided she must be pregnant.
□ two /tuː/ prep to (informal) 2.1 /tuːˈwɜːrə/ noun an upper second class university degree 2.2 /tuːˈtwɪstə/ noun a lower second class university degree
two-bit /ˈtuː bɪt/ adj US second-rate (informal)
two-dimensional /ˈtuː dɪˈmɛnʃən(ə)l/ adj with two dimensions, flat
twofold /ˈtuːfɔld/ adv, adj twice as much 24/7 /ˈtwentɪ tɛntɪ ˈsɛvnti/ adv without ever stopping, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
two-legged /ˈtuː lɛɡɪd/ adj with two legs 20/20 vision /ˈtwentɪ twenti ˈvɪʒən/ noun perfect eyesight
two-piece /ˈtuː pɪs/ adj made of two pieces
two-time /ˈtuː tæm/ verb (informal) □ to two-time someone to be unfaithful to your spouse or lover □ You dirty twing-time rat!
tycoon /ˈtaɪkən/ noun a very rich businessman. Synonym magnate

- type /taɪp/ noun 1. a sort or kind ○ This type of bank account pays 10% interest. ○ What type of accommodation are you looking for? 2. characters used in printing ○ The chapter headings are in bold type. (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) ■ verb to write with a computer or typewriter ○ Please type your letters – your writing’s so bad I can’t read it. ○ She only typed two lines and made six mistakes. Synonym key
typic casts /ˈtaɪpɪkəstz/ verb to give an actor the same sort of part to play all the time. Synonym stereotype (NOTE: typecasting – has typecast)

- typed /taɪpt/ adj written on a computer or typewriter
typeface /ˈtaɪpfeɪs/ noun a set of printed characters which have been designed with a certain style and have a certain name
typewriter /ˈtaɪprɪtər/ noun a machine which prints letters or figures on a piece of paper when keys are pressed
typewritten /ˈtaɪprɪtn(ə)n/ adj which has been written with a computer or typewriter
typhoid fever /ˈtaɪfɔɪd ˈfɪvə/ noun a serious and possibly fatal disease caused by infected food or water
typhoon /ˈtaɪfʊn/ noun a violent tropical storm in the Far East (NOTE: In the Caribbean it is called a hurricane.)
typhus /ˈtaɪfəs/ noun a serious fever, where the virus is carried by fleas and lice

typical /ˈtaɪpɪk(ə)l/ adj having the usual qualities of a particular group or occasion ○ Describe a typical day at school. ○ He’s definitely not a typical bank manager. ○ that’s typical of him that’s what he always does ○ It’s typical of them to be late.

typically /ˈtaɪplɪkli/ adv in a typical way

typify /ˈtaɪpaɪfai/ verb to be a good example of something. Synonym characterise
typing /ˈtaɪpɪŋ/ noun the action of writing letters with a typewriter
typist /ˈtaɪpɪst/ noun a person whose job is to type letters on a typewriter
typographic /ˌtaɪpəˈɡræfɪk/, typographical /ˌtaɪpəˈɡræfɪkl(ə)l/ adj referring to typography
typography /ˌtaɪpəˈɡræfɪ/ noun 1. arranging the text on a printed page in a pleasing way or in a way which best conveys the meaning ○ I like the typography of this magazine – it makes it very easy to read. 2. the study of the design of typefaces ○ As part of his printing course he has to learn about typography
tyrrannical /ˈtaɪrənɪk(ə)l/ adj cruel and unjust
tyrranny /ˈtaɪrənɪ/ noun 1. the use of force and fear to rule a country ○ To arrest so many protesting students was an act of tyranny. 2. an unfair strict control over someone ○ the tyranny of the hospital manager over the nursing staff
tyrant /ˈtaɪrənt/ noun a ruler who rules by force and fear. Synonym oppressor

tyre /ˈtaɪər/ noun a ring made of rubber which is put round a wheel ○ Check the pressure in the tyres before starting a journey. ○ They used an old tyre to make a seat for the garden swing. (NOTE: The US spelling is tire.)
ugliness /'æglɪnəs/ noun the state of being ugly
ugly /'æglɪ/ adj 1. not beautiful, not pleasant to look at 2. "What an ugly pattern!" 3. "The part of the town round the railway station is even uglier than the rest.
ugly as sin very ugly
uh oh /ə'hu/ interj used as the written form of an exclamation made to express worry or a warning
uh uh /ə'hu/ interj showing that you agree or that you are listening
ulcer /'ʌlsə/ noun an open sore on or inside the body
ulcerous /'ʌlsərəs/ adj referring to ulcers
ulna /ˈʌlnə/ noun the inside bone of the two bones of the forearm between the elbow and the wrist. 1. radius
ulterior motive /əˈtɛriər məˈtɪv/ noun a hidden reason for doing something which will give you an advantage
ultimate /əˈlɪmt/ adj last, final 1. "This is the ultimate game in the series." 2. noun the most valuable or desirable thing 3. "Our first-class cabins are the ultimate in travelling luxury.
ultimately /əˈlɪmtli/ adv in the end. Antonym initially
ultimatum /əlˈtɪmətəm/ noun a final demand, proposal sent to someone stating that unless he does something within a period of time, action will be taken
ultrasonic /əlˈtraɪsənɪk/ adj relating to frequencies above the range of human hearing
uldge /'ʌldʒ/ interj showing a feeling that something is unpleasant
ugly thing is unpleasant
um /əm/ interj showing a feeling that some -thing is unpleasant
ultimate z
umbilical /ʌmˈbɪlkəl/ adj referring to the navel
umbilical cord /ʌmˈbɪlkəl kɔrd/ noun a cord which links the foetus to the placenta inside the womb
umbrella /əmˈbrelə/ noun a round frame covered with cloth which you hold over your head to keep off the rain 1. "Can I borrow your umbrella?" 2. "As it was starting to rain, he opened his umbrella." 3. The wind blew my umbrella inside out.
umbrella organisation /əmˈbrelə əˈɔrganɪzaʃən/ noun a large organisation which includes several other smaller ones
umpire /əmpˈtɪər/ noun a person who acts as a judge in a game to see that the game is played according to the rules 1. The umpire ruled that the ball was out. 2. He was disqualified for showing at the umpire. 3. verb to act as umpire 4. He umpired the match very fairly.
umpleen /əmˈpliːn/ noun a large number (informal) 1. I've been to France umpteen times. 2. There are umpteen forms to fill in.
unidentified /ənɪˈfʌndɪd/ adj
unidentified flying object /L50263/ flying object shaped like a U
unite /ənˈaɪt/ indir to look at/L50263/Ukraine 2. the language spoken in the Ukraine 3. the country
unite /ənˈaɪt/ indir to look at/L50263/Ukraine 2. the language spoken in the Ukraine 3. the country
unite /ənˈaɪt/ indir to look at/L50263/Ukraine 2. the language spoken in the Ukraine 3. the country
united nations /əˈnjʊtɪd nəˈʃənz/ noun
united nations /əˈnjʊtɪd nəˈʃənz/ noun
united nations /əˈnjʊtɪd nəˈʃənz/ noun
united nations /əˈnjʊtɪd nəˈʃənz/ noun
united nations /əˈnjʊtɪd nəˈʃənz/ noun
united nations /əˈnjʊtɪd nəˈʃənz/ noun
unbeatable 939 unconcerned

unbeatable /ˈʌnbɪtəb(ə)r/ adj which cannot be beaten. Synonym invincible. Antonym vulnerable.

unbeaten /ˈʌnbɪtən/ adj which has not been defeated.

unbelievable /ˈʌnbɪliəvəb(ə)r/ adj incredible, which is difficult to believe unbelievably /ˈʌnbɪliəvəb(ə)li/ adv incredibly, extremely.

unbeliever /ˈʌnbɪliəvər/ noun a person who does not believe in God. Antonym believer.

unbend /ˈʌnbend/ verb to stop being stiff and start behaving naturally. Synonym relax (NOTE: unbent)

unbending /ˈʌnbendɪŋ/ adj not flexible in opinions or attitudes.

unbiased /ˈʌniˈbaɪəst/ adj without any bias. Synonym impartial.

unblemished /ˈʌnblɛmɪʃt/ adj not spoil by mistakes or faults.

unblinking /ˈʌnblnɪŋkɪn/ adj without blinking (literary).

unblock /ˈʌnbloʊk/ verb to remove something that is stopping something from flowing.

unborn /ˈʌnbɔrn/ adj not yet born.

unbreakable /ˈʌnbreɪkəb(ə)r/ adj which cannot be broken. Synonym indestructible.

unbridled /ˈʌnbraɪld/ adj which is not controlled. Synonym unrestrained.

unbroken /ˈʌnbroʊkən/ adj which has not been broken. Synonym continuous.

uncontrollable /ˈʌnˌkɒntrəˈləʊəbl/ adj not controlled by the owner or winner.

unclassified /ˈʌnkləˈfaiəd/ adj not secret but available for examination by anyone.

uncle /ˈʌŋkl/ noun a brother of your father or mother; husband of an aunt. Antonym aunt.

unclear /ˈʌnkɪəl/ adj not clear.

Uncle Sam /ˈʌŋkl sæm/ noun a person symbolising the United States, usually shown with a waistcoat made of the American flag, and a top hat.

unchallenged /ˈʌŋkəlɛnd/ adj without a challenge. 1. to let something go or pass unchallenged to let something be said or written without questioning it. 2. if we let this ruling pass unchallenged we will regret it later.

unchanged /ˈʌŋtʃeɪnd/ adj not changed, without any changes. Synonym unaffected.

unchanging /ˈʌŋtʃeɪndʒɪŋ/ adj always remaining the same.

uncharacteristic /ənˌkærəktəˈrɪstɪk/ adj, not in character. Synonym unusual.

uncharitable /ənˈtʃərɪtəbl/ adj unkind.

uncharted /ənˈtʃɑrtɪd/ adj not marked on a map.

unchecked /ənˈtʃekt/ adj without having been checked. Antonym restricted.

uncivilised /ənˈsɪvɪlaɪzd/ adj uncivilised, barbarous.

unclaimed /ənˈklɛmrd/ adj not collected by the owner or winner.

unclear /ənˈklɪər/ adj not clear.

Uncle Sam /ənˈklɛm/ noun a person symbolising the United States, usually shown with a waistcoat made of the American flag, and a top hat.

uncluttered /ənˈklətərd/ adj not having an excessive amount of objects or details and therefore appearing tidy and clear.

uncomfortable /ənˈkɑmftəb(ə)r/ adj 1. not comfortable, soft and relaxing. 2. Plastic seats are very uncomfortable in hot weather. 3. to feel uncomfortable about feel worried about or I still feel uncomfortable about asking her to carry all that cash to the bank.

uncomfortably /ənˈkɑmftəb(ə)rli/ adv in an uncomfortable way.

uncommon /ənˈkɑmən/ adj strange or unusual (NOTE: uncommoner - uncommonest).

uncommunicative /ənˌkəmjuːnɪkətɪv/ adj not willing to say much.

uncomplicated /ənˌkɒmplɪkətɪd/ adj not complicated.

uncompromising /ənˌkɑmprəmɪzɪŋ/ adj unwilling to give in or to change your ideas. Synonym inflexible.

unconcerned /ənˌkɑnˈsɜːnd/ adj not worried, not bothered. Synonym indifferent.
unconditional /ˌʌnˈkʌndɪʃənəl/ adj not with any conditions attached
unconditionally /ˌʌnˈkʌndɪʃənəlɪ/ adv without any conditions
unconfirmed /ˌʌnˈkɜːrnɪmd/ adj which has not been confirmed
unconnected /ˌʌnˈkɑːntɪktɪd/ adj not related or connected to anything else or each other
unconsciously /ˌʌnˈkɔːnʃɪskli/ adv without realising
unconstitutional /ˌʌnˈkɔnʃɪstəˈtʃənəl/ adj which is against a country’s constitution, which is not allowed by the rules of a club or society. Synonym illegal. Antonym lawful
uncontrollable /ˌʌnˈkɑːntrəˈləb(ə)l/ adj which cannot be controlled
uncontrolled /ˌʌnˈkɑːntrəʊld/ adj which has not been controlled. Synonym unrestrained. Antonym restrained
unconventional /ˌʌnˈkɔːnˈvɜːnstʃənəl/ adj not usual. Synonym eccentric. Antonym conventional
unconvincing /ˌʌnˈkɔːnˈvɪnsɪŋ/ adj which does not convince. Antonym persuasive
uncooked /ˌʌnˈkʊkt/ adj not cooked. Antonym cooked
uncooperative /ˌʌnˈkɔːpərətɪv/ adj not cooperative. Synonym unhelpful. Antonym amenable
uncoordinated /ˌʌnˈkɔːrdənɪtɪd/ adj (of movements) not well-controlled or graceful
uncork /ˈʌnkɔːrk/ verb to remove the cork from a bottle
uncountable /ˈʌnˌkɑːntəˈb(ə)l/ adj describing a noun that does not refer to a single object
uncouth /ˈʌnkəθ/ adj with bad manners. Synonym rude. Antonym polite
uncover /ˈʌnˈkʌvər/ verb 1. to take a cover off something 2. Leaving the pots of jam uncovered will simply attract wasps. 2. to find something which was hidden. 3. They uncovered a secret store of gold coins. 4. The police have uncovered a series of secret/financial deals.
undercover /ˌʌndəˈkʌvər/ adj acting in disguise ○ Two undercover policemen were sent to the night club to monitor the sale of drugs. Synonym secret ○ adv in secret ○ He was working undercover for the British government at the time.

undercurrent /ˌʌndəˈkɜːrənt/ noun 1. a current of water under the surface ○ There are strong undercurrents in this part of the river. 2. hidden feelings ○ There is an undercurrent of antagonism to management in the factory.

undercut /ˌʌndəˈkʌt/ verb to sell more cheaply than someone. Synonym undermine ○ (NOTE: undercutting – undercut) underdeveloped /ˌʌndəˈdｅveləpt/ adj not developed; not industrially advanced. Synonym immature

underdog /ˌʌndəˈdɒg/ noun a person or team that is weaker, that is going to lose. Synonym loser ○ undercover /əndəˈdʌgndər/ noun the person or team that is weaker, that is going to lose.

underestimate noun /ˌʌndərˈestɪmeɪt/ an estimate which is less than the actual figure ○ The figure of £50,000 was a considerable underestimate. ○ verb /ˌʌndərˈestɪmeɪt/ to think that something is smaller or not as bad as it really is ○ He underestimated the amount of time needed to finish the work. ○ Don’t underestimate the intelligence of the average voter. Synonym undervalue. Antonym overestimate

underfund /ˌʌndəˈfʌnd/ verb to provide too little money to enable something to happen or operate satisfactorily.

undergarment /ˌʌndəˈɡɑːrment/ noun a piece of clothing worn next to the skin, under other clothes (old)

undergo /ˌʌndərˈɡoʊ/ verb to suffer, to have something happen to you. Synonym experience ○ (NOTE: underwent /ˌʌndərˈwʊnt/ – undergone /ˌʌndəˈɡəʊn/) undergraduate /ˌʌndəˈɡrædʒuət/ noun a student at university who is studying for his or her first degree

underground adv /ˌʌndərˈɡraʊnd/ 1. under the ground ○ The ordinary railway line goes underground for a short distance. ○ Worms live all their life underground. ○ If power cables were placed underground they would be less of an eyesore. 2. ○ to go underground to go into hiding ○ They had to go underground for a time until the police called off their search. ○ adj /ˌʌndərˈɡraʊnd/ 1. under the ground ○ There’s an underground passage to the tower. ○ The hotel has an underground car park. 2. secret, hidden ○ He was a member of an underground terrorist organisation in the 1970s. ○ noun /ˈʌndərˌɡraʊnd/ a railway in a town, which runs under the ground ○ Thousands of people use the underground to go to work. ○ Take the underground to go to Oxford Circus. ○ It’s usually quicker to get to Waterloo by underground. (NOTE: The London Underground is often called the Tube. In the United States, an underground railway is called a subway)

undergrowth /ˌʌndərˈɡrʊθ/ noun plants which grow thickly under large trees

underhand /ˌʌndəˈhænd/ adj not honest. Synonym deceitful

underlie /ˌʌndərˈlaɪ/ verb to be beneath, to be the basic cause of something (NOTE: underlying – underlay ○ has underlain) underline /ˌʌndərˈlɛn/ verb 1. to write a line under a word or figure ○ He wrote the title and then underlined it in red. 2. to emphasise ○ This just underlines the urgent need for more medical supplies. ○ I want to underline the fact that we need an experienced sales force.

underlying /ˌʌndərˈlɜːniŋ/ adj which is the reason for everything. Synonym fundamental

undermanned /ˌʌndərˈmænd/ adj with not enough staff

undermine /ˌʌndərˈmaɪn/ verb to make weaker. Synonym weaken. Antonym bolster ○ underline /ˌʌndərˈlaɪn/ prep under ○ She wore a long green jumper underneath her mac. ○ Can you lie down and see if my pen is underneath the sofa? ○ adv under ○ He put the box of books down on the kitchen table and my sandwiches were underneath! ○ prep the part which is below or covered by something ○ The underneath of the car is showing signs of rust.

undernourished /ˌʌndərˈnɜːrɪʃɪd/ adj not having enough to eat. Antonym well-fed

underpaid /ˌʌndərˈpeɪd/ adj not paid a suitable amount of money

underpants /ˌʌndərˈpænts/ plural noun men’s short underwear for the part of the body from the waist to the top of the legs ○ The doctor told him to strip down to his underpants. ○ His wife gave him a pair of bright red white and blue underpants for his birthday.

underpass /ˌʌndərˈpɑs/ noun a road which is built under another. Compare underpass

underpin /ˌʌndərˈpɪn/ verb to support (NOTE: underpinning – underpinned)

underpinning /ˌʌndərˈpɪnɪŋ/ noun supporting from underneath. Synonym foundation

underprivileged /ˌʌndərˈprɪvɪlɪdʒɪd/ adj not having the same opportunities as other underprivileged

the clothes which are worn next to the skin, under other clothes

undercover /ˌʌndəˈkʌvər/ adj acting in disguise ○ Two undercover policemen were sent to the night club to monitor the sale of drugs. Synonym secret ○ adv in secret ○ He was working undercover for the British government at the time.
underrate /ˈʌndərreɪt/ verb to value something less than you ought. Synonym underrated.

underrated /ˈʌndərɪtəd/ adj deserving to be valued more

underscore /ˈʌndəskɔː/ verb to emphasise. Antonym ignore

undersea /ˈʌndəsɪə/ adj relating to the area below the surface of the sea

understatement /ˈʌndərsteɪmənt/ noun a statement which does not tell the facts forcefully enough. Antonym exaggeration

understood /ˈʌndəstʌd/ 0 understand

understudy /ˈʌndəstʌdi/ noun an actor who learns a part in the play so as to be able to act it if the usual actor cannot perform. Antonym understudy

undertake /ˈʌndətək/ verb to agree to do something. Antonym substitute

undertaker /ˈʌndətɔːkər/ noun a person who organises funerals (NOTE: Another US term is mortician.)

undertaking /ˈʌndətɑːkɪŋ/ noun 1. a business. Antonym substitute 2. The Post Office must be considered as a commercial undertaking, not as a public service.

undervalue /ˈʌndərˌvælju/ verb to value something less than it really is. Antonym overvalue

underused /ˈʌndərjuːzd/ adj not used enough

underwater /ˈʌndərˈwɔːtər/ adj below the surface of the water. Antonym overwater

under way /ˈʌndərˌweɪ/ adv in progress

The show finally got under way after a lot of delays.
underwear /ˈʌndərwɛə/ noun clothes worn next to your skin under other clothes (NOTE: no plural)

undertake /ˈʌndərteɪk/ adj not heavy enough, which weighs less than usual. Antonym overweigh

undertow /ˈʌndərtau/ noun 1. a place inhabited by the dead 2. the world of criminals 3. The police superintendent is an expert on London’s underworld gangs.

undeserved /ˈʌndɪzɜvrid/ adj received, but not deserved

undesirable /ˈʌndərizərəbl/ adj 1. not wanted 2. It’s highly undesirable that they should build a factory in the national park. 3. not pleasant 4. Taking the medicine produces no undesirable effects. 5. a noun who is not wanted, who is considered a bad influence 6. We are tightening the immigration law to keep undesirables out of the country.

undetected /ˈʌndɪtɛktid/ adj not noticed or discovered

undeterred /ˈʌndɪtɛrd/ adj not put off by difficulties

undeveloped /ˈʌndɛvələpt/ adj which has not been developed

undid /ˈʌndid/ verb undo

undies /ˈʌndiəz/ plural noun underwear, especially women’s underwear (informal) 1. I’ve just washed my undies, I hope they’ll be dry by the morning.

undignified /ˈʌndɪgnɪfaɪd/ adj appearing foolish or making the person involved appear foolish

undisclosed /ˈʌndɪskaʊzd/ adj which has not been told to anyone. Synonym secret

undiscovered /ˈʌndɪskəʊvərd/ adj not yet found or widely known about

undisguised /ˈʌndɪsgwaɪzd/ adj expressed fully, clearly and openly

undisputed /ˈʌndɪspjʊɪtd/ adj which no one disputes. Antonym questionable

undisturbed /ˈʌndɪstɜːbd/ adj without being disturbed

undivided /ˈʌndɪvədɪd/ adj concentrating on one thing

undo /ˈʌndəʊ/ verb 1. to unfasten something which is tied or buttoned 2. The first thing he did on getting home was to undo his tie 3. Undo your top button if your collar is too tight. 4. to upset the good effect of something 5. His off-the-cuff remarks undid all the good work done to increase racial cooperation. (NOTE: undid /ˈʌndɪd/ – has undone /ˈʌndʌn/) 

undoing /ˈʌndəʊɪŋ/ noun a person’s ruin. Synonym downfall. Antonym making

undone /ˈʌndən/ adj 1. unfastened 2. not completed 3. Some of work was left undone.

undoubted /ˈʌndədaut/ adj certain, true. Antonym doubtful

undress /ˈʌndrɛs/ verb to take your clothes off

undressed /ˈʌndrɛst/ adj naked, or not wearing much clothing

undue /ˈʌndjuː/ adj excessive, too much. Synonym unwarranted. Antonym justified

undulate /ˈʌndʒʊleɪt/ verb to rise and fall like waves

unduly /ˈʌndjuːli/ adv excessively, too much. Antonym justifiably

undying /ˈʌndʒɔɪɪŋ/ adj which lasts for ever. Synonym unending

uneared /ˈʌnɪərd/ adj income from investments, rents etc., as opposed to wages or salary

uneasy /ˈʌnɪzi/ adj which cannot be eaten

uneconomic /ˌʌnɪˈskəʊmɪk/ adj which is not economic, which does not make a profit

uneducated /ˈʌnədʒʊˈɛktɪd/ adj not well educated

unemotional /ˌʌnəməˈʃənəl/ adj showing very little or no feeling

unemployed /ˌʌnɪmˈplɔʊd/ adj without a job 1. The government is encouraging unemployed teenagers to apply for training grants. Antonym employed 2. plural noun the unemployed people with no jobs 1. The government is offering special grants to help the unemployed. 2. unemployment /ˌʌnɪmˈplɔʊmənt/ noun a lack of work 1. The unemployment figures or the figures for unemployment are rising. Antonym employment

unemployment benefit /ˌʌnɪmˈplɔʊmənt/bɛˈneɪt/ noun money paid by the government to someone who is unemployed

unending /ˌʌnɪnˈdʌŋ/ adj which is going on for ever, with no end. Synonym endless.

unemotional

unenthusiastic /ˌʌnɪnˈθjuːzɪstɪk/ adj showing no enthusiasm, interest, or excitement about something
unenviable /ənˈenviəbl/ adj difficult or unpleasant
unequal /ənˈikwəl/ adj 1. not equal ○ The management was accused of applying unequal conditions to male and female employees. 2. unequal to not good enough, not strong enough for ○ Their feeble efforts were totally unequal to the task.
unequaled /ənˈikwəld/ adj which has no equal. Antonym ordinary
unequivocal /ənˈikvɪvəkəl/ adj which cannot be misunderstood. Synonym clear
unnerving /ənˈnɜːrɪŋ/ adj always accurate
unethical /ənˈɛθɪkəl/ adj not according to agreed standards of moral conduct
uneven /ənˈɪvən/ adj not smooth, not flat
unevenly /ənˈɪvənli/ adv not evenly
uneventful /ənˈvɛntʃəl/ adj with no particularly exciting events. Antonym exciting
unexceptional /ənˈeksəʃənl/ adj not very different, special or unusual
unexciting /ənˈɪkˈsætn/ adj ordinary or dull and boring
unexpected /ənˈɛkspəktɪd/ adj which is surprising and not what was expected ○ We had an unexpected visit from the police. ○ His failure was quite unexpected. Synonym unforeseen. Antonym expected
unexpectedly /ənˈɛkspəktɪdli/ adv in an unexpected way
unexplained /ənˈɛksplənd/ adj which has not been explained. Synonym mysterious
unexplored /ənˈɛksploʊrd/ adj 1. not visited before 2. not yet investigated, studied or discussed
unfailing /ənˈfɛləŋ/ adj which never changes, which is always there. Synonym reliable. Antonym erratic
unfair /ənˈfɛə/ adj not right, not fair ○ It’s unfair to expect her to do all the housework while her sisters don’t lift a finger to help.
unfair dismissal /ənˈfɛərɪsməl/ noun the process of removing a person from his job for reasons which do not appear to be reasonable
unfaithful /ənˈfɛθfəl/ adj having sex with someone who is not your husband or wife. Synonym disloyal
unfamiliar /ənˈfɜːməl/ adj not knowing at all well
unfashionable /ənˈfɑʃənəbl/ adj not fashionable. Antonym trendy
unfasten /ənˈfɑstən/ verb to undo a belt, tie or button etc. which is fastened. Antonym fasten
unfathomable /ənˈfæðəməbl/ adj too difficult to understand
unfavourable /ənˈfɑvərəbl/ adj not favourable (NOTE: The US spelling is unfavorable.)
unfazed /ənˈfeɪzd/ adj not disturbed or put off
unfeasible /ənˈfɛziəbl/ adj impractical as a goal, or not easy to do
unfeeling /ənˈfɛlɪŋ/ adj not caring or sympathetic
unfinished /ənˈfɪnɪʃt/ adj which has not been finished. Antonym finished
unfit /ənˈfɪt/ adj 1. not fit, not in good physical condition ○ I used to play a lot of tennis but I’ve got unfit during the winter. ○ He’s so unfit, he goes red in the face if he simply bends down to pick something up off the floor. 2. unfit for not suitable for ○ He was classed as unfit for service in the police force. ○ unfit for human consumption not good enough to be eaten by people ○ The meat was found to be unfit for human consumption. ○ unfit for human habitation not of good enough standard for people to live in ○ The house has been condemned as unfit for human habitation. ○ The old houses were declared unfit for human habitation and pulled down.
unflattering /ənˈflætərɪŋ/ adj showing someone or something in an uncomplimentary or unfavourable way
unfold /ənˈfɔːld/ verb 1. to spread out something which is folded, such as a newspaper ○ She unfolded the tablecloth and put it on the table. 2. (of a story) to become clear ○ As the full extent of the disaster unfolded, so it became clear that the emergency services could not cope.
unforeseeable /ənˈfɔːsərəbl/ adj which could not be foreseen. Antonym unforeseen
unexpected /ənˈɛkspəktəd/ adj not foreseen, not anticipated. Synonym unexpected. Antonym expected
unforgettable /ənˈfɔrəɡəbl/ adj which cannot be forgotten. Synonym memorable
unforgivable /ənˈfɔrgəvəbl/ adj impossible to forgive
unforgiving /ənˈfɔrgɪŋ/ adj not willing to forgive
unforthcoming /ənˈfɔrθkəm/ adj not willing to talk much or to reveal information
unfortunate /ənˈfɔrˌtʃənt/ adj 1. which is not lucky ○ He made some rather unfortunate purchases on the stock exchange. 2. which makes you sad ○ It was very unfortunate that she couldn’t come to see us. 3. embarrassing ○ He made some very unfortunate friendships when he was in the army. ○ She made some unfortunate remarks about the bride’s feet.
un fortunately 945 uninhabited

un fortunately / anˈfəstɪli/ adv which you wish was not true  ○ Unfortunately the train arrived so late that she missed the meeting.

un founded / anˈfəʊndəd/ adj without any basis in truth. Synonym groundless. Antonym proven

un friendly / anˈfrendli/ adj not acting like a friend  (NOTE: unfriendlier - unfriendliness)

un fulfilled / anˈfʊlfd/ adj which has not been carried out

unfurl / anˈfɜːrl/ verb 1. to unroll like a flag 2. to develop gradually  ○ We watched fascinated by the events which unfurled on our TV screens.

un furnished / anˈfɜːnd/ adj with no furniture. Antonym furnished

un gaily / anˈɡeɪli/ adj moving without grace

ungodly / anˈɡoʊdli/ adj unpleasant or inconvenient  ○ an ungodly hour a very early or late time  ○ He rang me at some ungodly hour.

un gracious / anˈɡrɛʃəs/ adj not well-mannered

un grammatical / anˈgɹəmətɪk/ adj using incorrect grammar

un grateful / anˈɡreɪtl/ adj not grateful

unguarded / anˈɡwɜːrd/ adj careless  ○ in an unguarded moment without thinking about the consequences

unhappily / anˈhæpəli/ adv in a sad way.

un happiness / anˈhæpɪns/ noun the state of being unhappy. Synonym sadness. Antonym happiness

○ unhappy / anˈhæpɪ/ adj sad, not happy  ○ He’s unhappy in his job because his boss is always criticising him.  ○ She looked very unhappy when she came out of the hospital.  ○ The children had an unhappy childhood. (NOTE: unhappier – unhappiest)

un harm ed / anˈhɜːmd/ adj not harmed, not hurt

un healthy / anˈhelθi/ adj 1. not healthy  ○ I thought her face was an unhealthy colour. 2. which does not make you healthy  ○ The office is very unhealthy, and most of the staff seem to be ill all the time.  ○ Sitting around smoking and not doing any sport is very unhealthy.  ○ Their children have a very unhealthy diet. 3. unnatural  ○ She has an unhealthy interest in dead bodies. (NOTE: unhealthier – unhealthiest)

un heard / anˈhɜːrd/ adj 1. not heard by anyone  ○ not allowed to be heard

un heard of / anˈhɜːrd əv/ adj strange or odd

un helpful / anˈhelpəl/ adj not helpful

un hurried / anˈhɜːrd/ adj done in a quiet, relaxed way

un hurt / anˈhɜːt/ adj not hurt. Antonym hurt

unicorn / ˈjuːnɪkɔrn/ noun an imaginary animal, a white horse with one long, straight horn growing from the centre of its head

unidentified / anıˈdɛntɪfɜrd/ adj which you do not recognise, which you cannot identify. Synonym nameless. Antonym known

unification / ˈjuːnɪfɪkeɪʃn/ noun the act of joining two countries together to form one. Compare reunification. Synonym amalgamation

uniform / ˈjuːnɪfɔrm/ noun special clothes worn by all members of an organisation or group.  ○ He went to the fancy dress party dressed in a policeman’s uniform.  ○ Who are those people in French army uniform?  ○ What colour is her school uniform?  ○ The holiday camp staff all wear yellow uniforms.  ○ in uniform wearing a uniform  ○ The policeman was not in uniform at the time.  ○ all the same, never changing

uniformed / ˈjuːnɪfɔrmɪd/ adj wearing a uniform

uniformed staff / ˈjuːnɪfɔrmd/ noun staff such as hotel porters and railway workers, who wear uniforms

uniformity / ˈjuːnɪfɔrmiəti/ noun the quality of being uniform

unify / ˈjuːnɪfaɪ/ verb to join separate countries or groups together to form a single one. Synonym unite

unilaterally / ˈjuːnɪlərəli/ adv done by one side only, not taken jointly. Synonym one-sided

unimaginable / anıˈmæʤənəb(ə)l/ adj which cannot be imagined. Synonym incon ceivable. Antonym conceivable

unimaginative / anıˈmæʤɪnətɪv/ adj not good at thinking of new or interesting ideas, plans, or situations

unimportant / anıˈmɔrptənt/ adj not important. Synonym inconsequential

unimpressed / anıˈmɑrprɛst/ adj not impressed. Antonym enthusiastic

uninformative / anıˈɪnfərmətɪv/ adj not providing much information

uninformed / anıˈɪnfɔrmɪd/ adj without enough knowledge. Synonym ignorant.

Antonym informed

uninhabitable / ˈænɪnˈhæbɪtəbl/ adj not suitable to be lived in

uninhabited / ˈænɪnˈhæbɪtɪd/ adj with no one living there. Synonym unoccupied
uninhibited /ˈɪnɪhibitɪd/ adj able to express yourself freely, able to do what you want to do
uninitiated /ˈɪnɪnɪtɪeɪtɪd/ adj the uninitiated people who do not have specialist knowledge of something ○ To the uninitiated, computer jargon seems difficult to understand.
uninspired /ˌannɪˈspɜːrd/ adj lacking a sense of originality
unintelligent /ˌænɪˈtɛldʒənt/ adj showing a lack of intelligence
unintelligible /ˌænɪˈtɛldʒəb(ə)l/ adj which cannot be understood. Synonym in-comprehensible. Antonym intelligible
unintended /ˌænɪˈtɛndəd/ adj not planned or wanted
unintentional /ˌænɪˈtɛnʃənl/ adj which is not intended. Synonym accidental. Antonym intentional
uninterested /ˌænɪˈnɜːrəstɪd/ adj not having any interest in something. Synonym indifferent. Antonym concerned
uninterrupted /ˌænɪnˈtɜːrptɪd/ adj continuous, with no breaks. Synonym continuous.
uninviting /ˌænɪnˈvɔːtɪŋ/ adj not attractive or pleasant
ununion /ˌjuːnˈjuːn/ noun 1. a (trade) union an organisation which represents workers who are its members in discussions with employers about wages and conditions of employment ○ The staff are all members of a union or they are (trade) union members. ○ The union called a meeting to discuss the company's takeover by a German company.
2. the state of being joined together ○ We support the union of these various groups under one umbrella organisation. 3. a group of countries or independent states which are linked into a federation ○ The union between England and Scotland is over 300 years old.
4. the United States of America ○ The President will give his State of the Union message in January. 5. marriage ○ Their union will be celebrated on 1st November.
unionism /ˌjuːnɪˈnɪz(ə)m/ noun a belief in the principle of trade unions
unionist /ˌjuːnɪˈnɪz(ə)st/ noun a member of a trade union ○ All her family were trade unionists.
Unionist /ˌjuːnɪˈnɪz(ə)st/ noun a member of a party which wants to preserve the union between Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Union Jack /ˌjuːnɪˈnɛk/ noun the national flag of the United Kingdom ○ The Union Jack was flying over the embassy. ○ The streets were decorated with Union Jacks. Also called Union Flag.
unique /juːˈnɪk/ adj different to everything else, the only one that exists ○ The stamp is unique, and so is worth a great deal. ○ He’s studying the unique vegetation of the island. Synonym sole
uniqueness /juːˈnɪkəns/ noun the state of being unique. Synonym individuality
unisex /juːˈnɪksɛs/ adj which can be used by both men and women
unison /ˌjuːnɪˈsən/ noun ○ in unison 1. doing something all together ○ The children all shouted 'yes, please' in unison. 2. in total agreement ○ Unions and employers must learn to work in unison.
university /ˈjuːnɪvɜːsəti/ noun 1. one part of something larger ○ If you pass three units of the course you can move to the next level. 2. one piece of furniture, such as a cupboard or set of shelves which can be matched with others ○ The kitchen is designed as a basic set of units with more units which can be added later.
3. the amount used to measure something ○ Kilos and pounds are units of weight.
4. a specialised section of a hospital ○ She is in the intensive care unit. ○ The burns unit was full after the plane accident.
5. a single number less than ten ○ 63 has six tens and three units.
universe /ˈjuːnɪvɜːs/ noun 1. referring to a single unit ○ unite /juːˈnɜːt/ verb to join together into a single body. ○ united /juːˈnɜːtɪd/ adj joined together as a whole ○ Relief workers from various countries worked as a united team. ○ They were united in their desire to improve their working conditions. Synonym joint. Antonym separated.
United Nations /ˌjuːnɪˈnɜːtənz/ noun an international organisation including almost all sovereign states in the world, where member states are represented at meetings. Abbr UN
unit trust /ˈjuːnɪt traʊt/ noun an organisation which takes money from small investors and invests it in stocks and shares under a trust deed, the investment being in the form of units or shares in the trust (NOTE: The US term is mutual fund.)
unitary /ˈjuːnɪtərɪ/ noun being one whole. Antonym disarray
universal /ˌjuːnɪˈvɜːsəl/ adj which is understood or experienced by everyone in the world ○ There is a universal hope for peace in the region. Synonym worldwide. Antonym local
universally /ˌjuːnɪˈvɜːsəli/ adv everywhere; by everyone
universe /ˌjuːnɪˈvɜːsɪs/ noun all space and everything that exists in it, including the earth, the planets and the stars. Synonym cosmos
different from the dogs.

The security guards heard the siren they unleashed to be rude not justified

especially referring to things which need cutting

force to become free

(L50263)

his train ticket had been eaten by the dog.

trotted out some unlikely excuse about how his train ticket had been eaten by the dog.

unleashed

(L50263)

unlawful

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>unobserved</td>
<td>adj not seen by anyone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unobtainable</td>
<td>adj which cannot be obtained. Synonym unavailable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unobtrusive</td>
<td>adj not obvious; not easily noticed. Synonym inconspicuous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unoccupied</td>
<td>adj empty, not occupied</td>
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<tr>
<td>unofficial</td>
<td>adj not approved by an administration or by people in power. Synonym unauthorised</td>
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<tr>
<td>unopposed</td>
<td>adj, adv having no opposition</td>
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<tr>
<td>unorthodox</td>
<td>adj not usual. Synonym unconventional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unpack</td>
<td>verb to take things out of cases in which they were transported. Synonym unload</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unpaid</td>
<td>adj 1. (of a person) who is not paid a salary ○ He works as unpaid secretary for the sports club. 2. (of a bill) which has not been settled ○ Piles of unpaid bills littered his desk</td>
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<tr>
<td>unpalatable</td>
<td>adj unpleasant to consider or accept ○ She had to face some unpalatable facts</td>
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<tr>
<td>unparalleled</td>
<td>adj with no parallel or no equal. Antonym mediocre</td>
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<tr>
<td>unplanned</td>
<td>adj not intended to happen</td>
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<tr>
<td>unpleasant</td>
<td>adj not nice, not pleasant ○ There’s a very unpleasant smell in the kitchen. ○ The boss is a very unpleasant man and shouts at his secretary all the time. ○ Try not to be unpleasant to the waitress. ○ The meat has an unpleasant taste.</td>
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<tr>
<td>unplug</td>
<td>verb to remove a plug from a socket (NOTE: unplugging – unplugged)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unpopular</td>
<td>adj not liked by many people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unpopularity</td>
<td>noun not being liked (NOTE: no plural)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unprecedented</td>
<td>adj which has never happened before, or with such force. Synonym unparalleled. Antonym ordinary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unpredictable</td>
<td>adj which cannot be predicted or forecast. Synonym random. Antonym random.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unprepared</td>
<td>adj not ready ○ unp repared to do something not willing to do something ○ The students are unprepared to pay the increased tuition fees.</td>
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<tr>
<td>pretentious</td>
<td>adj not showing off. Antonym pretentious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>principled</td>
<td>adj without any moral standards. Synonym dishonest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unprintable</td>
<td>adj so rude that you cannot print it. Antonym offensive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unproductive</td>
<td>adj 1. (of a discussion) which does not produce any result ○ The debate was quite unproductive. 2. (of land) which does not produce any crops ○ Their land had become unproductive and they’d stopped farming it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unprofessional</td>
<td>adj which does not make a profit ○ The international show was unprofitable, and had to be subsidised by the government. 2. which does not bring any advantage ○ She made an unprofitable visit to her lawyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>unprotected</td>
<td>adj which is not protected</td>
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<tr>
<td>unprotected sex</td>
<td>noun sexual intercourse without using a condom</td>
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<td>unprovoked</td>
<td>adj not caused by words or actions that might produce anger or resentment</td>
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<tr>
<td>unqualified</td>
<td>adj not according to professional standards</td>
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<tr>
<td>unprofitable</td>
<td>adj 1. which has not been published ○ She made an unprofitable visit to her lawyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>unquestionable</td>
<td>adj which is certain, not doubtful. Synonym indubitable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unravel</td>
<td>verb 1. to disentangle something knotted ○ We spent hours trying to unravel the ball of string. 2. (of knitting or woven material) to become undone ○ Don’t cut that bit of wool or the jumper will unravel. 3. to come to pieces ○ His elaborate plan began to unravel. 4. to solve a mystery ○ No one has ever been able to unravel the mystery of her disappearance. (NOTE: unravelling – unravelled)</td>
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<tr>
<td>unreal</td>
<td>adj not like the real world</td>
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<tr>
<td>unrealistic</td>
<td>adj not taking into account the true facts of a situation. Synonym impractical</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| unreasonable          | adj not reasonable, unfair ○ recognisable ○ Two unrelated incidents occurred during the night. ○ The
unrelenting

sudden increase in temperature is quite unrelat-ed to her heart condition. 2. not belonging to the same family. 3. They have the same surname, but as far as I know are unrelated.

unrelenting  /ənˈrɛləntɪŋ/ adj which never stops or weakens. Antonym yielding

unreliable  /ənˈriːləb(ə)l/ adj which cannot be relied on

unremarkable  /ənˈrɛmərkəbl/ adj not worthy of special notice or attention because of being ordinary or common

unremitting  /ənˈrɛmɪtɪŋ/ adj never ending. Synonym constant. Antonym intermittent

unrepentant  /ənˈrɛpənt/ adj with no regrets for what you have done. Antonym remorseful

unrepresentative  /ənˌreprəˈzentətɪv/ adj not typical of a particular kind or class

unrequited  /ənˈrɛkwɪtɪd/ adj not returned or felt by another person

unresolvable  /ənˈrɛzəvləd/ adj which has not been solved. Antonym resolved

unrestricted  /ənˈrɪstrɪktɪd/ adj without any restrictions. Antonym restricted

unrewarding  /ənˈrɛwərdɪŋ/ adj not providing any satisfaction or pleasure

unrivalled  /ənˈraɪvləd/ adj having no equal

unroll  /ənˈrəʊl/ verb to undo something which is rolled up

unruffled  /ənˈraʊfləd/ adj not anxious. Synonym calm. Antonym flustered

unruly  /ənˈraɪli/ adj wild, with no discipline. Synonym boisterous (NOTE: unrulier - unruliest)

unsafe  /ənˈˌsefl/ adj dangerous □ to feel unsafe to feel you are in danger □ She doesn’t like to be alone at night, she says she feels unsafe.

unsaid  /ənˈseid/ adj □ it would have been better to have left it unsaid it would have been better not to say it

unsatisfactory  /ənˈsæt(ə)frəkt(ə)ri/ adj not satisfactory. Synonym inadequate. Antonym acceptable

unsatisfied  /ənˈsætɪsfɪd/ adj not satisfied. Antonym pleased

unsavoury  /ənˈsɛvərɪ/ adj not pleasant (NOTE: The US spelling is unsavory.)

unscathed  /ənˈskɛtɪd/ adj not harmed. Synonym unharmed

unscrew  /ənˈskruː/ verb 1. to open by twisting a top which screws on. 2. to unfasten by taking out screws □ My screwdriver is much too big to unscrew the back of the TV.

unscrupulous  /ənˈskrʊpjuːləs/ adj not worrying too much about honesty. Synonym dishonest

unsealed  /ənˈsɛld/ adj which is not closed with a seal

unseat  /ənˈsɛt/ verb 1. to make an MP lose his seat in an election □ She only needs a small swing to have a good chance of unseating him. 2. to make someone fall off a horse □ He was unseated as he tried to jump the fence.

unseemly  /ənˈzɛmli/ adj offensive or rude. Synonym inappropriate. Antonym proper

unseen  /ənˈsɪn/ adj not seen, invisible. Synonym hidden. Antonym noticeable

unselfish  /ənˈsɛflɪʃ/ adj thinking only of other people. Synonym selfless. Antonym selfish

unsettle  /ənˈset(ə)l/ verb to cause someone anxiety. Synonym worry. Antonym soothe

unsettled  /ənˈset(ə)ld/ adj 1. (of weather) which changes often □ Unsettled weather is forecast for the next few days. 2. not calm □ The present unsettled market shows no sign of becoming more stable.

unsettling  /ənˈset(ə)lɪŋ/ adj which makes you nervous and worried. Antonym soothing

unshakable  /ənˈʃeɪkəb(ə)l/ adj certain whatever happens

unshaven  /ənˈʃeɪvən/ adj without having shaved

unsightly  /ənˈsɪlətɪ/ adj ugly, unpleasant to see. Synonym unattractive

unskilled  /ənˈskɪld/ adj ugly, unpleasant to see. Synonym unattractive

unskilled staff  /ənˈskɪld stɑːf/ noun employees who have no particular skills, and do general work such as cleaning, taking the post to the post offices etc.

unsociable  /ənˈsəʊjəb(ə)l/ adj not friendly, not wanting to meet other people. Synonym unfriendly. Antonym friendly

unsold  /ənˈsəʊld/ adj not sold

unsolicited  /ənˈsəlɪstɪd/ adj given, sent or received without being asked for

unsolved  /ənˈsɔlvld/ adj which has not been solved. Synonym unexplained. Antonym resolved
unsophisticated /ˌunsəfɪstɪˈkeɪtɪd/ adj: simple; not sophisticated
unsound /ˈʌnsaʊnd/ adj: 1. of unsound mind mad 2. not based on fact or logic 3. His reasoning is unsound.
unspeakable /ənˈspɪkəb(ə)l/ adj: extremely unpleasant
unspecifed /ənˈspeʃifɪd/ adj: which has not been specified. Antonym specific
unspeakable /ənˈspɪkəb(ə)l/ adj: extremely unpleasant
unspeakable /ənˈspɪkəb(ə)l/ adj: extremely unpleasant
untangle /ənˈtæŋɡ(ə)l/ verb: 1. to separate and free from tangles 2. to make simpler and clearer
untapped /ənˈtæpt/ adj: not yet exploited. Synonym unused. Antonym used
untouchable /ənˈtʌtʃəbl/ adj: which cannot be touched or affected 1. The President’s son is quite untouchable by the police. 2. Touch him and you will be in trouble.
unsung /ənˈsʌŋ/ adj: not praised or valued
untrue /ənˈtruː/ adj: not true, false
unsteady /ənˈstedɪ/ adj: not steady; wobbly
unstopable /ənˈstrɒpəb(ə)l/ adj: which cannot be stopped. Synonym irresistible. Antonym avoidable
unsuitable /ənˈsəːtʃəbl/ adj: not suitable. Synonym inappropriate. Antonym appropriate
untidy /ənˈtʌdɪ/ adj: not tidy (NOTE: untidy – untidiest)
untimely /ənˈtʌmli/ adj: 1. occurring sooner than expected 2. occurring at a bad or inconvenient time
untold /ənˈtʌld/ adj: 1. which has not been told 2. His story was to remain untold for years, until we discovered the old diary. 2. Very large; so large that it cannot be counted.
untouched /ənˈtʌtʃəd/ adj: which cannot be touched or affected 1. The President’s son is quite untouchable by the police. 2. Touch him and you will be in trouble.
untrained /ənˈtrɛtn/ adj: without any training in a specific skill
untreated /ənˈtreɪtɪd/ adj: 1. not treated medically 2. If left untreated, the disease can be fatal.
untoward /ənˈtɔːrd/ adj: disturbing and unexpected
untied /ənˈtɛd/ adj: not tested or tried before
untidier – untidest
untidier – untidest
untidier – untidest
untrustworthy /ənˈtrʌstərəð/ adj im-
possible to be trusted or not deserving trust
untruth /ənˈtrʌθ/ noun something that is not true
untutored /ənˈtʊtʊrd/ adj not having been taught. Antonym educated
unused /ənˈjuːzd/ adj 1. which has not been used before ○ We found a packet of un-
used stamps in his desk drawer. 2. ○ unused to not accustomed to ○ She’s quite unused to
committee work. ○ Getting up early is some-
thing he’s unused to.
unusual /ənˈjuːʒuəl/ adj strange, not normal ○ It is unusual to have rain at this
time of year. ○ She chose a very unusual col-
our scheme for her sitting room.
unusually /ənˈjuːʒuəli/ adv strangely, abnormally
unveil /ənˈvɪəl/ verb 1. to take a cover off
something, to open it formally ○ The statue
was unveiled by the mayor. 2. to reveal de-
tails of a new plan etc. ○ The committee will
unveil its proposals next week.
unwanted /ənˈwʌntɪd/ adj which is not wanted
unwarranted /ənˈwɔːrnətɪd/ adj which is not justified. Antonym justified
unwary /ənˈwɔːrɪ/ adj failing to be alert and careful
unwavering /ənˈwɔːrɪvərɪŋ/ adj confident and firm in purpose
unworthy /ənˈwɜːri/ adj which is not welcome. Synonym unwanted. Antonym welcome
unwell /ənˈwel/ adj sick, not well. Syn-
onym ill. Antonym well (NOTE: not used be-
fore a noun: the baby was unwell but a sick
baby)
unwieldy /ənˈwɪldɪ/ adj large and awk-
ward. Antonym manageable
unwilling /ənˈwɪlɪŋ/ adj not wanting to do
something. Antonym willing
unwind /ənˈwɪnd/ verb 1. to undo some-
thing which has been wound ○ Pull to un-
wind the flex – it will rewind automatically
when you press the red button. 2. to relax ○
Gardening at the weekend helps him to un-
wind. (NOTE: unwinding – unwound)
unwise /ənˈwaɪz/ adj rash or imprudent; not wise. Synonym foolish. Antonym prudent
unwisely /ənˈwaɪzlɪ/ adv rashly, in a fool-
ish way
unwittingly /ənˈwɪtɪŋlɪ/ adv not knowing or intending
unwittingly /ənˈwɪtɪŋlɪ/ adv without knowing or intending
unworkable /ənˈwɜːkrəbl/ adj which will not work
unworthy /ənˈwɜːrəð/ adj not deserving
unwound /ənˈwʊnd/ adj
unwind /ənˈraʊnd/ verb to take the wrapping off something. Antonym wrap (NOTE: un-
wrapping – unwrapped)
unzip /ənˈzɪp/ verb to undo a zip fastener
(NOTE: unzipping – unzipped)
up /ʌp/ prep 1. in or to a high place ○ Put your
hands up above your head. ○ What’s the
cut doing up there on the cupboard? (NOTE:
up is often used after verbs: to keep up, to
turn up) 2. to a higher position ○ His tem-
perature went up suddenly. ○ The price of
petrol seems to go up every week. 3. not in
bed ○ The children were still up when they
should have been in bed. ○ They stayed up all
night watching films on TV. ○ He got up at
six because he had an early train to catch.
○ It’s past eight o’clock – you should be up by
now. 4. towards the north ○ I’ll be going up
to Scotland next week. 5. in London ○ Give
me a call next time you’re up in town. ○ I’m
up in London next week for a meeting. 6.
completely, entirely ○ The puddles dried up
quickly in the sun. 7. ○ the road is up the
road is being repaired 8. happening in an un-
pleasant or dangerous way ○ Something’s up
– the engine has stopped! ○ what’s up?
what’s the matter? ○ what’s up with him?
what is the matter with him? ○ What’s up
with the cat? – It won’t eat anything. ■ prep
1. in or to a high place ○ They ran up the
stairs. ○ She doesn’t like going up ladders. 2.
along ○ Go up the street to the traffic lights
and then turn right. 3. ○ The house is about two
hundred metres up the road. 4. verb 1. to
raise prices etc. ○ They upped their offer to
£1000. 2. to stand up, to get up ○ She upped
and left him when she heard he had been
seen with her best friend. (NOTE: upping –
upped) ■ noun ▲ the ups and downs of life
in the army the good and bad times in army
life
up-and-coming /əp ən ˈkʌmɪŋ/ adj
becoming fashionable and likely to succeed
up and down /əp ən ˈdaʊn/ prep adv in one direction, then in the opposite direc-
tion ○ The policeman was walking up and
down in front of the bank. ○ She looked up
and down the street but couldn’t see her little
boy. ■ noun ▲ ups and downs the times of
good luck and bad luck ○ His book describes
the ups and downs of life in a circus. ■ up and running /əp ən ˈrʌnɪŋ/ adv
working
upbeat /əpˈbɪt/ adj feeling optimistic and
happy (informal) ○ The conference ended on
a very upbeat note. ○ We’re all very upbeat
about the potential sales of the new model. ■
noun the beat of a conductor’s baton at the
end of a bar ▶ Antonym (all senses)
downbeat
upbringing /ˈʌprɪnɪŋ/ noun the way a child is brought up
upcoming /ˈʌpkwəmɪŋ/ adj approaching soon, forthcoming
update noun /ˈʌpdeɪt/ the latest information ○ The manager gave us an update on the latest sales figures. □ verb /ʌpˈdeɪt/ to add the latest information to something so that it is quite up-to-date ○ She was asked to update the telephone list. ○ The figures are updated annually. ○ They have updated their guidebook to Greece to include current prices.
upend (ʌpˈend/ verb to turn something over on its end
up for /ʌp fɔːr/ prep 1. ready for ○ My house insurance is up for renewal. 2. up for sale on sale, going to be sold ○ He’s put his flat up for sale.
up front (ʌp ˈfrʌnt/ adv in advance ○ money up front payment in advance ○ They are asking for £100,000 up front before they will consider the deal. ○ We had to put money up front before we could get them to sign the deal.
upgrade verb /ʌpˈgreɪd/ 1. to improve the quality or performance of something such as a computer ○ She has upgraded her computer. 2. to put someone into a more important job ○ His job has been upgraded to senior manager. □ noun /ʌpˈgreɪd/ software or equipment that will make a computer system more powerful or up to date
upheaval /ˈʌpəhev(ə)l/ noun a great change
uphill adj /ʌpˈhɪl/ going upwards; difficult ○ From here the road is uphill all the way to the house. ○ He faces an uphill struggle to get elected. □ adv /ʌpˈhɪl/ upwards ○ At my age, I can’t walk uphill very far without stopping to get my breath back.
uphold (ʌpˈhould/ verb 1. to uphold the law to make sure that laws are obeyed 2. to reject an appeal and support an earlier judgement ○ The appeal court upheld the decision of the lower court. [NOTE: upholding – up·held (ʌpˈhould/]
upholsterer /ʌpˈhɒlstərə/ noun a person who covers furniture with cloth or leather
upholstery /ˌʌp.hɒlstərɪ/ noun 1. the work of covering furniture such as chairs with padded seats and covers ○ He has an upholstery shop, repairing old chairs and sofas. 2. covers for chairs; padded seats and cushions ○ The upholstery matches the colour scheme in the sitting-room.
upkeep /ˈʌpkiːp/ noun 1. the cost and process of keeping property such as a house, garden or car in good order ○ We’re forced to sell the house because its upkeep is so expensive. ○ I’m responsible for the upkeep of the garden. 2. the cost of paying for children’s clothes, food, etc. ○ Their father is supposed to pay for their upkeep. ○ How much are you getting from your ex-husband for the upkeep of the children? (NOTE: no plural)
upland /ˈʌplænd/ noun a mountainous area of a country ○ Heather is common in upland areas. Synonym moorland. Antonym lowland
uplift /ˈʌplɪft/ noun a sudden optimistic feeling
uplifting /ˈʌplɪftɪŋ/ adj which makes you feel in a better mood. Synonym inspiring. Antonym depressing
upload /ʌpˈlɔːd/ verb to send information or programs from your computer to a larger system, e.g. over the Internet. Antonym download
up-market /ˈʌpmɑːkɪt/ adj more expensive, appealing to the wealthy section of the market. Antonym down-market
upon (ʌp ˈpɒn/ prep 1. on ○ The church was built upon a grassy hill. 2. imminent, likely to happen soon ○ The summer holidays will soon be upon us again.
upper (ʌp ˈpɜːr/ adj 1. higher or further up ○ The upper slopes of the mountain are covered in snow. ○ He had a rash on his right upper arm. 2. more important ○ the upper forms (in a school) classes with older pupils ○ noun the top part of a shoe ○ a pair of shoes with leather uppers and man-made soles
upper case /ˈʌpə kɛs/ noun (in printing) capital letters. Antonym lower case
upper-class /ˈʌpə ˈklaːs/ adj referring to the highest class in society ○ He speaks with an upper-class accent. ○ She comes from a very upper-class family. Synonym aristocratic
upper hand /ˈʌpə hænd/ noun a more powerful position than someone else. Synonym advantage
uppermost /ˈʌpəmɔːst/ adj 1. highest ○ The birds are nesting in the uppermost branches of the apple tree. 2. most important ○ Which plan has the uppermost significance for you? ○ what is uppermost in your mind the subject you think about most ○ When I see these youngsters taking their exams, I wonder what is uppermost in their minds. □ adv in the top position ○ Carry the box with this side uppermost. ○ Which side of the painting should be uppermost?
upright /ˈʌprɪt/ adj standing straight up, vertical ○ He got dizzy as soon as he stood upright. ○ Put the backs of your seats into the upright position for landing. ○ She picked up the vase and placed it upright on the table. □ noun 1. a vertical post ○ The goalkeeper was leaning against one of the uprights. 2. a piano with a vertical body. Compare grand
uprising /ˈaːprəzɪŋ/ noun a rebellion or revolt. Synonym rebellion

upriver /ˈɑːprɪvər/ adv. adj. (moving) towards the source of a river, against the flow of the current

up roar /ˈɑːprɔːr/ noun 1. a loud noise. Antonym quiet 2. angry criticism by a lot of people ○ There was an uproar over the increase in fares.

upproarious /ɑːpˈtrɪəriəs/ adj noisy with laughter. Synonym hilarious

upproariously /ɑːpˈtrɪəriəli/ adv noisily

uproot /ɑːpˈrʊt/ verb 1. to pull a plant out of the ground with its roots ○ Everywhere you could see trees uprooted by the storm. 2. to make a family move to a totally new area ○ Families were uprooted from their homes and taken to camps many miles away.

upset adj /ˈæpset/ 1. very worried, unhappy, anxious ○ His parents get upset if he comes home late. 2. slightly ill ○ She is in bed with an upset stomach. ■ noun /ˈæpset/ 1. a slight illness 2. an unexpected defeat ○ There was a major upset in the tennis tournament when the number three seed was beaten in the first round. ■ verb /ˈæpset/ 1. to knock something over ○ He upset all the coffee cups. 2. to make someone worried or unhappy ○ Don’t upset your mother by telling her you’re planning to go to live in Russia.

upshot /ˈæpʃɒt/ noun a result

upsidedown /ˈʌpsaidən/ noun the positive side of a situation. Antonym downside

upside down /ˈʌpsaid daʊn/ adv 1. with the top underneath ○ Don’t turn the box upside down – all the papers will fall out. ○ The car shot off the road and ended up upside down in a ditch. ○ Bats were hanging upside down from the branches. 2. in disorder ○ While he was out someone had run-sacked his room, turning the place upside down.

upstage /ˈʌpstreɪdʒ/ adv to or at the back of the stage ○ The hero moves upstage and hides behind a tree. Antonym downstage ■ verb to take attention away from someone who should be more important ○ In last night’s performance, the prima ballerina was completely upstaged by the youngest dancer.

upstairs /ˈʌpstreɪz/ adv on or to the upper part of something, e.g. a building or bus ○ She ran upstairs with the letter. ○ I left my glasses upstairs. ○ Let’s go upstairs onto the top deck – you can see London much better. ■ adj on the upper floors of a building ○ We have an upstairs kitchen. ○ We let the one of the upstairs offices to an accountant. ■ noun the upper floors of a building ○ The upstairs of the house needs decorating.

upstanding /ˈɑːpˈstændɪŋ/ adj strong and honest. Antonym degenerate

upstart /ˈɑːpstaːrt/ noun an inexperienced person who has just started a job and feels he knows everything about it. Synonym nobody

upstate /ˈɑːpstæt/ adj US in the northern part of a state

upstream /ˈɑːpstrɛm/ adv. adj (moving) towards the source of a river, against the flow of the current ○ The ship was sailing upstream from the Atlantic towards the Great Lakes. ○ The river has been polluted somewhere upstream.

upsurge /ˈɑːpsədʒ/ noun a sudden increase. Antonym decrease

uptake /ˈɑːptək/ noun slow or quick on the uptake slow or quick to understand

uptight /ˈɑːptʃɪt/ adj nervous and angry (informal). Synonym tense. Antonym calm

upwards /ˈɑːpwaːdz/ adv 1. as many as ○ The lift will take up to six people. 2. □ what are you up to these days? ○ what are you doing these days? 3. capable of doing something ○ It’s a very demanding job and I wonder if she’s up to it.

up to date /ˈɑːp tə ˈdeɪt, ˌʌp-təˈdeɪt/ adv with the latest information ○ I keep myself up to date on the political situation by reading the newspaper every day. ■ adj modern, with very recent information ○ I don’t have an up to date timetable.

up to the minute /ˈɑːp tə ˈdʒiːtʃ, ˌʌp-təˈdʒiːtʃ/ adj very recent

uptown /ˈɑːptɔʊn/ adv US in or to the outer residential parts of a town

upturn /ˈɑːptɔrn/ noun a movement towards higher sales or profits. Synonym improvement

upturned /ˈɑːptɜːnd/ adj pointing upwards ○ an upturned collar

upward /ˈɑːpwaːd/ adv moving towards a higher level ○ The spacecraft’s engines generated enormous upward thrust. ■ adv US same as upwards

upwards /ˈɑːpwaːdz/ adv 1. towards the top ○ The path went upwards for a mile then levelled off. 2. □ upwards of more than ○ Upwards of a thousand people answered the advertisement. (NOTE: all senses) The US term is upward.

uranium /juːˈræniəm/ noun a radioactive metal used in producing atomic energy

urban /ˈɜːbən/ adj 1. referring to towns ○ They enjoy an urban lifestyle. 2. living in towns ○ The urban fox has become a menace in parts of London.

urbane /ˈɜːbən/ adj having an easy relaxed manner
urbanisation /ˌɔːbənəˈzɪʃən/, urbanization n noun the act of urbanising an area. Synonym urban development
urban sprawl /ˌɔːbən ’sprɔːl/ noun an area covered by an irregular spread of houses built over what formerly was countryside. Synonym urbanisation
urge /ɜːrdʒ/ noun a strong wish to do something o She felt an urge to punch him on the nose. Synonym need  verb 1. to advise someone strongly to do something o He urged her to do what her father said. o I would urge you to vote for the proposal. o Our lawyer urged us to be careful and avoid breaking the law. 2. to urge someone on to encourage someone to do better or to do more o The runners were urged on by their supporters.
urgency /ɜːrdʒənsi/ noun the fact of being very important or needing to be done quickly o there’s no great urgency there’s no need to rush 3 urgent /ɜːrdʒənt/ adj which is important and needs to be done quickly o He had an urgent message to go to the police station. o She had an urgent operation. o The leader of the council called an urgent meeting. o This parcel is urgent and needs to get there tomorrow.
urgently /ɜːrdʒəntli/ adv needed immediately.
urinal /juˈrɪnɔːl/ noun 1. a place where men can go to pass waste liquid from the body o There’s a public urinal at the corner of the street. 2. a bowl to catch waste liquid passed from the body by men o The men’s room is very modern, with stainless steel urinals.
urinate /juːrɪneɪt/ verb to pass waste liquid from the body
urination /juoʊrɪˈneɪʃən/ noun the act of passing urine out of the body
urine /juːrɪn/ noun a yellowish liquid which is passed out of the body, containing water and waste matter
URL abbr Uniform Resource Locator
urn (ərn)n noun a very large vase
us /əs, ʌs/ object pron 1. meaning me and other people o Mother gave us each 50p to buy ice cream. o Who’s there? – It’s us! o The company did well last year – the management have given us a bonus. 2. let us or let’s have a go let me have a go (referring to me alone)
usable /ˈjuːzəb(ə)l/ adj which can be used
usage /ˈjuːzɪdʒ/ noun 1. a custom; a way of doing things o It still is the usage in France to shake hands when you meet someone. 2. a way of using a word o It is a technical term that is now in common usage. o The book clearly explains common legal terms and their usage. 3. the way something is used o The shampoo is for normal usage. o With constant usage, you can expect the machine to need replacing every two years.
use /juːz/ 1. a purpose, usefulness o Can you find any use for this piece of cloth? 2. the fact of being used o The coffee machine has been in daily use for years. 3. the possibility of using something o Room 51 has no bathroom, but you have the use of the bathroom next door. o The lounge is for the use of the hotel guests. o Don’t worry, he’ll soon recover the use of his arm. o I have the use of a computer. 4. the fact of being useful o He kept the old chair, thinking it might be of use some day. o What’s the use of telling the children to shut up – they never do what I say. o It’s no use just waiting and hoping that someone will give you a job. 5. to make use of something to use something o He didn’t make use of his phrase book once. o You should make more use of your bicycle.
verb /juːz/ 1. to take something such as a tool and do something with it o Did you use a sewing machine to make your curtains? o The car’s worth quite a lot of money – it’s hardly been used. o Do you know how to use a computer? o Can I use this knife for cutting meat? 2. to take a service o Guests used the fire escape to get out of the building. o She used the money she had saved to pay for a trip to Greece. o I don’t use the underground much because I can walk to the office. o We use second-class mail for all our correspondence. 3. to take a substance and do something with it o Don’t use the tap water for drinking. o Does this computer use much petrol? o Turn down the heating – we’re using too much gas. 4. to take advantage of someone o He works every evening until late – I think they’re just using him.
used /juːzd/ adj which is not new o a shop selling used clothes o a used-car salesman
verb /juːzd/ 1. to work in London, He didn’t use to work in London or He used not to work in London, Didn’t he use to work in London? (NOTE: The forms used in the negative and questions: He used to work in London, He didn’t use to work in London or He used not to work in London, Didn’t he use to work in London?)
useful /juːzfl/ adj who or which can help you do something o I find these scissors very useful for opening letters. o She’s a very useful person to have in the office. o to make yourself useful to do something to help
usefulness /juːˈsɪflzɪnɪs/ noun how useful something is

useless /ˈjuːz(ə)l/ adj which is not useful

we’re useless at numbers she is no good at mathematics

user /ˈjuːzə/ noun a person who uses a tool or a service

road users people, e.g. motorists and cyclists, who uses the road

user-friendly /ˈjuːzəˌfrendli/ adj easy to use without special training. Synonym accessible

username /ˈjuːzn/ noun a name which you use when operating a computer program

user’s guide /ˈjuːzə geoʊd/ user’s handbook /ˈjuːzə hændbʊk/ noun a book showing someone how to use something

use up /ˈjuːz ʌp/ verb to use all of something. Synonym expend

usher /ˈjuːʃə/ noun a man who shows people to their seats in a cinema or at a wedding

usherette /ˈjuːʃərɛt/ noun a woman who shows people to their seats in a cinema (dated)

usher in /ˈjuːʃən/ verb 1. to bring someone in. They were ushered into the chairman’s office. 2. to be the beginning of. The end of the war ushered in a period of great prosperity.

usual /ˈjuːʒuəl/ adj 1. which is done or used often. She took her usual bus to the office. 2. At the usual time, usual place. His usual practice is to get up at 6.30 and run round the park. 3. The usual hours of work are from 9.30 to 5.30. 4. As usual as is normal, in the usual way. The post was late today as usual. 5. As usual, it rained for the school sports day. 6. Business as usual everything still working in the usual way in spite of difficulties. Although their warehouse burnt down within 24 hours it was business as usual. 7. A noun a drink or food which someone has most often in a restaurant, pub or café. A pint of the usual, please.

Will you have your usual, sir?

usually /ˈjuːʒuəli/ adv very often. Synonym normally. Antonym exceptionally

usurp /ˈjuːzəræp/ verb to take and use a right which is not yours, especially to take the throne from a king

usurper /ˈjuːzəræpə/ noun a person who usurps power

uterus /ˈjuːtərəs/ noun the hollow organ in a woman’s body where a fertilised egg is lodged and an unborn baby is carried (technical). Synonym womb

utilisation /juːtɪˈleɪʃən/, utilization noun the act of making use of something

utilise /juːtɪˈlaɪzə/ utilize verb to make use of something

utilitarian /juːˈtɪlɪtɪəriən/ adj used for a practical purpose and not for decoration. Antonym useless

utility /juːˈtɪləti/ noun how useful something is

utility room /ˈjuːtɪлəti ruːm/ noun a room in a house where you put such machines as the washing machine and the freezer

utmost /ˈʌtmɔʊst/ adj the greatest that can be. It is of utmost importance that the police he kept informed. The situation is of the utmost urgency. noun the greatest action possible. They did their utmost to save the children from the fire.

utopia /juːˈtɒpiə/ noun an imaginary perfect world

utopian /juːˈtɒpiən/ adj very perfect, but not at all practical. Synonym ideal

utter /ˈʌtər/ adj complete or total. The exhibition was an utter waste of time. He’s an utter fool. Synonym absolute verb to speak; to make a sound. She only uttered a few words during the whole evening.

utterance /ˈʌtərəns/ noun something which is said

utterly /ˈʌtəli/ adv completely

U-turn /ˈjuː tɜːrn/ noun 1. the act of turning round to go back in the opposite direction. The police car did or made a U-turn and went back to the hotel. 2. A complete change in policy. Synonym about-turn verb to do a U-turn to change policy completely. The papers were surprised at the government’s U-turn on defence expenditure. The government has done a complete U-turn on pensioners’ rights. 3. The council did a U-turn and passed the development plan for the town centre.

uvula /ˈjuːvələ/ noun a piece of soft tissue which hangs down at the back of the mouth
signs saying ‘No vacancies’.

vaccinate /ˈvækɪneɪt/ verb to make someone immunised against a disease.

vacation /ˈvækəʃən/ noun a period when a family or university go away from work or study.

vagrant /ˈvæɡrənt/ noun a person who travels from place to place with no home.

vagaries /ˈvæɡərɪz/ plural noun unpredictable change of mood or ideas.

vagina /ˈvæɡ(ə)neɪə/ noun a passage in a female body through which a baby is born.

vain /veɪn/ adj 1. which does not succeed. 2. in vain without any success.

vainly /veɪnli/ adv without any success.

vacation /ˈvækəʃən/ noun a period when a family or university go away from work or study.

vacate /ˈvækət/ verb to leave something empty.

to vacate the premises to leave a building so that it is empty.

vacant /ˈvækənt adj 1. empty, available for you to use.

vacuum /ˈvækjuəm/ noun a type of bottle which keeps liquids hot or cold.

vacuum cleaner /ˈvækjuəm klɪnər/ noun a machine which cleans by sucking up dust.

vacuum flask /ˈvækjuəm flɑsks/ noun a type of bottle which keeps liquids hot or cold.

vacation /ˈvækəʃən/ noun a period when a family or university go away from work or study.

Valentine /ˈvæləntaɪn/ noun 1. a valentine (card) a card sent to someone you love
valiant /ˈveɪliənt/ adj brave. Synonym brave. Antonym cowardly

valid /ˈveɪld/ adj 1. which is acceptable because it is true o That is not a valid argument or excuse. o She made several valid points in her speech. 2. which can be lawfully used for a time o Travellers must have a valid ticket before boarding the train. o I have a season ticket which is valid for one year. o He was carrying a valid passport.

validate /ˈveɪldɪt/ verb 1. to check to see if something is correct o The document has to be validated by the bank. 2. to make something valid o The ticket has to be stamped to validate it. 3. to certify officially that something is acceptable o The new course has not yet been validated by the academic board.

validation /ˌveɪldʒəʃən/ noun the act of certifying that something is acceptable.

validity /ˈveɪldətɪ/ noun 1. the truth of something o The police questioned the validity of her confession. 2. the fact of being valid o a period of validity the length of time for which a ticket or document can be used lawfully o My visa for China has a thirty-day period of validity.

valley /ˈveɪlɪ/ noun a long piece of low land through which a river runs o Fog forms in the valleys at night. o A lot of computer companies are based in the Thames Valley. Antonym hill

valour /ˈveɪluər/ noun courage, especially in wartime (NOTE: The US spelling is valor.)

valuable /ˈveɪljʊəbl/ adj 1. worth a lot of money o Be careful, that glass is valuable! o The burglars stole everything that was valuable. 2. useful or helpful o She gave me some very valuable advice.

valuables /ˈveɪljʊəblz/ plural noun items which are worth a lot of money o You can deposit valuables in the hotel safe.

valuation /ˌveɪljʊəˈveɪʃən/ noun 1. an estimate of the worth of something o A £350 valuation for this ring is much too low. 2. the act of estimating the worth of something o At the end of a financial year, we have to do a stock valuation. o We asked for a valuation of the property or for a property valuation.

value /ˈveɪljʊəl/ noun 1. an amount of money which something is worth o the fall in the value of the yen o He imported goods to the value of £500. o Items of value can be deposited in the hotel safe overnight. o to rise in value to become worth more o to fall in value to become worth less o Houses have fallen in value in some parts of the country. o good value (for money) a bargain, something which is worth the price paid for it o That restaurant gives value for money. o Holidays in Italy are good value because of the exchange rate. 2. a quantity shown as a number o What is the pressure value at the moment? 3. of practical value useful o The gadget is of no practical value at all.

value added tax /ˈveɪljʊəd tæks/ noun a tax on goods and services, added as a percentage to the invoiced sales price. Abbrev VAT

valueless /ˈveɪljʊəl/ adj which has no value. Synonym insignificant

valuer /ˈveɪljʊə/ noun a person who estimates the value of property

values /ˈveɪljʊzl/ plural noun principles, important things in life o He’s a believer in traditional family values.

valve /ˈveɪlv/ noun 1. a device in a tube in a machine which allows air or liquid to pass through in one direction only. o A flap in the heart or other organ which opens and closes to allow liquid to pass in one direction only.

vampire /ˈvæmpər/ noun an evil person who supposedly sucks blood from his or her victims.

van /ˈvæn/ noun a covered goods vehicle o A delivery van ran into the back of my car. o Our van will call this afternoon to pick up the goods.

vandal /ˈvændəl/ noun a person who takes pleasure in destroying property, especially public property. Synonym criminal

vandalise /ˈvændəlais/ verb to destroy property for no reason at all.

vandalism /ˈvændəlzəm/ noun the meaningless destruction of property. Synonym damage

vanguard /ˈvæŋɡərd/ noun 1. the front part of an army o The vanguard should reach the capital within a few days. 2. in the vanguard in the front of a movement o We are in the vanguard of the operations to control drug smuggling.

vanilla /ˈvæniəl/ noun a flavouring made from the seed pods of a tropical plant

vanish /ˈvænɪʃ/ verb to disappear suddenly o The magician made the rabbit vanish. o to vanish into thin air to disappear completely

Valentine’s Day

on Valentine’s Day o He sent her a valen-
tine. 2. the person you say you love particu-
larly (old) o He asked her to be his Valentine.

Valentine’s Day /ˈveɪleɪtanz deɪ/ noun 14th February, a day when people send cards and flowers to loved ones.

valet /ˈveɪlət/ noun 1. a servant who looks after a man’s clothes. 2. a person who parks your car at a restaurant or hotel.

valiant /ˈveɪlɪənt/ adj brave. Synonym brave.

valiantly /ˈveɪlɪəntli/ adv bravely.

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vanilla /ˈvæniəl/ noun a flavouring made from the seed pods of a tropical plant

vanish /ˈvænɪʃ/ verb to disappear suddenly o The magician made the rabbit vanish. o to vanish into thin air to disappear completely.
vanishing point /ˌvænɪŋ ˈpɔɪnt/ noun 1. a point in a picture where lines appear to meet at the horizon 2. a point where something disappears completely. Profits have fallen to vanishing point.

vanity /ˈvænəti/ noun 1. the fact of being excessively proud of your appearance, feeling that you are very handsome or beautiful. a. to tickle your vanity to make you amused and proud. b. Her constant phone calls rather tickled his vanity.

vanquish /ˈvæŋkwɪʃ/ verb to defeat a person or an army (literary). Synonym defeat

vantage point /ˈvæntɪdʒ ˈpɔɪnt/ noun a place from which you can see well

vaudeville /vɔdəˈvɪl/ noun 1. a different type of entertainment which includes several different short performances by different types of entertainers such as singers, conjurers and ventriloquists. (NOTE: The US term is vaudeville.)

various /ˈvəriəs/ adj different. a. The shop sells goods from various countries. b. I'll be out of the office today – I have to see various suppliers.

variously /ˈvəriəslɪ/ adv in different ways

varnish /ˈvɑrnɪʃ/ noun 1. a liquid which when painted on something gives it a shiny surface. 2. to paint something with a liquid varnish, to give a shiny surface to something. Can you varnish our front door?

vay /ˈværi/ verb 1. to change what you do often. a. It will help your digestion if you vary your diet.

various /ˈvəriəs/ adj different. a. Prices of flats vary from a few thousand pounds to millions.

vase /vɑːz/ noun a container used for cut flowers, or simply for decoration

vaudville /vɔdəˈvɪl/ noun 1. a different type of entertainment which includes several different short performances by different types of entertainers such as singers, conjurers and ventriloquists. (NOTE: The US term is vaudeville.)

variegated /ˈvɛərɪɡətɪd/ adj marked in contrasting colours. Synonym spotted.
jump a pole vault a leap over a high bar, using a pole to swing you up ○ He won the pole vault for the first time. ■ verb to jump over something by putting one hand on it to steady yourself or by using a pole ○ He vaulted over the fence and ran across the garden.

VCR abbr video cassette recorder

VDD abbr venereal disease (dated)

VDU abbr visual display unit

vee /viː/ short form have

veal /vɛl/ noun meat from a calf

veer /vɪər/ verb 1. to turn in a direction suddenly ○ The car suddenly veered to the right and crashed through a wall. ○ She veered away from the main road into a little lane. 2. to change plans or ideas ○ The government seems to be veering towards the left. 3. (of the wind) to change direction ○ The wind suddenly veered to the south.

veg /vɛdʒ/ noun vegetables (informal) ○ meat and two veg a traditional lunch with roast meat served with two sorts of vegetables

vegan /ˈvɪʒən/ noun a person who does not eat meat, dairy produce, eggs or fish, but only eats vegetables and fruit

vegetable /ˈvɛdʒtəbl/ noun a plant grown to be eaten, but not usually sweet ○ We grew potatoes, carrots and other sorts of vegetables in the garden. ○ The soup of the day is vegetable soup. ○ Green vegetables are a good source of dietary fibre.

vegetable oil /ˈvɛdʒtəb(ə)l/ oil noun oil which is extracted from plants

vegetarian /ˈvɛdʒtəriən/ noun a person who eats only fruit, vegetables, bread, eggs, etc., but does not eat meat, and usually not fish ○ Our children are all vegetarians. ○ to be a strict vegetarian not to eat any animal products, including eggs and milk ■ adj not eating meat ○ a vegetarian dish ○ He is on a vegetarian diet. ○ She asked for the vegetarian menu.

vegetate /ˈvɛdʒtet/ verb to live like a vegetable, not moving or doing anything

vegetation /ˈvɛdʒteʃ(ə)n/ noun plants (NOTE: no plural)

veggie /ˈvɛdʒi/ noun (informal) 1. a vegetable ○ 2. a vegetable

veehment /ˈvɪzəmənt/ adj forceful. Antonym apathetic

vehemently /ˈvɪzəməntli/ adv very strongly, forcefully

vehicle /ˈvɪərk(ə)l/ noun a machine which carries passengers or goods, e.g. a car, lorry or bus ○ a three-wheeled vehicle ○ Goods vehicles can park at the back of the building.

vehicular /vəˈhɪkjʊəl/ adj referring to vehicles

veil /vɛl/ noun 1. a light cloth which can cover a woman’s head or face ○ At the funeral she wore a hat with a black veil. ○ The bride lifted her veil as she came out of the church. ○ to take the veil to become a nun ○ She took the veil when she was twenty-three. 2. ○ to draw a veil over something not to mention something which is wrong or unpleasant ○ I think we had better draw a veil over her attempts to pass her driving test. 3. something which stops you seeing or understanding ○ A veil of mist lay over the valley. ○ A veil of secrecy has prevented us finding out what really happened. ■ verb to cover something, as if with a veil ○ The moon was veiled by clouds. ○ The whole affair is veiled in mystery.

veiled /vɛld/ adj partly hidden

vein /vɛn/ noun 1. a small tube in the body which takes blood from the tissues back to the heart ○ The veins in her legs are swollen. 2. a mood shown in speaking or writing ○ He went on in the same vein for twenty minutes. ○ in poetic vein feeling poetic 3. a thin tube forming part of the structure of a leaf ○ The veins are easily seen if you hold the leaf up to the light. 4. a thin layer of mineral in rock ○ They struck a vein of gold. (NOTE: Do not confuse with vain.)

Velcro /ˈvɛlkrəʊ/ trademark a material with stiff fibres which cling tight when pressed together ○ Her sandals have Velcro straps. ○ The rucksack fastens with Velcro.

velocity /vɛlˈsɪti/ noun speed

velvet /ˈvɛlvət/ noun a cloth made from silk, with a soft pile surface on one side

velvety /ˈvɛlvəti/ adj soft and smooth like velvet

vendetta /ˈvɛndətə/ noun a private quarrel between families or persons

vendor /ˈvɛndər/ noun a person who sells a property (formal) ○ The vendor’s solicitor is trying to get the purchaser to hurry up.

veneer /ˈvedər/ noun 1. a thin layer of expensive wood glued to the surface of ordinary wood ○ The table has a mahogany veneer. 2. a veneer of something a thin layer of something which hides your real feelings ○ His veneer of politeness soon disappeared as the old lady asked more and more questions. ■ verb to cover wood with a veneer ○ The table is veneered in oak.

venerable /ˈvɛnərəbl/ adj very old and likely to be respected. Antonym disrespectful

venerate /ˈvɛnəreɪt/ verb to respect someone or something greatly. Synonym revere. Antonym disrespect

veneration /ˈvɛnərəʃ(ə)n/ noun great respect. Synonym worship. Antonym disdain ○ to hold someone or something in veneration to respect someone or something greatly
venereal disease

○ The people hold their president in
veneration.

venereal disease /və'nɪrərɪəl dɪˈzɪz/ noun a disease transmitted during sexual intercourse (dated). Abbr: VD

venetian blind /və'nɛtʃən/ noun a blind to shut out light, made of horizontal strips, e.g. of plastic or wood, which can be opened or shut or raised and lowered by pulling a string

vengeance /vɛndʒəns/ noun 1. harm caused to someone in return for harm he or she has caused you ○ He has vowed to exact vengeance for the wrong done to his family. ○ She is seeking vengeance for the killing of her child. 2. with a vengeance very strongly (informal) ○ The rain came down again with a vengeance.

veneful /vɛndʒəfl/ adj eager to have revenge on someone. Synonym vindictive. Antonym merciful

venison /vɛnɪs(ə)n/ noun meat from a deer (NOTE: no plural)

venom /vɛnəm/ noun 1. poison, e.g. from the bite of a snake ○ The venom of certain snakes may cause paralysis. 2. bitter hatred ○ The venom in her reply was obvious.

venomous /vɛnəˈməs/ adj, with poison in its bite ○ This snake is particularly venomous. ○ She was bitten by a venomous spider.

vent /vɛnt/ noun 1. a hole through which air or gas can escape ○ The gas heater is connected to a vent in the wall. 2. to give vent to an emotion to let an emotion come out ○ When the crowd heard the news they gave vent to their feelings. 3. a slit in the back of a coat or jacket allowing you to sit down more easily ○ He always wears jackets with double vents. 4. verb to vent your anger on someone to make someone the target of your anger ○ He vented his anger on the poor ticket collector.

ventilate /vɛntɪleɪt/ verb 1. to allow fresh air to come into a place ○ The freshly painted kitchen needs to be ventilated for several hours. ○ Children tend to fall asleep in poorly ventilated classrooms. 2. to discuss a question openly ○ They thoroughly ventilated their worries regarding money.

ventilation /vɛntɪˈleɪʃən/ noun the process of bringing fresh air into a place

ventilator /vɛntɪˈleɪtər/ noun 1. a machine which pumps in fresh air ○ You need to install ventilators in this kitchen. 2. an opening which allows fresh air to come into a building ○ There is a little ventilator in the wall of the bathroom. 3. a machine which pumps air into the lungs of a person who has difficulty in breathing ○ The newborn baby was put on a ventilator.

ventriloquist /vɛntrɪˈloʊkɪst/ noun a person who can make his or her voice appear to come from another place

venture /vɛntʃər/ noun a business or commercial deal which involves risk ○ The venture failed and all the partners lost money. ○ She has started a new venture – a computer shop.

venture capital /vɛntʃər ˈkæpɪt(ə)l/ noun money which you invest in a new business when there is a high risk of failure

venue /vɛnju/ noun an agreed place where an event such as a meeting will be held

verandah /vəˈrændə/ noun a covered terrace along the side of a house

verb /vɜːb/ noun (in grammar) a word which shows an action, being or feeling, such as 'to hit' or 'to thank' which shows an action, being or feeling, such as 'to hit' or 'to thank' ○ In the sentence 'She hit him with her fist' the word 'hit' is a verb.

verbal /vɜːbəl/ adj, spoken, not written down ○ a verbal agreement ○ The head teacher gave the boys a verbal warning.

verbatim /vəˈbætɪm/ adj referring to words, as in printed in the newspaper.

venous /vɛnəs/ adj referring to veins in the body

venture /vɛntʃər/ noun 1. a hole through which air or gas can escape ○ The gas heater is connected to a vent in the wall. 2. to give vent to an emotion to let an emotion come out ○ When the crowd heard the news they gave vent to their feelings. 3. a slit in the back of a coat or jacket allowing you to sit down more easily ○ He always wears jackets with double vents. 4. verb to vent your anger on someone to make someone the target of your anger ○ He vented his anger on the poor ticket collector.

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verifiable /ˈvɜːrəfaɪəbəl/ adj which can be verified. Antonym: moot

verification /ˌvɜːrɪfɪˈkeɪʃən/ noun the action of verifying something. Synonym: confirmation. Antonym: contradiction

certify /ˈvɜːrɪfai/ verb to check to see if documents or a statement are correct. Synonym: confirm. Antonym: disprove

verifiable /ˈvɜːrəfaɪəbəl/ adj true or real. Synonym: absolute

versatile /ˈvɜːrətɪsl/ adj, noun excellent at doing various things equally well. Synonym: gifted. Antonym: inflexible

vertical /ˈvɜːrtɪkəl/ adj, noun standing or rising straight up. Synonym: upright. Antonym: horizontal

verse /vɜːr/ noun a type of something, e.g. a work of art or model of car. Synonym: type. Antonym: make

versus /ˈvɜːrəs/ prep (in a sports match or a civil court case) against (NOTE: usually written v, sometimes also vs: Manchester United v Arsenal; Smith vs the Inland Revenue)

vertebra /vərˈtəbreə/ noun one of the 24 bones which form the vertebral column or backbone (NOTE: The plural is vertebrae /vərˈtəbreɪ/)

vertebrate /vərˈtəbrət/ noun an animal which has a backbone. Synonym: † adj with a backbone. Can you name any other vertebrate animals besides birds and fish?  ▶ Antonym: invertebrate

vertical /vərˈtɪkl/ adj standing or rising straight up. ▶ He drew a few vertical lines to represent trees. ▶ We looked at the vertical cliff and wondered how to climb it. Antonym: horizontal

verse /vɜːr/ noun poetry, a feeling of enthusiasm, a feeling of liveliness. Synonym: vitality. Antonym: lethargy

very /ˈvɜːri/ intensity or degree. ▶ He refused to sit near the window – he suffers from vertigo. ▶ So sharp comments about her clothes verged on rudeness. ▶ This is the film version of the book. ▶ Some ear conditions may cause vertigo. ▶ A feeling of dizziness felt when high up, especially inside a tall building. ▶ He is on the verge of bankruptcy. ▶ She was on the verge of a nervous breakdown. ▶ He sang all the verses of the National Anthem.

verses /vɜːrs/ plural in this meaning)

vessel /ˈvɛsəl/ noun 1. a container for liquid. ▶ Archaeologists think it was a form of ancient drinking vessel. 2. a ship. ▶ Vessels from all countries crowded into the harbour.

vest /vɛst/ noun 1. a light piece of underclothing for the top half of the body. ▶ He wears a thick vest in winter. ▶ If you don’t have a clean vest, wear a T-shirt instead.
vested interest 2. US a short coat with buttons and without any sleeves, which is worn over a shirt and under a jacket ○ He wore a pale gray vest with a black jacket. (NOTE: The British term is waistcoat.)

vested interest /ˈvestɪd/ noun a special interest in keeping an existing state of affairs

vestibule /ˈvestɪbjuːl/ noun an entrance hall to a large building

vestige /ˈvestɪdʒ/ noun remains

vet /vet/ noun a veterinary surgeon (informal) ○ We have to take the cat to the vet. ○ The vet has a surgery in the High Street. ■ verb to check someone or something carefully to see if they are suitable ○ All candidates have to be vetted by the managing director. (NOTE: vetting — vetted)

veteran /ˈvetərən/ noun 1. a member of the armed forces who has fought in a war ○ The veterans visited war graves on the 50th anniversary of the battle. 2. a person who has a lot of experience ○ He is a veteran of many takeover bids. ■ adj who has a lot of experience ○ She’s a veteran war correspondent. ○ The veteran American film director died this week.

veterinarian /ˌvetəˈrɪniərɪən/ noun US same as veterinary surgeon

veterinary /ˌvetəˈrɪniəri/ adj referring to the treatment of sick animals

veterinary surgeon /ˌvetəˈrɪniərɪ ˈsɜːrdʒən/ noun a doctor who specialises in treating animals (NOTE: always shortened to vet when speaking)

veto /ˈvetəʊ/ noun a ban or order not to allow something to become law, even if it has been passed by a parliament ■ verb to forbid something ○ The proposal was vetoed by the president. ○ The council has vetoed all plans to hold protest marches in the centre of town.

vex /vɛks/ verb to make someone annoyed (dated; old)

vexation /ˈvɛksəʃən/ noun the fact of being annoyed. Synonym annoyance

vexatious /ˈvɛksətʃəs/ adj done to annoy someone. Synonym annoying

vexed question /ˈvɛksd ˈkwɛstʃən/ noun a question which is often discussed but which is difficult to solve

VHF abbr very high frequency

VHS abbr video home system

via /vɪə/ prep through ○ We drove to London via Windsor. ○ We are sending the payment via our office in London. ○ The shipment is going via the Suez Canal.

viable /ˈvaɪəbəl/ adj 1. able to work in practice ○ The project is certainly viable. ○ It is no longer viable to extract tin from these mines. ○ not commercially viable not likely to make a profit ○ If we follow his proposals, the project will certainly not be commercially viable. 2. (of a foetus) which can survive if born ○ A foetus is viable after about 28 weeks of pregnancy.

viaduct /vəˈeɪdʌkt/ noun a long bridge carrying a road or railway across a valley

vibe /ˈvaiəb/ noun a particular kind of feeling which you connect with a certain place or person (informal)

vibrate /ˈvəbret/ verb to move slightly, but rapidly and continuously

vicar /ˈvɪkər/ noun (in the Church of England) a priest in charge of a parish

vicarage /ˈvɪkərɪdʒ/ noun a house of a vicar

vicious /ˈvɪʃəs/ adj (of pleasure) experienced because of something someone else does

vice /ˈvaiəs/ noun 1. a wicked way of living, especially involving sex 2. a particular type of wickedness ○ Gluttony is a vice. 3. a bad habit ○ I have all the usual vices — I smoke, I drink, I drive too fast. 4. a tool that screws tight to hold something, so that a workman can work on it (NOTE: The US spelling is vise.)

vice- /ˈvaiəs/ prefix a person who is second in rank to someone

vice-president /ˈvaiəprɛzɪdənt/ noun 1. the deputy to a president 2. US one of the executive directors of a company

vice squad /ˈvaiə skwɔd/ noun a police department dealing with such crimes as prostitution

vice versa /ˈvaiəs ˈvaiəs/ adv the other way from what has just been mentioned

vicinity /ˈvɪsɪnɪtɪ/ noun 1. an area around something ○ The police are searching the vicinity of the lake. 2. in the vicinity nearby ○ Were there any suspicious characters in the vicinity? ○ in the vicinity of something near something ○ The body was found in the vicinity of the church. ○ The price paid was somewhere in the vicinity of £200,000.

vicious /ˈvɪʃəs/ adj cruel and wicked ○ a vicious attack on an elderly lady

vicious circle /ˈvɪʃəs ˈsɜkəl/ noun a situation in which by trying to solve one problem you find yourself in another which is worse than the first

victim /ˈvɪktɪm/ noun a person who is attacked, who is in an accident ○ The victims of the train crash were taken to the local
victimisation /ˈvɪktɪmətɪʃən/ noun the action of victimising someone. Synonym persecution
victimise /ˈvɪktɪmaɪzə/ verb to treat someone more unfairly than others. Synonym victimize
victor /ˈvɪktər/ noun a person who wins a fight, game or battle. Antonym loser
Victorian /ˈvɪktəriən/ adj referring to the reign of Queen Victoria (1837–1901) • They live in a Victorian house. • a person living at the time of Queen Victoria • He wrote the biography of several eminent Victorians.
victorious /ˈvɪktəriəs/ adj having won a game or a battle
victory /ˈvɪktəri/ noun the fact of winning something, e.g. a battle, a fight or a game • the American victory in the Olympics • They won a clear victory in the general election. • The guerrillas won a victory over the government troops. Synonym conquest.
Antonym defeat
video /ˈvɪdiəʊ/ noun 1. an electronic system which records, stores and reproduces all kinds of programmes or films for playing back on a television set or VCR 2. a device attached to a TV set, which can be programmed to record TV programmes on videotape and play them back at another time. Abbreviation: VCR
video tape /ˈvɪdiəʊtæp/ noun a magnetic tape on which pictures and sound can be recorded for playing back on a television set
videocassette /ˈvɪdiəʊkæsət/ noun a small cassette containing a videotape
videocassette recorder /ˈvɪdiəʊkæsət rɪˈkɔːdər/ noun a device attached to a TV set, which can be programmed to record TV programmes on videotape and play them back at another time. Abbreviation: VCR
videophone /ˈvɪdiəʊfəʊn/ noun a telephone with a screen where you can see the person you are speaking to
video pirate /ˈvɪdiəʊ ˈpɪrət/ noun someone who organises the illegal copying of videos to make a profit
video pirates /ˈvɪdiəʊ ˈpɪrəts/ plural noun people who organise the illegal copying of videos to make a profit
videorecorder /ˈvɪdiəʊrɪkədər/ noun same as videocassette recorder
vigil /ˈvɪdʒɪl/ noun 1. the act of keeping awake or on guard all night • Nurses kept vigil by her bedside. • the quiet remembrance of someone or something, held at night • They are holding a candlelit vigil for children missing in the war.
vigilance /ˈvɪdʒɪləns/ noun the fact of being on your guard to look out for crimes
vigilant /ˈvɪdʒɪlənt/ adj on guard. Synonym watchful
view /vju/ verb 1. to see, to look at something • They vied with the government troops for the gold medal. • The best students are vying for the scholarship. • a view of something not to think very highly of something • He takes a dim view of members of staff turning up late for work. 4. to have a view of something because of something • In view of the stormy weather, we decided not to go sailing. • with a view to doing something with the aim of doing something (formal) • They bought the shop with a view to converting it into a restaurant. on view exhibited for people to look at • The final-year students’ work is on view in the college art gallery. • verb 1. to watch something • The Queen viewed the procession from a special stand, 2. to consider something • He views the change of government as a disaster for the country.
viewer /ˈvjuər/ noun 1. a person who watches TV • The programme attracted ten million viewers. 2. a small device through which you can look at colour slides • She bought a little viewer to look at her slides.
viewfinder /ˈvjuəfɪndər/ noun a small window in a camera through which you look when taking a picture, and which shows the exact picture you are about to take
viewing /ˈvjuɪŋ/ noun 1. the act of inspecting something such as a house which you are thinking of buying. 2. the act of watching television
view point /ˈvjuːpɔɪnt/ noun a point of view, a particular way of thinking about things
thing was made produces grapes.

side house, usually in a warm country (formal

plays the villain in the pantomime. (NOTE: The US spelling is vigor.)

tively /vɪlɪˈfɛlɪ/ verb to criticise someone, especially unfairly (formal)

illa /ˈvɪlə/ 1. a large country or seaside house, usually in a warm country. He is staying in a villa on the Mediterranean.

They are renting a villa in Greece for August.

2. a smart suburban house. South London is full of streets of Victorian villas.

village /ˈvɪlɪdʒ/ noun a small group of houses in the country, like a little town, often with a church, and usually some shops. They live in a little village in the Swiss Alps.

The village shop sells just about everything we need. Synonym hamlet

village green /ˈvɪlɪdʒ ɡrɪn/ noun a public grassy area in the middle of a village

villager /ˈvɪlɪdʒə/ noun a person who lives in a village

villain /ˈvɪlɪn/ noun 1, a wicked character in a work of art, e.g. a film or novel. He plays the villain in the pantomime. Antonym hero

2. a criminal. The villains must be caught.

villainous /ˈvɪlɪnəs/ adj wicked (literary)

villainy /ˈvɪlɪn/ noun wicked behaviour. Synonym wickedness. Antonym goodness

vindicate /ˈvɪndɪkət/ verb to justify; to show that someone was right

vindication /ˈvɪndɪkeɪʃən/ noun a justification, proof that someone was right

vindictive /ˈvɪndɪkətɪv/ adj wanting to take revenge; spiteful

vine /vain/ noun a climbing plant which produces grapes. Synonym climber

vinegar /ˈvɪnɪɡər/ noun a liquid with a sour taste, made from wine or cider, used in cooking and for pickling

vinegary /ˈvɪnɪɡərɪ/ adj tasting like vinegar

vinyard /ˈvɪnjəd/ noun an area planted with vines for making wine

vintage /ˈvɪntɪdʒ/ 1. a fine wine made in a particular year. A vintage wine. 1993 was a very good vintage. What vintage is it? – It’s a 1968. 2. a year when something was made. adj of typical high quality of a certain person. The film is vintage Laurel and Hardy.

vintage car /ˈvɪntɪdʒ kær/ noun a car made between 1917 and 1930

vinyl /ˈvainɪl/ noun a type of strong plastic sheet which can be made to look like other materials such as leather or tiles

viola /ˈvɪəla/ noun 1. a small fiddle-like garden flower. 2. a stringed instrument slightly larger than a violin. She plays the viola in the city orchestra.

violate /ˈvɪələʊt/ verb 1. to break a rule, to go against the law. The council has violated the planning regulations. The rebels violated the conditions of the peace treaty.

2. to treat something or someone without respect. To violate the sanctity of a church.

violation /ˌvɪələˈleɪʃən/ noun the action of violating something or someone.

violation /ˌvɪələˈleɪʃən/ 1. action which is intended to hurt someone. Acts of violence must be punished.

2. great force. The violence of her reaction surprised everyone.

violent /ˌvɪələnt/ adj 1. very strong. The discussion led to a violent argument. A violent snowstorm blew all night.

2. very severe. He had a violent headache.

3. who commits acts of violence. Her husband was a very violent man.

4. a violent death. A death caused by an act of violence. She died a violent death.

violently /ˌvɪələntli/ adv 1. roughly, with force. This horse threw him violently onto the ground.

2. strongly, with great feeling. She violently rejected the accusations made against her.

3. He reacted violently to the injection.

4. The oysters made her violently sick.

violet /ˈvɪələt/ noun 1. a small wild plant with bluish-purple flowers which have a strong scent. We picked a bunch of violets in the woods.

2. a stringed instrument played with a bow, smaller than the viola.

VIP abbr very important person. The VIP lounge a special room at an airport for important travellers

viper /ˈvɪpər/ noun a small European poisonous snake. Also called adder

viral /ˈvɜːrəl/ adj caused by or referring to a virus

virgin /ˈvɜːdʒɪn/ noun 1. a person who has never had sex. She was a virgin until she was married.

2. the Virgin (in Christian religion) the mother of Jesus Christ. An icon of the Virgin hung beside the altar. adj

virile /vɜːrəl/ adj energetic, strong, vigorous
untouched by humans, in its natural state. Virgin land. Virgin rainforest is being cleared at the rate of 1,000 hectares per month. We walked over fields of virgin snow.

virginal /vəˈdʒɪnl/ adj pure, like a virgin

virginity /ˈvɜrɡənɪti/ noun the fact of being a virgin or to lose your virginity to have sexual intercourse for the first time

Virgo /vɜrˈɡoʊ/ noun one of the signs of the Zodiac, shaped like a girl, covering the period 23rd August to 22nd September

virile /vɪrəl/ adj with strong male characteristics

virility /vɜrˈɪlɪtɪ/ noun manliness; the fact of being virile

virtual /vɜrˈtjuəl/ adj 1. near The company has a virtual monopoly of French wine imports. 2. virtual reclus. 2. generated using a computer, so that it simulates something real

virtually /ˈvɜr tuəli/ adv almost These shirts have been reduced so much that we’re virtually impossible to get tickets for the concert.

virtual reality /vɜrˈtjuəl rˈeələti/ noun the simulation of a real-life scene or real events on a computer

virtue /ˌvɜrˈtjuər/ noun 1. a particular goodness of character, a good quality. Honesty is his principal virtue. 2. a special thing which gives you an advantage. The virtue of the train link to France is that you arrive right in the centre of Paris. 3. by virtue of something as a result of something (formal). He’s eligible for British citizenship by virtue of his father who was born in Newcastle.

virtuoso /vɜrˈtuːsoʊ/ noun a person who is skilled in an art, especially one who can play a musical instrument extremely well (NOTE: The plural is virtuosos or virtuosi /vɜrˈtjuːsəʊ/.)

virtuous /vɜrˈtjuəs/ adj 1. very good or honest. She was a virtuous old lady who never said a bad word against her neighbours. 2. feeling satisfied because you think that you have done something good. There is nothing virtuous about going to the office on Saturday morning – we do it as a matter of course. She said she felt virtuous doing her exercises first thing in the morning. 3. I won’t have any pudding – I’ll be virtuous.

virulent /vɪrəˈlent/ adj 1. (of a form of a disease or an organism) strongly active. The new flu virus is said to be particularly virulent. 2. very harsh. The newspaper carried a virulent attack on the Foreign Minister.

virus /ˈvɜrəs/ noun 1. an organism which can only develop in other cells and often destroys them, causing disease. Scientists have isolated a new flu virus. 2. Shingles is caused by the same virus as chickenpox. 3. a hidden routine placed in a computer program, which corrupts or destroys files. You must check the program for viruses. (NOTE: The plural is viruses.)

visa /ˈviːzə/ noun a special stamp on a passport allowing you to enter a country. A multiple-entry visa is a visa allowing someone to enter a country many times.

vis-à-vis /vɪzə ə vɪz/ prep in relation to

viscous /vɪskəs/ adj thick and slow-moving. Antonym runny

visibility /ˌvɪzəˈbɪləti/ noun an ability to see clearly. Good visibility an ability for things to be seen at long distances because the air is clear. The visibility is so good you can see the tower of the castle at least twenty kilometres away. Poor visibility a situation in which things cannot be seen clearly, e.g. because of fog, rain or smoke. Drivers are recommended to drive slowly because of poor visibility.

visible /ˈvɪzəb(ə)l/ adj which can be seen

visibly /ˈvɪzəbli/ adv in a way which everyone can see

vision /ˈvɪʒən/ noun 1. eyesight, your ability to see. After the age of 50, the vision of many people begins to fail. 2. what you can see from where you are. From the driver’s seat you have excellent all-round vision. 3. an ability to look and plan ahead. Her vision of a free and prosperous society. We need a man of vision as college principal. 4. a thing which you imagine. He had visions of himself stuck in London with no passport and no money. She had visions of him being arrested for drug smuggling. 5. a ghost; a strange sight. She saw a shadow-like vision walking along the castle walls. Tunnel vision, the condition of seeing only the area immediately in front of your eye. 2. the fact of having the tendency to concentrate on only one aspect of a problem

visionary /ˌvɪʒənərɪ/ adj idealistic, with original ideas. His visionary designs influenced a whole generation. A person whose plans are idealistic and original. As a biologist he was a pioneer and a visionary. (NOTE: The plural is visionaries.)

visit /ˈvɪzɪt/ noun a short stay with someone or in a town or a country. They had a visit from the police. We will be making a short visit to London next week. The manager is on a business visit to China. A to pay a visit to a place or person to go and see a place or a person. While we’re in town, let’s
pay a visit to the local museum. We will pay my sister a visit on her birthday. A flying visit is a short time with someone or in a town or country. I am on my way to visit my sister in hospital. They are away visiting friends in the north of the country. The group of tourists are going to visit the glass factory. He spent a week in Scotland, visiting museums in Edinburgh and Glasgow.

visitation /vɪzɪˈteɪʃən/ noun an instance of someone believing that he or she has seen someone.

visit /vɪzɪt/ verb to stay a short time with someone or in a town or country. I am on my way to visit my sister in hospital. They are away visiting friends in the north of the country. The group of tourists are going to visit the glass factory. He spent a week in Scotland, visiting museums in Edinburgh and Glasgow.

visiting /vɪzɪtɪŋ/ adj relating to the act of visiting.

visit one’s friends in the north of the country.

vital /ˈvɪtəl/ adj 1. very important. It is vital that the murderer should be caught. Oxygen is vital to human life. Vitamins are essential for health. 2. vigorous or energetic. His vital energy comes out in his paintings.

vitality /vɪtəlɪtɪ/ noun great energy. Synonym liveliness. Antonym lethargy.

vital organs /vɪtəl ˈɔːrgənz/ plural noun the most important organs in the body, e.g. the heart, lungs and brain, without which a human being cannot live.

vital statistics /vɪtəl ˈstɪstɪks/ plural noun 1. official statistics concerning births, marriages and deaths in a certain area. 2. the measurements of a woman’s bust, waist and hips (informal, as a joke). Her vital statistics are in all the tabloid newspapers.

vivacious /vɪvəˈʃæs/ adj full of life or excitement. Antonym languid.

vivid /ˈvɪvɪd/ adj 1. bright. vivid yellow flowers. 2. very lively or life-like. She has a vivid imagination.

vividly /ˈvɪvɪdlɪ/ adv in a vivid way.

vivisection /vɪvɪsəkʃən/ noun the practice of operating on live animals for the purpose of scientific research.

vixen /ˈvɪksən/ noun a female fox.

V-neck /ˈvɪː nɛk/ noun a piece of clothing, e.g. a dress, or a pullover, with a neck shaped like a V.

vocab /ˈvɑːkəbəl/ noun vocabulary (informal).

vocabulary /vəˈkæbjʊlərɪ/ noun 1. words used by a person or group of persons.

Reading stories to little children helps them expand their vocabulary. She reads a lot of French newspapers to improve her vocabulary.

vocally /ˈvɑːklɪ/ adv in your job.

vocalist /ˈvɑːkəlɪst/ noun a singer, especially in a pop group. Antonym instrumentalist.

vociferous /vəʊˈsɪfərəs/ adj shouting loudly.

vociferously /vəʊˈsɪfərəsli/ adv loudly.
vodka /vʊdka/ noun 1. a strong, colourless alcohol made from grain or potatoes, originally in Russia and Poland. ▶ We talked over a glass of vodka. 2. a glass of this alcohol. ▶ Two vodka and tonics, please. ▶ A couple of vodka, please.
vogue /ˈvɒɡ/ noun the fashion in vogue fashionable ▶ This year, black is back in vogue again.
voice /vɔɪs/ noun 1. a sound made when you speak or sing. ▶ I didn’t recognise his voice over the telephone. ▶ The chairman spoke for a few minutes in a low voice. 2. ▶ to lose your voice not to be able to speak. ▶ She’s got a sore throat and has lost her voice. ▶ to raise your voice to start to shout. ▶ He suddenly said ‘Look at that funny hat!’ at the top of his voice. ▶ to tell what you think. ▶ She voiced her objections to the plan.
voice-activated /ˈvɔɪsəˌækˈtɪv/ adj (of a piece of equipment) operated by the sound of your voice.
voice box /ˈvɔɪs bɔks/ noun the larynx, the upper part of the windpipe, where sounds are made by the voice.
voice mail /ˈvɑːsmɔːl/ noun a type of telephone answering system, where messages can be left for a person.
void /vɔɪd/ adj 1. invalid, which cannot be used lawfully ▶ After the revelations of cheating, the competition was declared void. ▶ The airline voided the contract. 2. ▶ to void something to lack something completely. ▶ The sentence is void of any meaning. ▶ to void emptiness ▶ He tried to fill the void in his life caused by the death of his wife. ▶ She stood on the bridge for a few minutes, looking down into the void. ▶ to void something to make a contract invalid. ▶ Their action had the effect of voiding the contract.
volatile /ˈvɔɪstəˈleɪt/ adj. 1. which can easily change into gas at normal temperatures (of a substance). ▶ canisters of highly volatile liquid petroleum gas. 2. changing your mind or mood frequently. ▶ The voters are very volatile. 3. not stable, likely to move up or down sharply. ▶ a volatile stock market.
vol-au-vent /ˈvɔːl əˌvɛnt/ noun a small pastry case with a savoury mixture inside.
volcanic /vɔlˈkænɪk/ adj referring to volcanoes.
vulcan /vʊlˈkæmən/ noun a mountain which lava, ash and gas may flow out from time to time. (Note: The plural is volcanoes.)
vole /vɔl/ noun a small animal, like a mouse, but with a shorter tail.
volition /ˈvɒliʃ(ə)n/ noun a wish or will. ▶ An antonym coercion ▶ of your own volition because you want to do it, and not because you have been told.
volley /ˈvɔlɪ/ noun 1. a series of shots fired at the same time. ▶ The police fired a volley into the crowd. ▶ Volleys of gunfire could be heard in the distance. 2. (in sport) the act of hitting the ball before it touches the ground. ▶ to volley to hit the ball before it touches the ground. ▶ He volleyed to win the match. Synonym lob.
volleyball /ˈvɒlɪbɔːl/ noun an Olympic sport played on a rectangular court between two teams of six, in which a large inflated ball is hit over a high net with the hands, and the object is to prevent the ball touching the floor of the court.
volt /ˈvɒlt/ noun the standard unit of force for measuring electric force. Abbreviation V
voltage /ˈvɑːltɪdʒ/ noun an electric force expressed in volts.
volume /ˈvɑːljuːm/ noun 1. one book, especially one in a series. ▶ Have you read the third volume of his history of medieval Europe? 2. the capacity, the amount which is contained inside something. ▶ What is the volume of this barrel? 3. the amount of something. ▶ The volume of traffic on the motorway was far more than usual. 4. the amount of sound. ▶ She turned down the volume on the radio. ▶ He drives with the car radio on at full volume.
voluminous /ˈvɔːlmənəs/ adj large; which takes up a lot of space. Synonym big.
voluntarily /ˈvɒlnət(ə)rəli/ adv willingly. ▶ An antonym reluctantly.
voluntary /ˈvɒlnət(ə)rəl/ adj 1. done because you want to do it, and without being paid. ▶ Many retired people do voluntary work. ▶ a voluntary organisation an organisation which does not receive funding from the government but relies on contributions from the public or from business. ▶ VSO 2. done willingly, without being forced. ▶ He made a voluntary contribution to the fund.
volunteer /ˈvɒləntɪr/ noun 1. a person who offers to do something without being paid or being forced to do it. ▶ The school re-
lies on volunteers to help with the sports day.

○ The information desk is manned by volunteers.

2. A soldier who has joined the army willingly, without being forced.

○ The volunteers had two weeks’ intensive training and then were sent to the front line.

1. To offer to do something without being paid or being forced to do it.

○ He volunteered to collect the entrance tickets.

2. To ask people present at a meeting to say something or to vote on a proposal.

○ Will anyone volunteer for the job of washing up?

2. To join the armed services because you want to.

○ I volunteered for the job of washing up.

○ They volunteered a long journey.

2. To do something without being paid or being forced to do it.

○ She volunteered to help with the sports day.

3. A soldier who has joined the army willingly, without being forced.

○ He volunteered for the armed forces.

2. To put a proposal to the vote.

○ What is the vote on a proposal to demolish the old church.

3. To offer to do something without being paid or being forced to do it.

○ She volunteered a statement to the police.

○ The number of votes made by a group of voters.

2. To take a vote on a proposal.

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W

w /ˈdæbljuː/ W noun the twentieth letter of the alphabet, between V and X.

W abbr watt, west

wacky /ˈwækki/ adj crazy or silly (informal). Synonym silly. Antonym conventional (NOTE: wackier – wackiest)

wad /ˈwɔːd/ noun 1. a thick piece of soft material. 2. a thick pile of banknotes or papers. He had a wad of banknotes in his hand. 3. The hole was blocked with a wad of old papers. 3. a thick sandwich

wadding /ˈwɔːdnɪŋ/ noun material used to cover a wound or to wrap delicate objects (NOTE: no plural)

waddle /ˈwɔːd(ə)/ verb to walk swaying from side to side like a duck

wade /ˈwɔːd/ verb 1. to walk through water. The explorers had to wade across a river. 2. to wade into someone to attack someone fiercely. In his article he waded into the government. 3. to wade through a technical journal to read through a boring technical journal

waf er /ˈweɪfər/ noun a thin sweet biscuit eaten with ice cream. A cup of vanilla and chocolate ice cream, with a waf er in it.

waffer-thin /ˈweɪfrɪn/ adj very thin

waffle /ˈwɔlf(ə)/ noun 1. a type of crisp pancake cooked in an iron mould and eaten with syrup. We bought waffles at the stall in the fairground. 2. Waffles are very popular in Belgium. 2. unnecessary or muddled speaking or writing (informal). You don’t need to talk about the article, it is just waffle. Don’t tell me you listened to all his waffle! (NOTE: no plural in this meaning) 3. verb to talk too much without saying anything clearly (informal). If someone mentions the word ‘ecology’, our lecturer will waffle on for 20 minutes. Synonym go on

waft /ˈwɔːft/ noun a gentle smell. When I opened the box, a waft of spices reminded me of the Far East. Synonym puff 3. verb to carry something gently through the air. The delicious smell of strawberry jam wafted through the window to where I was sitting. Synonym drift

wag /ˈwæɡ/ verb 1. to move something from side to side or up and down. The dog ran up to him, wagging its tail. The grandmother wagged her finger at the little boy who was picking the flowers. 2. tongues are wagging people are talking about something they do not approve of (informal). You can imagine that her being seen with him set tongues wagging in the village. 3. a movement from side to side or up and down. 2. a person who likes making jokes or facetious remarks (old). He's a bit of a wag and likes to make silly jokes during lectures.

wage-earner /ˈweɪdʒər/ noun a person who is paid a wage

wager /ˈweɪdʒər/ noun money which you promise to pay if something you expect to happen does not take place. She made a wager that the government would lose the election. Synonym bet

waggle /ˈwɔɡ(ə)/ verb to move from side to side quickly. Synonym wiggle

wagon /ˈwɔɡən/ noun 1. a railway truck used for carrying heavy loads. The container wagons are leaving the freight terminal. 2. on the wagon not drinking alcohol. He's been on the wagon for the last three months. 3. a heavy cart pulled by horses or oxen (old). (NOTE: Another British spelling is waggon.)

wail /ˈweɪl/ noun 1. a person, especially a child, who is thin and does not look healthy. 2. a child who has no home.

wail /ˈweɪl/ noun a high-pitched sad cry. The walls of the mourners at the funeral. (NOTE: Do not confuse with whale.) 3. verb to make a high-pitched mournful cry. At the news, she just sat down and wailed.

waist /ˈweɪst/ noun 1. the narrower part of the body between the bottom of the chest and the hips. She measures 32 inches round the waist or has a 32-inch waist. 2. the part of a piece of clothing, e.g. a skirt, trousers or dress, that goes round the middle of your body. The waist of these trousers is too small for me. (NOTE: Do not confuse with waste.)

waistband /ˈweɪst(b)ænd/ noun a band of fabric on a piece of clothing, e.g. a skirt.
waistcoat /'westkəʊt/ noun a short coat with buttons and without any sleeves, which is worn over a shirt and under a jacket (NOTE: The US term is vest.)
wait /weit/ verb 1. to stay where you are, and not do anything until something happens or someone arrives. 2. to keep someone waiting for something. 3. to wait up not to go to bed because you are waiting for someone
waive /werv/ verb to give up a right or claim. (NOTE: Do not confuse with wave.)
waiver /wervə/ noun a document showing that someone is willing to give up a right or claim.
waist /weit/ noun here while I call an ambulance. I'll be late. (NOTE: Do not confuse with waist.)
wake /weik/ verb 1. to stop someone's sleep. 2. to wake up someone's sleep. 3. to wake up to something to realise something. 4. to wake up by the sound of the dog barking. 5. to stop sleeping. 6. to wake up in the middle of the night, thinking she had heard a noise. 7. to wake up! It's past ten o'clock. 8. He woke up to find water coming through the roof of the tent. 9. to wake up to something to realise something. 10. to wake up to stop doing something. 11. to wake up - wake up! It's past ten o'clock. 12. to wake up to stop doing something. 13. to wake up to something to realise something. 14. to wake up to stop doing something. 15. to wake up to something to realise something. 16. to wake up to stop doing something. 17. to wake up to something to realise something.
walking /'weikɪŋ/ adj awake, not asleep. 1. to walk /'wɔːk/ verb 1. to go on foot. 2. to walk to or go with someone. 3. to walk into a place. 4. to walk among a crowd, by an important person. 5. a way of walking. (informal) 6. to walk in various directions. 7. to walk about /'wɔːkbəʊt/ verb to walk in various directions. 8. to walk about /'wɔːkəbaʊt/ noun an informal walk among a crowd, by an important person (informal)
walker /'wɔːkə/ noun a person who goes walking for pleasure and exercise. Synonym hiker
walkie-talkie /'wɔːktəki/ noun a portable two-way radio
waistcoat /'westkəʊt/ noun a short coat with buttons and without any sleeves, which is worn over a shirt and under a jacket (NOTE: The US term is vest.)
on foot
silver cups.

walk into /ˈwɔk ɪntu/ verb to enter on foot

Walkman /ˈwɔkman/ trademark for a small portable cassette player which you can carry around with you and which has head-phones for you to listen to music with. The chap next to me in the Underground had his Walkman on full blast.

walk off /ˈwɔk əf/ verb 1. to go away on foot. She walked off and left him holding the shopping. 2. to go out angrily. He walked off with all my gold. 3. to go out on strike. I walked out of work because they said it was too dangerous.

walk on /ˈwɔk ən/ verb to continue walking

walk out /ˈwɔk əut/ verb 1. to go out on foot. She walked out of the house and down the street. 2. to walk away aurally. He walked out of the restaurant, saying that the service was too slow. 3. (of workers) to go on strike, to stop working and leave your office or factory. The office staff walked out in protest.

walkover /ˈwɔkəʊvər/ noun an easy victory (informal)
walk up /ˈwɔk ʌp/ verb 1. to climb on foot. I never take the lift – I always walk up the three flights of stairs to my office. 2. to walk up to someone to go up to someone on foot. She walked up to me and asked if I needed any help.

wall /wɔl/ noun 1. a structure made from things such as bricks or stones, built up to make one of the sides of a building, of a room or to surround a space. The walls of the restaurant are decorated with pictures of film stars. 2. There’s a clock on the wall behind my desk. He got into the house by climbing over the garden wall. The garden is surrounded by an old stone wall.

wallaby /ˈwɔlbəbi/ noun 1. an Australian animal like a small kangaroo. 2. the Wallabies, the Australian international rugby team.

walked /wɔld/ adj surrounded with walls
wallet /ˈwɔltə/ noun a small flat leather case for credit cards and banknotes, carried in your pocket. (NOTE: Another US term is bi-fold.)

walk on /ˈwɔk ən/ verb to someone or something very hard

wallow /ˈwɔləʊ/ verb 1. (of animals) to roll around in mud. When I hear of animals wallowing in mud, I immediately think of hippo- pos. 2. (of a person) to take a lot of pleasure in doing something. He positively wallows in gossip about media people. It’s time she stopped wallowing in self-pity.

wallpaper /ˈwɔlpəpə/ noun paper with different patterns on it, covering the walls of a room. The wallpaper was light green to match the carpet.

Wall Street /ˈwɔl strɪkt/ noun 1. a street in New York where the Stock Exchange is, an American finance centre in New York. He walked along Wall Street, looking for the company’s offices. 2. an American finance centre in New York. Wall Street reacted cautiously to the interest rise. (NOTE: Here the name of the street is used to mean the American financial markets in general.)

wall-to-wall /ˈwɔltə əd/ adj covering the floor of a room completely (informal)

wall unit /ˈwɔl ˈjuːnt/ noun one of a set of cupboards which are attached to a wall

walnut /ˈwɔlnət/ noun 1. a hard round nut with a shell which has a lot of folds on its surface. He cracked the walnuts with the nutcrackers. 2. a tree on which walnuts grow. The walnuts or walnut trees have produced a huge crop this year. 3. wood from a walnut tree.
Away, /L50263 smoothly or happily he no longer and his mind is wandering.

waltz, so I’ll ask her to dance. 2. music suitable for such a dance. Listen, the orchestra is playing a waltz. 3. The Blue Danube is one of Strauss’s most famous waltzes. (NOTE: The plural is waltzes.)

Couple were waltzing elegantly around the ballroom. 2. to do something smoothly or happily. She waltzed into the bathroom and said she wanted to withdraw $200,000 in cash. 3. to waltz off with first prize.

pale, looking ill His influence over his family is waning.

waltzes around the ballroom. 2. to do something better to do we went to the cinema. 2. a strong wish to have something. Their greatest want is for a new car for her birthday. 3. to draw up a wants list to make a list of things which you need wanted searched for by the police, usually because of a crime wanting lacking a necessary feature or quality wanted in a way which is uncontrollable or without reason. things needed war crime a crime committed during a war which is against international agreements on the rules of war. a room or set of rooms in a hospital, with beds for patients. The children’s ward is at the end of the corridor. 2. one of the areas that a town is divided into for purposes of local government. a young person protected by a guardian or a court. a prison officer, a person who guards prisoners.
wardrobe /ˈwɔːdrəʊ/ noun 1. a fixed or movable tall cupboard in which you hang your clothes. • He moved the wardrobe from the landing into the bedroom. 2. clothes • She bought a whole new wardrobe for her holiday. 3. all the clothes which an organisation such as a theatre company owns and uses.

goods /ɡʊdz/ plural noun things that have been made and are for sale.

war /wɔːr/ noun fighting a war, especially the method of fighting.

war game /wɔːr ɡeɪm/ noun a military exercise.

warhead /ˈwɔːrheɪd/ noun the top end of a missile which explodes when it hits something.

warlike /ˈwɔːrlɪk/ adj preparing to fight.

warlord /ˈwɔːrlɔːd/ noun a military leader who rules part of a country.

warm /wɔːrm/ adj 1. fairly hot. • The temperature is below freezing outside but it’s nice and warm in the office. • The children tried to keep warm by playing football. • Are you warm enough, or do you want another blanket? • This coat is not very warm. 2. warm as toast in February. • It may be snowy outside, but we’re as warm as toast in our little cottage. 3. you’re getting warm in a game you’re near to getting the right answer. 4. (of colour) which looks warm, like red or orange.

warmer /ˈwɔːrmər/ adj warmer than something, or to make hotter.

warning /ˈ warnɪŋ/ noun 1. news about a possible danger. • He shouted a warning to the children.

warm up /wɔːrm ʌp/ verb 1. to make hotter. • A cup of coffee will soon warm you up.

warthog /ˈ wɔːrθəɡ/ noun a war pig.

warehouse /ˈweɪˈhəʊr/ noun a large building where goods are stored. • Our goods are dispatched from the central warehouse to shops all over the country.

ware /weər/ suffix goods made of a certain material or for a special purpose. • You’ll find the kitchenware department on the third floor.

warehouses /ˈweɪˈhəʊrəs/ plural noun things that have been made and are for sale.

warehousing /ˈweɪrəhʊndʒɪŋ/ noun to store goods in a warehouse.

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warp /wɔːrp/ noun the top end of a missile which explodes when it hits something.

warmth /ˈwɔːrθ/ noun the fact of being or feeling warm. • It was cold and rainy outside, and he looked forward to the warmth of his home.

warm up /wɔːrm ʌp/ verb 1. to make hotter.

warmly /wɔːrmli/ adv in a warm way.

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winter /ˈwɪntər/ noun 1. the third season of the year.

winter sun can be quite warm in February.

winter clothing /ˈwɪntər kʌlədn/ noun suitable clothing for winter.

winterize /ˈwɪntəraɪz/ verb to adapt a place where it is warm enough for your holiday.

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warm-blooded /ˈwɔːrm ˈblʌdɪd/ adj (of an animal) with warm blood. Antonym cold-blooded

war memorial /ˈwɔːr məˈmɪərɪl/ noun a structure built to remember soldiers who died in a war.

warm-hearted /ˈwɔːrm ˈhɑːtɪd/ adj friendly and kind. Synonym kindly.

warning /ˈwɔːrnɪŋ/ noun making warmer.

warily /wɔːrɪli/ adv in a war way.

warmer /wɔːrmər/ adj warmer than something.

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warn /wɔːrn/ verb 1. to inform someone of a possible danger. • We were warned to boil all drinking water.
leave the planks out in the rain they will warp.
2. to have a bad effect on someone’s mind or character.
- The beatings he had from his father seem to have warped his mind.

warpath

\[ \text{verb} \quad \text{warpath} /\text{warpath/} \quad \text{noun} \quad \text{on the warpath} \]
- to be annoyed and want to fight someone (informal)
- Keep out of the way – the head teacher’s on the warpath!

washing machine

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washing machine} \]
- everything will work out correctly, although
- from his father seem to have warped his mind.

warped

\[ \text{adj} \quad \text{warped} \]
- Synonym:
- someone to be annoyed and want to fight
- warpath
- Synonym:
- adj strange and twisted

warrant

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{warrant} \]
- an official document from a court giving someone permission to do something.
- The magistrate issued a warrant for her arrest.
- verb
- 1. to state definitely that something is of good quality and that it will work properly.
- All the spare parts are warranted for six months.
- 2. to be a good reason for.
- Our sales in France do not definitely that something is of good quality

warranty

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{warranty} \]
- a legal document which promises that goods you buy will definitely that something is of good quality

warship

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{warship} \]
- a person who fights in battle.
- Synonym:

wart

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{wart} \]
- a small hard lump on the skin, which is not harmful.
- warts and all

wartime

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{wartime} \]
- a time of war.
- war-torn

wartle

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{wartle} \]
- adj (of a country or area) very badly affected by war.

wary

\[ \text{adj} \quad \text{wary} \]
- careful because of possible problems.
- Synonym:

wash

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{wash} \]
- to do the washing
- to wash dirty clothes
- to wash some clothes in a washing machine
- I’ll do a wash this morning.
- to come out in the wash to lose colour

washed

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washed} \]
- all the colour of my pyjamas came out in the wash.
- it will all come out in the wash.

washed out

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washed out} \]
- the wake of a ship, the waves made by a ship moving through water.

washcloth

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washcloth} \]
- US a small square of cloth for washing the face or body.

wash up

\[ \text{verb} \quad \text{wash up} \]
- to wash a large amount of water
- They washed down the van with buckets of water.
- The sailors were washing down the deck.

warped
down

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{warped down} \]
- adj
- to wash with a large amount of water

wash line

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{wash line} \]
- clothes which have been washed, or which are ready to be washed
- Put the washing in the washing machine.
- She hung out the washing to dry.

washroom

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washroom} \]
- a small hard lump on the skin, which is not harmful.

washroom

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washroom} \]
- a person who fights in battle.
- Synonym:

washdown

\[ \text{verb} \quad \text{washdown} \]
- to wash a large amount of water

washcloth

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washcloth} \]
- US a small square of cloth for washing the face or body.

washbasin

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washbasin} \]
- a container, with taps, for holding water for washing the hands and face, usually attached to the wall of a bathroom.

washed overboard

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washed overboard} \]
- to be washed overboard

washable

\[ \text{adj} \quad \text{washable} \]
- which can be washed in water, as opposed to being dry-cleaned

wash away

\[ \text{verb} \quad \text{wash away} \]
- to remove with water

washdown

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washdown} \]
- to wash a large amount of water

washroom

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washroom} \]
- a person who fights in battle.
- Synonym:

washday

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washday} \]
- a rubber ring inside a pipe which prevents liquid escaping from a joint.

wash off

\[ \text{verb} \quad \text{wash off} \]
- to remove with water

wash off

\[ \text{verb} \quad \text{wash off} \]
- to remove with water

washout

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washout} \]
- a person who fights in battle.
- Synonym:

washstand

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washstand} \]
- a container, with taps, for holding water for washing the hands and face, usually attached to the wall of a bathroom.

wash off

\[ \text{verb} \quad \text{wash off} \]
- to remove with water

washout

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washout} \]
- a person who fights in battle.
- Synonym:

wars

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{wars} \]
- a pile of things waiting to be washed

washday

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washday} \]
- a person who fights in battle.
- Synonym:

washdown

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washdown} \]
- a person who fights in battle.
- Synonym:

washrace

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washrace} \]
- a rubber ring inside a pipe which prevents liquid escaping from a joint.

wash up

\[ \text{verb} \quad \text{wash up} \]
- to wash with a large amount of water

washday

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washday} \]
- a person who fights in battle.
- Synonym:

washroom

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washroom} \]
- a rubber ring inside a pipe which prevents liquid escaping from a joint.

wash 1.

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{wash} \]
- to do a wash to wash some clothes in a washing machine
- I’ll do a wash this morning.

washday

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washday} \]
- a person who fights in battle.
- Synonym:

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wash up

\[ \text{verb} \quad \text{wash up} \]
- to wash with a large amount of water

washdown

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washdown} \]
- a person who fights in battle.
- Synonym:

washday

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washday} \]
- a person who fights in battle.
- Synonym:

washroom

\[ \text{noun} \quad \text{washroom} \]
- a person who fights in battle.
- Synonym:
washing machine

hooks and used for hanging washing on to dry

- washing machine /ˈwɒʃín maʃiːn/ noun a machine for washing clothes (NOTE: A machine for washing plates and cutlery is a dishsponge.)

- washing powder /ˈwɒʃɪŋ ˈpaʊda/, soap powder /ˈsəʊp_ ˈpaʊda/ noun soap in powder form, used in washing machines or dishwashers (NOTE: no plural)

- washing up /ˈwɒʃɪŋ ʌp/ noun 1. the activity of washing all the objects which have been used in preparing and eating a meal 2. things such as dirty dishes and glasses waiting to be cleaned 3. There is a pile of washing up waiting to be put into the dishwasher.

- washing-up liquid /ˈwɒʃɪŋ ˈʌp liːkwəd/ noun a liquid detergent used for washing dirty dishes

- wash off /ˈwɒʃ əf/ verb to take off by washing

- washout /ˈwɒʃaʊt/ noun 1. a failure because of rain 2. The village fete was a complete washout 3. No one turned up for the memorial service – it was a failure because of rain. Synonym wastage.

- wasp /wɒsp/ noun an insect which has black and yellow bands of colour round its body and which can sting

- wastage /ˈwɜːstɪdʒ/ noun 1. the act of wasting 2. There is an enormous wastage of natural resources 3. an amount lost by being wasted 4. Allow 10% extra material for wastage

- waste /ˈwɜːst/ noun 1. an unnecessary use of time or money 2. It is a waste of time asking the boss for a rise. 3. That computer is a waste of money – there are plenty of cheaper models 4. rubbish, things which are no use and are thrown away 5. Put all your waste in the rubbish bin. 6. The dustmen collect household waste once a week. 7. verb to use more of something than you need (old saying) 8. adj 1. useless, ready to be thrown away 9. We have heaps of wasps to take to the dump. 10. Waste products should not be dumped in the sea. 11. adj 2. (of a person’s body) extremely thin and weak 12. under the influence of drink or drugs (informal) 13. adjective associated with a failure be-

- watch /wɔtʃ/ noun 1. a clock which you wear on your wrist 2. a toilet 3. a machine attached to a sink which crushes up waste and sends it down the drain 4. adj which wastes a lot. Synonym extravagant 5. noun an area of land which is not used for any purpose 6. a small box or basket where useless papers can be put (NOTE: The US term is wastebasket.) 7. noun a pipe which takes used or dirty water to the drains (NOTE: No plural. Do not confuse with waist.) 8. verb to look at and notice something carefully 9. verb to look at something carefully 10. verb to look at something carefully 11. verb to look at something carefully 12. verb to look at something carefully 13. verb to look at something carefully

- wasteland /ˈwɜːstlænd/ noun land which is not used for anything 14. wastepaper basket /ˈwɜːstpeɪpər_ bɔːskɪt/ noun a small box or basket where useless papers can be put (NOTE: The US term is wastebasket.) 15. noun a pipe which takes used or dirty water to the drains (NOTE: No plural. Do not confuse with waist.)
 nonprofits, and watch tians are often used as watchdogs.

2. To watch out for something means to be careful not to do anything wrong.

3. Watch out! there’s a car coming! is a common phrase.

water /ˈwɔːtə/ noun 1. A common liquid which falls as rain and forms rivers, lakes, and seas. It makes up a large part of the bodies of living creatures, and is used for drinking and in cooking; also in industrial processes. 2. water colour /ˈwɔːtə klərə/ paint which is mixed with water and used by artists. 3. water cooler /ˈwɔːtə kjuələ/ a machine which people can get cold drinking water from, used in places such as offices.

watch /ˈwɔtʃ/ verb 1. watch out for careful. 2. watch out for to be careful to avoid. 3. watch your language to be very careful.

watch dog /ˈwɔtʃ dɒg/ noun 1. A dog used to guard a house or other buildings. 2. a person or committee that examines things such as public spending or public morals. 3. The report of the watchdog committee on water pricing.

watch ful /ˈwɔtʃfəl/ adj very careful.

watch man /ˈwɔtʃmæn/ noun a person who guards a building, usually when it is empty. Also called night watchman (NOTE: The plural is watchmen.)

watch over /ˈwɔtʃ, ˈɔvr/ verb 1. to be careful. 2. to watch out! there’s a car coming! 3. to watch out for to be careful to avoid. 4. You have to watch out for children playing in the road. 5. Watch out for pickpockets!

watch word /ˈwɔtʃwɜrd/ noun a word or phrase which shows someone’s attitude towards life in general or towards a particular subject or situation.

water closet /ˈwɔːtə kləʊzət/ the WC.

water colour /ˈwɔːtə klərə/ noun 1. paint which is mixed with water and used by artists. 2. a picture painted using watercolours. 3. There is an exhibition of Turner’s watercolours in the Tate Gallery. 4. She bought a watercolour of the village church. (NOTE: [all senses] The US spelling is watercolor.)

water cool er /ˈwɔːtə kuələ/ noun a machine which people can get cold drinking water from, used in places such as offices.

water fall /ˈwɔːtə faul/ a place where a stream falls down a steep drop. Synonym cascade.

water fowl /ˈwɔːtə fəul/ birds such as ducks and geese, which live on or around water. (NOTE: The plural is waterfowl.)

water front /ˈwɔːtə frʌnt/ noun a bank of a river or shore of the sea and the buildings along it.

water hole /ˈwɔːtə hoʊl/ noun a small pool in the desert or other dry area, where animals come to drink.

watering can /ˈwɔtərɪŋ kaʊn/ noun a container similar to a bucket, with a long spout, used for pouring water on plants.
waterproof

waterproof v noun a line marking where the water reaches on the hull of a ship or the floor of a boat. 1. full of water, or extremely wet. The soil had become waterlogged after the downpour. 2. flooded, full of water. After so much rain, the waterlogged golf course had to be closed.

water Message

waterlogged adj 1. full of water, or extremely wet. My shoes were completely waterlogged by the time I got home. 2. flooded, full of water. The food has to be kept in watertight containers.

waterproof adj 1. made so that water cannot get in or out. The food has to be kept in watertight containers. 2. which is turned by water and makes a machine work. She has a waterproof coat and hat.

watermark noun 1. a hidden mark in paper, usually put there to prove that the paper is legal or official. If you hold a banknote up to the light you will see the watermark. 2. a line showing the level water has reached. On the wall by the river you can see various watermarks showing the level of floods in different years.

watermelon noun a very large type of melon with red flesh, large black seeds and dark green skin.

water polo noun a ball game played in water by two teams, each trying to throw a ball into a goal.

waterproof noun 1. which does not let water go through. Divers wear water-proof watches. 2. a substance which is made waterproof. These boots aren’t waterproof – my socks are soaking wet.

waterproof verb to cover something with a substance to prevent water getting in. They spread a coating of tar on the roof to waterproof it.

water skis plural noun flat pieces of wood for putting on your feet for skating over water.

water table noun the level of water below the ground. It is a natural level of water below the surface of the earth. The soil had to be dug down to the water table to start to dig.

wavelength noun the length of a wave as measured from crest to crest.

water skier noun a person on large skis, pulled by a fast boat of moving over the surface of a lake or river.

waterline noun a line marking where the water reaches on the hull of a ship or the floor of a boat. 1. full of water, or extremely wet. The soil had become waterlogged after the downpour. 2. flooded, full of water. After so much rain, the waterlogged golf course had to be closed.

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waveband 978

have a wave ○ I wish my hair would wave naturally. (NOTE: Do not confuse with waive.)

waveband ˈweɪvban/ noun a group of radio waves which are close together

wavelength ˈweɪvləʊ/ noun 1. the distance between similar points on radio waves ○ They used a short wavelength for transmitting messages. 2. they’re not on the same wavelength they do not understand each other at all (informal) ○ She operates on quite a different wavelength from her husband.

waver ˈweɪv/ verb 1. to shake slightly or to move from side to side ○ The needle on the dial wavered around the 200km mark. 2. to be unable to decide what to do ○ He is still wavering about which hotel to go to in Paris. ○ She wavered between the two possible colour schemes and finally decided to paint the kitchen white. (NOTE: Do not confuse with waiver.)

wavy ˈweɪvi/ adj which goes up and down. Synonym curly (NOTE: wavier – waviest)

wax ˈwæks/ noun 1. a solid substance made from fat or oil, used for making things such as candles and polish ○ She brought a tin of wax polish on things such as furniture or a car, to clean it and make the surface shine ○ She was waxing the dining room table. 2. to put wax polish on things such as furniture or a car, to clean it and make the surface shine ○ She was waxing the dining room table. 3. a soft yellow substance that forms in your ears ■ verb 1. to shake slightly or to move from side to side ○ The needle on the dial wavered around the 200km mark. 2. to be unable to decide what to do ○ He is still wavering about which hotel to go to in Paris. ○ She wavered between the two possible colour schemes and finally decided to paint the kitchen white. (NOTE: Do not confuse with waiver.)

way ˈweɪ/ noun 1. a path or road which goes somewhere ○ Our neighbours across the way. ○ I’ll walk the first part of the way home with you. 2. a correct path or road to go somewhere ○ Do you know the way to the post office? ○ She showed us the way to the railway station. ○ They lost their way and had to ask for directions. ○ I’ll lead the way – just follow me. 3. on the way during a journey ○ I’ll stop at the post office on my way to the restaurant. ○ She’s on her way to the office. □ well on the way to nearly ○ The repairs to the house are well on the way to being finished. ○ to go out of your way to help someone to make a special effort to help someone. 4. a particular direction from here ○ a one-way street ○ Can you tell which way the wind is blowing? ○ This way please, everybody! 5. the means of doing something ○ My mother showed me the way to make marmalade. ○ Isn’t there any other way of making it? ○ He thought of a way of making money quickly. ○ The way she said it implied it was my fault. □ to get your own way to do what you want to do, even if other people don’t want you to do it (informal) ○ She always seems to get her own way. 6. to have it both ways to take advantage from two courses of action ○ He wants to have it both ways, but he’ll soon realise he can’t. ○ You can’t have it both ways – going out to the club every evening and saving money. □ in many ways almost completely ○ In many ways, I think she is right. □ in some ways not completely ○ In some ways she may be wrong. 7. a manner of behaving ○ He spoke in a pleasant way. ○ You will have to get used to the manager’s funny little ways. 8. distance ○ The bank is quite a long way away. ○ He’s got a long way to go before he qualifies as a doctor. 9. a space where someone wants to be or which someone wants to use ○ Get out of my way – I’m in a hurry. ○ It’s best to keep out of the way of the police for a moment. ○ I wanted to take a short cut, but there was a lorry in the way. 10. progress, forward movement □ under way moving forwards ○ The project is under way at last. 11. in a bad way very ill ○ She’s in hospital and in a really bad way.  adv far, a long distance away ○ The bank is way beyond the Post Office. ○ Their financial problems started way back in 1998. ○ The price was way too high for me. ○ way over your head difficult to understand ○ The book was way over my head.

way in, ‘weɪ/ noun an entrance

waylay ˈweɪli/ verb 1. to stop and attack someone ○ The gang waylaid the cashier as she was walking back to the office. 2. to stop to talk to someone ○ I was waylaid by an old friend on my way to the Post Office.

way of life ˈweɪ oʊ ləf/ noun the manner in which you live. Synonym lifestyle

way out ˈweɪ aut/ noun 1. an exit ○ This is the way out of the car park. ○ He couldn’t find the way out in the dark. 2. a way out of a difficulty a solution to a problem ○ To leave the country and live abroad was probably the easiest way out.

way-out ˈweɪ əut/ adj strange, exciting (dated informal) ○ They played some really way-out music. Synonym unusual. Antonym conventional

way up ˈweɪ əp/ noun a way in which something stands

wayward ˈweɪwəd/ adj wild, who does what he wants. Antonym well-behaved

WC  /dəˈskɒl/ just ‘siz/ noun short for ‘water closet’, meaning toilet (NOTE: mainly used on signs)

we  /wi/ pron used by someone speaking or writing to refer to himself or herself and others ○ He said we could go into the
weak exhibition. ○ We were not allowed into the restaurant in jeans. ○ We had a wonderful holiday – we all enjoyed ourselves enormously. (NOTE: When it is the object he becomes us. We gave it to him. He gave it to us. When it follows the verb to be, we usually becomes us. Who is it? – It’s us!)

weak /wɪk/ adj 1. not strong ○ After his illness he is still very weak. ○ I don’t like weak tea – put another teabag in the pot. 2. not good at, not having knowledge or skill ○ She’s weaker at science than at maths. ○ Fruit is his weakest subject. ○ She gave the weakest excuses for not finishing the work on time. (NOTE: weaker – weakest. Do not confuse with week.)

weaken /ˈweɪkən/ verb to make or to become weak. Antonym strengthen

weaking /ˈwiːkɪŋ/ noun a weak person

weakly /ˈwiːklɪ/ adv in a weak way (NOTE: Do not confuse with weekly.)

weakness /ˈwiːknəs/ noun 1. the state of being weak ○ The doctor noticed the weakness of her pulse. Antonym strength 2. weakness for liking for (informal) ○ She has a weakness for tall men with dark hair. ○ I have a weakness for Danish pastries.

wealth /welθ/ noun 1. a large amount of money, land, property and goods which someone owns ○ His wealth was inherited from his grandfather. 2. a large amount ○ We have a wealth of information about the inhabitants of the town in the sixteenth century. (NOTE: no plural)

wealthy /ˈwelθi/ adj (of a person) very rich (NOTE: wealthier – wealthiest)

wean /weɪn/ verb 1. to make a baby start to eat solid food after only drinking mother’s milk. ○ At what age should you start to wean a baby? 2. to wean someone off or away from something to get someone to drop a bad habit (informal) ○ We must try to wean him off the TV for a period.

weapon /ˈweɪpən/ noun an object such as a gun or sword, which you fight with ○ The crowd used iron bars as weapons.

weapon of mass destruction /ˈweɪpən əv ˈmæs dɪˈstrɛkʃən/ noun a weapon such as a nuclear of chemical weapon which causes a huge amount of damage to large numbers of people or buildings.

weaponry /ˈweɪpənri/ noun weapons. Synonym arms (NOTE: no plural)

wear /weər/ verb 1. to have something such as clothes or jewellery on your body ○ What do you wear to the party? ○ When last seen, he was wearing a blue raincoat. ○ She’s wearing her mother’s earrings. ○ She wears her hair very short. 2. to become damaged or thin through being used ○ The tread on the car tyres is worn. ○ I’ve worn a hole in the heel of my sock. 3. to last a long time, to stay in the same condition in spite of being used ○ The carpet has not worn well. 4. not to wear something not to allow or put up with something (informal) ○ You can’t put that picture up in the office – the female staff will never wear it. □ noun 1. clothes ○ The menswear department is on the ground floor. 2. the action of wearing clothes ○ This anorak is suitable for summer wear. ○ A little black dress is perfect for evening wear. 3. the amount of use which something may have ○ The carpet on the stairs will have a lot more wear than the one in the bedroom.

wear and tear /weər ənd ˈtɪər/ noun the action of damaging something through use. Synonym deterioration □ fair wear and tear damage through normal use which is accepted by an insurance company ○ The policy covers most forms of damage but not wear and tear to the machine.

wear away /weər əˈweɪ̯/ verb to disappear gradually, to make something disappear by rubbing. Synonym erode

wear down /weər dəʊn/ verb to make something disappear by rubbing or much use wearer /ˈweɪərə/ noun a person who is wearing a particular type of clothes or shoes

wearily /ˈweərɪli/ adv in a tired way

wearing /ˈweərɪŋ/ adj tiring

wear off /ˈweər əf/ verb to disappear gradually. Synonym weaken

wear on /ˈweər ən/ verb to continue, with difficulty

wear out /weər ˈaʊt/ verb 1. to use something so much that it is broken and useless ○ Walking across the USA, he wore out three pairs of boots. 2. to wear yourself out to become very tired through doing something ○ She wore herself out looking after the old lady. 3. worn out weary /ˈweərɪ/ adj very tired □ to grow weary of doing something to get tired of doing something (formal) ○ We grew weary of always eating in the same restaurant.

weasel /ˈwiːzəl/ noun a small thin furry wild animal which kills and eats birds and other small animals ○ The weasel chased the rabbit into its burrow.

weasel words /ˈwiːzəl wɜrs/ plural noun a dishonest way of speaking where you avoid saying what you really think

weather /ˈweðər/ noun 1. conditions outside, e.g. if it is raining, hot, cold or sunny ○ What’s the weather going to be like today? ○ The weather in Iceland is usually colder than here. ○ Rain every day – just normal English summer weather! ○ If the weather gets any better, then we can go out in the boat. □ in all weathers in every type of weather ○ He works outside in all weathers and never gets
a cold. 2. □ to make heavy weather of something to make something you are doing more difficult and complicated than you need to. □ We asked him to sort out the invoices but he's really making heavy weather of it.

verb 1. to have a gradual effect on a substance such as stone or wood through the action of weather on it. □ The rocks have been weathered into curious shapes. □ The wooden fence was dark brown but now it has weathered to a light grey colour. 2. to live through a difficult or dangerous situation without being harmed or defeated □ I don't know if we can weather this crisis without any extra cash.

weatherbeaten /ˈweðəˌbiːtən/ adj 1. (of a face) made brown by the wind and sun. □ The weatherbeaten faces of the old mountain farmers. 2. worn and marked by rain, sun and wind. □ There are a few weatherbeaten fishermen's cottages down by the harbour.

weather forecast /ˈweðər ˌfoʊrˈkɑːst/.

weather report /ˈweθər ˌrɪpˈɔrt/.

weatherproof /ˈweθərprəˈfuː/.

verb 1. to make cloth by twisting fibres over and under each other. □ The cloth is woven from the wool of local sheep. □ The new weaving machines were installed last week. 2. to make something by a similar method, but using things such as very thin pieces of wood or the dried stems of plants. □ She learnt how to weave baskets.

weatherproofing /ˈweθərprəˈfuːɪŋ/.

verb 1. to go forward, twisting and turning. □ There are a few weatherbeaten fishermen's cottages down by the harbour.

weave /wiːv/.

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website /ˈwebsaɪt/.

noun 1. a single file of text and graphics, forming part of a website.

verb 1. to broadcast a program on the World Wide Web.
from now, a week today yesterday week.
Antony big a wee bit a little 
He was just a wee bit annoyed by my letter.
In the wee small hours very early in the morning
noun urine (child’s word) The cat did a wee on the lawn.
verb to urinate (child’s word) Do you want to wee, Tommy?
(NOTE: also wee-pee)

weed /weɪd/ noun a wild plant that you do not want in a garden
Weeds grew all over the flowerbeds while he was on holiday.
verb 1. to remove weeds from a garden
She spent all afternoon weeding the vegetable garden.
2. to weed out to remove something which is not wanted
Weed out any old newspapers you don’t want and take them to the paper bank.

weedkiller /ˌwiːdlɪkər/ noun a chemical which kills weeds.

selective

weedy /ˈwiːdi/ adj 1. thin and weak
His opponent was a weedy little man who looked as though he had never had a fight before.
2. covered with weeds
We’ve been away and the garden is so weedy.

week /wɪk/ noun 1. a period of seven days, usually from Monday to Sunday
There are 52 weeks in the year.
2. to weed out to remove something which is not wanted
Weed out any old newspapers you don’t want and take them to the paper bank.

A week from now, a week today this day next week
A week from now or in a week’s time, I’ll be on holiday.
A week tomorrow in eight days’ time A week tomorrow I’ll be in Greece.

yesterday week a week ago yesterday week.

what day of the week is it today?
can you tell me what day it is, e.g. is it Monday?
2. a part of a seven day period, when people work
He works a 35-hour week or he works 35 hours every week.
(NOTE: Do not confuse with weak)

weekday /ˈwɪkdeɪ/ noun any of the days from Monday to Friday, when most offices are open

weekend /ˈwɪkend/ noun Saturday and Sunday, or the period from Friday evening to Sunday evening
We’re going to Brighton for the weekend.
Why don’t you come to spend next weekend with us in the country?
At weekends, we try to spend time in the garden.

weekly /ˈwɪkli/ adj, adv which happens or is published once a week
We have a weekly paper which tells us all the local news.
The weekly rate for the job is £250.
Do you pay the milkman weekly?
(NOTE: Do not confuse with weakly.)

noun a magazine published once a week
He gets a gardening weekly every Friday.
(NOTE: The plural is weeklies.)

weep /wiːp/ verb to cry, to have tears coming out of your eyes
(NOTE: weeping – wept)

weeping willow /ˈwiːpɪŋ ˈwɪloʊ/ noun a type of large willow tree with long branches which hang down

wee-pee /wiːp/ verb to urinate (child’s word)

weight /weɪt/ noun 1. to use scales or a weighing machine to measure how heavy something is
Can you weigh this parcel for me?
They weighed his suitcase at the check-in desk.
I weighed myself this morning.
2. to have a certain weight
This piece of meat weighs 100 grams.
The packet weighs twenty-five grams.
How much do you weigh?
He weighs 120 pounds.
She only weighs 40 kilos.
3. to weigh anchor to lift the anchor of a ship in order to sail away
4. to weigh on someone to be a problem to someone
time weighs heavily on his hands he has nothing to do

weigh down /wei ˈdaʊn/ verb to be weighed down with to be bent because you are carrying something heavy
The car was weighed down with our luggage.
The branches of the pear trees were weighed down with fruit.

weigh in /ˈweɪn ˈɪn/ verb 1. (of boxers and jockeys) to have your weight measured before a fight or horse race
The boxer weighed in at 200lbs.
2. to weigh in to join in an argument (informal)
He weighed in with some forceful comments.

weigh out /ˌweɪ ˈaʊt/ verb to measure something by weight

weight /weɪt/ noun 1. how heavy something is
What’s the maximum weight of parcel the post office will accept?
2. how heavy a person is
His weight is less than it was a year ago.
3. to lose weight to get thinner
He’s trying to lose weight.
4. to put on weight to get fatter
She’s put on a lot of weight since her holiday.

overweight, underweight
3. to pull your weight to work as hard as everyone else
The manager has the reputation for being ruthless with employees who don’t pull their weight.
4. to throw your weight about to use your authority to tell people in a proud way what to do (informal)
She loves to throw her weight about at management meetings.
5. she’s worth her weight in gold she’s a very useful person and we couldn’t do without her
something which is heavy
If you lift heavy weights like paving stones, you may hurt your back.
Have you got a weight to put on the papers to stop them blowing away?
that’s a weight off
There was not much of a welcome from the staff when we arrived at the hotel. Antonym farewell • a warm welcome a friendly welcome. • to outstay your welcome to stay longer than your hosts thought you were going to stay welcoming "welcoming/adj making you feel happy to have arrived. Synonym friendly
weld (verb) to join two pieces of metal together by heating them together • The chassis can be repaired by welding the two pieces together. Synonym fuse • noun a joint made by welding two pieces of metal together • The weld was badly done and came apart. Synonym repair
• welfare • noun 1. the act or practice of providing the things which people need and which help them to be healthy • The club looks after the welfare of the old people in the town • We take the children to a child welfare clinic • The government has taken measures to reform the welfare system. 2. money paid by the government to people who need it • He exists on welfare payments. • The family is on welfare.
welfare state • noun • a state which spends a large amount of money to make sure that its citizens all have suitable houses, education, public transport and health services. Compare nanny
• well • verb 1. in a way that is satisfactory • He doesn’t speak Russian very well. • Our business is small, but it’s doing well. • Is the new computer working well? 2. very much • He got back from the office late – well after eight o’clock. • You should go to the Tower of London – it’s well worth a visit. • There were well over sixty people at the meeting. • She’s well over eighty. Synonym considerably 3. • as well also • When my aunt comes to stay she brings her two cats and the dog as well. • You can’t eat fish and chips and a meat pie as well! • as well as not only, but also • Some newspapers sell groceries as well as newspapers. • She ate a slice of cheese cake as well as two scoops of ice cream. 4. to emphasise • He may well be right. • She’s well aware of how serious the situation is. • adj healthy • She’s looking well after her holiday! • The secretary’s not very well today – she’s had to stay off work. • It took him some weeks to get well after his flu. • interj which starts a sentence, and often has no meaning • Well, I’ll show you round the house first. • Well now, we’ve done the washing up so we can sit and watch TV. • (showing surprise) Well, well! What is Mr Smith doing here? • noun a very deep hole dug in the ground with water or oil at the bottom • Middle Eastern oil wells • We pump water from the well in our garden.
well-equipped /wel ɪkˈpjuːtɪd/ 1. a model house for children to play in. Also called playhouse.

well-favoured /wel ˈfævərd/ adj healthy

well-fed /wel ˈfed/ adj fat, looking as if you had eaten a lot


wellie /wel/ noun a wellington boot

well-informed /wel ɪnˈfɔːmd/ adj knowing a lot about a subject. Synonym knowledgeable.

wellington /welˈtɪŋən/ noun a loose knee-length rubber boot.

well-intentioned /wel ɪnˈtɛnʃənd/ adj intended or trying to help, but often producing a negative effect

well-kept /wel ˈkempt/ adj 1. which has been looked after well. Synonym well-maintained.

well-known /wel ˈnɔːn/ adj known by a lot of people. Synonym unknown.

well-mannered /wel ˈmænəd/ adj polite

well-meaning /wel ˈmiːnɪŋ/ adj done with good intentions.

well-off /wel ˈɔf/ adj rich.

well-paid /wel ˈpeɪd/ adj earning a good salary. Synonym lucrative.

well-preserved /wel ˈprɛzˌɔrvɪd/ adj in good condition despite advanced age.

well-read /wel ˈriːd/ adj having read many books and therefore knowing a lot. Synonym knowledgeable.

well-schooled /wel ˈsɔːld/ adj having friends or family who are important.

well-to-do /wel ˈtuːd/ adj wealthy.

well-wisher /wel ˈwɪʃə/ noun a person who is friendly towards someone. Synonym detractor.


Welsh rarebit /welʃ ˈriːəbɪt/ noun bread grilled with cheese sauce on top.

welter /welər/ noun a confused mass. Synonyms: flurry, welterweight.

welterweight /weltrˈwɛt/ noun a weight of boxer between lightweight and middleweight.

wendy house /ˈwɛndi haʊs/ noun a model house for children to play in. Also called playhouse.

wendy /ˈwɛndi/ noun, verb to wend your way to go. Synonym: meander.

werewolf /ˈwerəwulf/ noun a person who is thought to change into the form of a wolf at night.
night and back into human form in the day.

West /west/ noun the direction of where
the sun sets ○ The sun sets in the west and
rises in the east. ○ We live in a village to the
west of the town. ○ Their house has a garden
that faces west or a west-facing garden. ■ adj
in or to the west ○ She lives on the west coast
of the United States. ○ The west part of the
town is near the river. ■ adv towards the
west ○ Go west for about ten kilometres, and
then you’ll come to the national park. ○ The
river flows west into the ocean.

Westbound /westbaʊnd/ adj travelling
towards the west

Westerly /westəli/ adj 1. (of the wind)
from the west ○ There was a light westerly
breeze. 2. towards the west ○ They are
heading in a westerly direction. ■ noun a wind
blowing from the west ○ The westerlies blow
many ships onto the rocks. (NOTE: The plural
is westerlies.)

Western /westən/ adj from or in the
west ○ Great Britain is part of Western Eu-
rope. ○ The Western part of Canada has
wonderful scenery. ■ noun a book or film
about life in the western USA in the nine-
teenth century, especially about cowboys ○ She
likes watching old westerns on TV.

Westerner /westənər/ noun a person who
comes from the west, i.e. from Europe or
from America

Westernised /westənaɪzd/, westernized
adj accepting and using things such as
the ideas, customs, and industrial methods
of countries in Western Europe and the United
States

Westernmost /westəməʊst/ adj in a
place which is the furthest west

Westminster /westmɪnstə/ noun 1. in
the area of London where Westminster Ab-
by and the Houses of Parliament are ○ Tourists
always go to Westminster as part of
their visit to London. 2. the British Parlia-
ment itself ○ The news was greeted with sur-
prise at Westminster. ○ MPs returned to
Westminster after the summer recess.

Westward /westwəd/ adv towards the
west

Westwards /westwədz/ adv towards the
west

Wet /wet/ adj 1. covered in water or other
liquid ○ She forgot her umbrella and got wet
walking back from the shops. ○ The chair’s
all wet where he knocked over his beer. ○ The
baby is wet – can you change her nappy? ○
Wet through, soaking wet very wet ○ Change
your shirt – it’s wet through. ○ I was
soaking wet after falling into the river. 2.
when it is raining ○ The summer months are
the wettest part of the year. ○ There’s noth-
ing I like better than a wet Sunday in London.

Wetblanket /wetˈblæŋkt/ noun an un-
happy person who spoils social events, e.g.
parties, by making other people feel unhappy
(informal). Synonym spoilsport

Wetland /ˈwetlænd/ noun a marshy area
which is often covered by water. Synonym
marsh

Wetsuit /ˈwetswɪt/ noun a rubber suit
worn by swimmers and divers to keep themselves
warm in the water

Wet /wɛt/ short form we have

Whack /wæk/ verb to hit hard, making a
loud noise ○ She whacked her head on the
low doorway. ○ He whacked the ball hard
with his bat. ■ noun 1. a hard, noisy blow ○ He
gave the ball a whack and it went over the
wall. 2. have a whack (at it)! try to do it
(informal) 3. an amount of money ○ We each
paid the full whack.

Whacked /wɔkt/ adj feeling extremely
tired

Whacking /ˈwækɪŋ/ adj extremely large
(informal). Synonym huge

Whale /weɪl/ noun 1. a very large creature
that lives in the sea ○ You can take a boat
into the mouth of the river to see the whales.
(NOTE: Do not confuse with whaling.) 2. to
have a whale of a time to enjoy yourself
very much (informal) ○ The children had a
whale of a time at the zoo.

Whaling /ˈweɪlɪŋ/ noun the practice of
hunting whales

Wham /wɒm/ noun the loud noise produced
by a solid heavy blow

Wharf /wɜːf/ noun a quay where a ship can
tie up to load or unload. Synonym quay
(NOTE: The plural is wharfs or wharves
/ˈwɜːvz/)
know everything about the situation (informal) (NOTE: 'whatever' which emphasises; in questions)

The builder knows what’s what, so he’ll tell you the details. (NOTE: no plural)

1. *Whatever* /ˈwɛvər/ pron 1. It does not matter what (form of ‘what’ which emphasises; in questions)

2. *None whatsoever* /ˈnʌn ˈwɛvər/ pron none of whatever

3. *What’s* /wɒts/ short form what has, what it is

4. *Wheeler-dealer* /ˈwɛlər dɪˈleɪl/ noun a person who is skilled and successful, but possibly dishonest, in getting what they want, especially in business or politics

5. *Wheel clamp* /ˈwɛləl klaʊmp/ noun a metal frame which is screwed to the wheel of an illegally parked car. Synonym: *clamp*

6. *Wheelbarrow* /ˈwɛlər bəˈrɔʊ/ noun a small cart with one wheel in front, and two handles, used by builders and gardeners to carry heavy loads

7. *Wheelchair* /ˈwɛləl ˈʃeəl/ noun a chair on wheels which people who cannot walk use to move around. (NOTE: A form of ‘what’ which emphasises; in questions)

8. *What about* /ˈwɔt əˈbaʊt/ adv to introduce a suggestion

9. *What if* /ˈwɔt ɪf/ conj 1. at any time

10. *What is this gadget for?* /ˈwɔt ɪz ˈðɪz ˈɡɛdɪt fɔr/ verb to ask a question, the verb is put before the subject: *What is the time?* but *They don’t know what the time is.*

11. *What’s the time?* /ˈwɔt ˈðɪz ˈtɜːm/ verb 1. to try to persuade someone to do something, especially by speaking to them in a soft voice

12. *Wheely bin* /ˈwɛlɪ bɪn/ noun a container on wheels, for putting rubbish in

13. *Whoever* /ˈhuːvər/ adv at any time

14. *Whoever* /ˈhuːvər/ adv from where

15. *Which* /wɪtʃ/ pron

16. *What* /wɒt/ noun a plant of which the circles start to move around

17. *When* /wʌn/ adv at what time

18. *When* /wʌn/ adv in the place

19. *What on earth are you doing?* /ˈwɔt ɒn ˈɜːθ əri ˈjuːz diŋ/ verb to express surprise

20. *What about* /ˈwɔt əˈbaʊt/ adv to introduce a suggestion

21. *Whatever* /ˈwɛvər/ adj, pron

22. *What’s this for?* /ˈwɒts ɪz ɪs fɔr/ verb to ask a question, the verb is put before the subject: *What’s this gadget for?*

23. *Whoever* /ˈhuːvər/ adv to introduce a suggestion

24. *What do you think about it?* /ˈwɔt də juː ˈθɪŋ əˈbaʊt ɪt/ verb to try to persuade someone to do something, especially by speaking to them in a soft voice

25. *When* /wʌn/ adv in the place

26. *What is this for?* /ˈwɒt ɪz ɪs fɔr/ verb to ask a question, the verb is put before the subject: *What is this gadget for?*

27. *What do you think about it?* /ˈwɔt də juː ˈθɪŋ əˈbaʊt ɪt/ verb to try to persuade someone to do something, especially by speaking to them in a soft voice

28. *Whatever* /ˈwɛvər/ adv at any time

29. *Whenever* /ˈwɛvər əˈvaɪər/ adv at any time
where (verb) to or in any place  

where (preposition)  

where (adverb)  

whereabouts plural noun /weəˈrəʊbaʊts/ the place where someone or something is  

whereas /weəz/ conj 1. if you compare this with the fact that  2. considering the following fact  

whenever /weərˈɛvər/ adv by which; according to which (formal) 

wherein /weərˈɪn/ adv in which (formal) 

whereupon /weərˈəʊpən/ adv at that point, after that (literary) 

whither /ˈwɛθər/ verb to what your appetite to make you more interested in something by giving you a little taste of it  

whet /wet/ verb to sharpen your appetite for holidays by the sea.  

whether (‘wɛðər/) conj 1. (showing doubt, or not having reached a decision) if  

which /wɛtʃ/ adj pron 1. (asking a question) what person or thing  2. □ which is what is the difference between the two  

while (noun) some time  

while (adv) 1. at a short time, soon  2. a longer period of time  

whiff /wɪf/ noun a small smell  

whilst (noun)  

whitem n noun a sudden wish or desire. 

whim (noun)
whimper /'wɪmpər/ verb (of a person or small animal) to make low weak cries ○ She whimpered that she would be OK. ○ The dog was whimpering because it was tied up. noun a sad, weak cry ○ I could still hear her whimpers through the bedroom door.

whimsical /'wɪmzɪkl/ adj unusual or strange, not very serious

whine /wʌn/ verb 1. to make a loud high noise ○ You can hear the engines of the racing cars whining in the background. 2. to complain in a loud high voice ○ She was whimpering because it was tied up. ○ We could hear the whine of the engines long before we got to the racetrack. (NOTE: Do not confuse with wine.)

whinge /wɪndʒ/ verb to complain in a whining voice (informal)

whiny /'wɪnɪ/ noun a quiet high sound ○ I heard the horses whinnying in their stables. Synonym neigh

whip /wɪp/ noun 1. a long, thin piece of leather with a handle, used to hit animals to make them do what you want ○ Jockeys use the whip to make their horses run faster. 2. to crack the whip to make everyone do what you want ○ The boss had to crack the whip to get the job finished on time. 3. a MP who controls the attendance of other MPs of his party at the House of Commons and who makes sure that all MPs vote 4. a sweet food made with whipped cream or eggs and fruit or chocolate ○ She made a chocolate whip. 5. a kitchen tool used for whipping things such as cream or eggs ○ I always whisk egg whites by hand.

whisk /wɪsk/ noun a kitchen tool used for whipping things such as cream or eggs ○ She whisked the plate of cakes away before I could take one. ○ They came in, said hello to us, and whisked our daughter off to the restaurant. 2. to beat things such as cream or eggs very quickly ○ Next, whisk the mixture until it is creamy. ○ I always whisk egg whites by hand.

whiskey /wɪski/ noun Irish or American whisky ○ She made a chocolate whip. 1. an alcoholic drink, made in Scotland from barley or other grains ○ The distillery produces thousands of bottles of whisky every year. ○ I don’t like whisky – I prefer gin.

whistle /'wɪsl/ noun 1. a high sound made by blowing through your lips when they are almost closed ○ She gave a whistle

whistle 987

whimper 987

whisper /ˈwɪspər/ noun a quiet voice, or words spoken very quietly ○ She spoke in a whisper. verb to speak very quietly, to make a very quiet sound; to speak secretly ○ He whispered instructions to the other members of the gang. ○ She whispered to the nurse that she wanted something to drink. Synonym murmur. Antonym shout

whirl /wɜːrl/ noun a fast turning movement ○ a whirl of activity ○ let’s give it a whirl ○ I’ll just whip up a salad. 3. to beat things together ○ Whip up the eggs and milk in a bowl. ○ The wind whipped up the waves on the lake.

whirlpool /wɜːrlˈpuːl/ noun a stream of water that turns round and round very fast. Synonym eddy

whirlwind /wɜːrlwɪnd/ noun 1. an extremely strong wind that blows round and round very fast in the centre of an area of very low pressure ○ Whirlwinds come in the summer months and cause a huge amount of damage. (NOTE: Another US term is twister.) 2. something which happens more quickly than usual ○ They had a whirlwind romance, and got married on holiday.

whirr /wɜːr/ noun a low sound like something turning ○ I was woken up by the whirr of a small plane. 1. verb to make a low sound like something turning ○ The journalists’ cameras were whirring and clicking as she stepped out of the church. (NOTE: [all verb senses] The US spelling is whir.) 2. verb to move something very fast ○ She whirled the plate of cakes away before I could take one. ○ They came in, said hello to us, and whisked our daughter off to the restaurant. ○ She whipped the plate of cakes away before I could take one. ○ They came in, said hello to us, and whisked our daughter off to the restaurant.

whip up /ˌwɪp ʌp/ verb 1. to encourage, to make something increase ○ Loudspeaker messages whipped up the crowd’s enthusi-

asm before the match. 2. to get food ready ○ I’ll just whip up a salad. 3. to beat things together ○ Whip up the eggs and milk in a bowl. ○ The wind whipped up the waves on the lake.

whip round /ˈwɪp rəʊnd/ noun (informal) 1. to have a whirl-round to ask everyone to give some money

whip up /ˌwɪp ʌp/ verb 1. to encourage, to make something increase ○ Loudspeaker messages whipped up the crowd’s enthusi-

asm before the match. 2. to get food ready ○ I’ll just whip up a salad. 3. to beat things together ○ Whip up the eggs and milk in a bowl. ○ The wind whipped up the waves on the lake.
whistlestop tour /waʒəlɔp/ n noun a journey where you stop for a short time in many different places

white /waɪt/ adj of a colour like snow or milk ○ A white shirt is part of the uniform. ○ A white car will always look dirty. ○ Her hair is now completely white. ○ Do you take your coffee black or white? ○ white as a sheet completely white, very pale (informal) ○ Are you all right? – you look as white as a sheet. ○ noun 1. the colour of snow or milk ○ The white of the snow-capped mountains stood out against the deep blue of the sky. 2. a person whose skin is pale ○ Whites are in the minority in African countries. 3. the light-coloured meat on a chicken ○ Do you want a leg or some white? 4. a white part of something ○ the white of an egg ○ The whites of his eyes were slightly red. 5. a white wine ○ A glass of house white, please.

white bread /ˈwɔɪt brɛd/ noun a flat white bread in a classroom, on which you can write with a special type of pen

white Christmas /ˈwɔɪt ˈkrɪsməs/ noun Christmas when there is snow on the ground

white coffee /ˈwɔɪt kəf/ noun coffee with milk or cream in it

white elephant /ˈwɔɪt ˈelɪfant/ noun something which cost a lot of money and is of no use

white flag /ˈwɔɪt flæg/ noun a symbol showing that someone is accepting defeat

white goods /ˈwɔɪt ɡʊdz/ plural noun large pieces of electrical equipment which you use in the home, e.g. fridges and washing machines

Whitehall /ˈwɔɪt hɔl/ noun 1. a street in London, leading from Trafalgar Square to the Houses of Parliament, where there are the offices of several government departments ○ As you walk down Whitehall you pass Downing Street on your right. 2. the British government and civil service ○ Whitehall sources suggest that the plan will be adopted. ○ There is a great deal of resistance to the idea in Whitehall. ○ Whitehall mandarins top British civil servants

white-hot /ˈwɔɪt ˈhɔt/ adj extremely hot
The original wheat grain flour which contains a large amount of mystery. Synonym: mystery. I saw at the pub. When whom I saw in the office but this is not common. After who used to ask a question, the verb is put before the subject: Who is that man over there? but I don't know whom that man is over there.)

WHO abbr World Health Organization The WHO's top priority is the eradication of tuberculosis. who'd /huːd/ short form who had, who would


2. whoever /huːˈvɜːr/ pron (emphatic form of 'who') no matter who, anyone who. Whoever finds the umbrella can keep it. Go home with whoever you like.

whole /huːl/ adj all of something. She must have been hungry – she ate a whole apple pie. We spent the whole winter in the south. A whole lot of people went down with flu. noun all, everything. She stayed in bed the whole of Sunday morning and read the newspapers. The whole of the north of the country was covered with snow. Did you watch the whole of the programme? (NOTE: Do not confuse with hole.) adv in one piece. The heron swallowed the fish whole.

wholefood /huːlˈfuːd/ noun food that has had very little processing and has been grown or produced without the use of chemicals.

wholeheartedly /huːlˈhɑrtli/ adv completely or total.

wholemeal /ˈhuːlmiəl/ noun wholemeal flour which contains a large amount of the original wheat grain. I have two slices of wholemeal toast for breakfast. wholemeal bread /ˈhuːlˌmiəl brea/ wholewheat bread /ˈhuːlˌwɪt brea/ noun bread made from flour which contains the whole grain.

whole number /ˈhuːl nʌmber/ noun a number such as 1, 35 or 630 which is not a fraction.

wholesale /ˈhauːslə/ adv buying goods from manufacturers and selling them in large quantities to traders who then sell them in smaller quantities to the general public. He buys wholesale. Compare retail. adj 1. in large quantities. wholesale discount 2. on a large scale. The wholesale killing of wild birds.

WHO's /huːz/ short form who has, who is.

who's /huːz/ pron 1. (asking a question) which belongs to which person. Whose is that car? Whose book is this?

Who's money was stolen?

who've /huːv/ short form who have

why adv 1. (asking a question) for what reason. Why did he have to phone me in the middle of the TV film? I asked the ticket collector why the train was late. 2. agreeing with a suggestion. Would you like some lunch? Why not?

She told me why she couldn't go to the party. 4. showing something else is preferred. Why go by plane to Paris when you can take the train? Why don't we go for a picnic as it's fine? (NOTE: After why used to ask a question, the verb is put before the subject: Why is the sky blue? but I don't know why.)

wholesaler /ˈhauːsələr/ noun a person who buys goods in large quantities from manufacturers and sells them to retailers. Synonym: trader.

wholesome /ˈhauːsoləm/ adj 1. healthy. good for your health. You should stick to a more wholesome diet and stop eating all that junk food. 2. wholesome food food that is good for your health. You should eat fresh fruit and vegetables and other wholesome food.

wholefood /ˈhauːlfoʊd/ adj completely wholesome food. healthy, good for your morals. Those videos are not what I would call good wholesome entertainment for youngsters. whole pie.

whole wheat bread /ˈhauːlˌwɪt brea/ noun a very big lie. She told me a real whopper.

Whoops! (NOTE: Do not confuse with whoop.) noun a loud cry. The boys let out whoops as they ran down the hill. Synonym: shout (NOTE: Do not confuse with hoop.) verb to make loud cries. The gong rang along the main street, shouting and whooping at passers-by.

Whooping cough /ˈhauːpiŋ kɒf/ noun an infectious disease mainly of children which affects the bronchial tubes and causes the patient to make a gasping noise.

Whoops! /ˈhauːps/ interj used to show that an accident has almost happened. Whoops! you nearly hit that tree! She went charging across the kitchen on her trike and whoops! just missed Mum carrying a pile of plates.

Whopper /ˈwɔpə/ noun 1. a very large thing 2. a very big lie. She told me a real whopper.

Whoop! /ˈwuːp/ interj 1. (formal) do you remember the girl who used to ask a question, the verb is put before the subject: Why is the sky blue? but I don't know why. 2. (informal) Synonym: enormous. Antonym: tiny.
wicked /ˈwɪkɪd/ adj 1. very bad ○ What a wicked thing to say! ○ It was wicked of them to steal the birds’ eggs. 2. behaving badly in a way that is not serious ○ She gave a wicked little laugh. 3. dangerous ○ He came in carrying a wicked axe. 4. very good ○ They do a wicked line in French pastries.

widely /ˈwɪdli/ adv in a wicked way

wickedness /ˈwɪkdznəs/ noun the fact of being wicked

wicker /ˈwɪkər/ adj made of thin pieces of wood or twigs woven together ○ a wicker basket ○ wicker furniture

wickerwork /ˈwɪkwɪkərwɜːk/ noun things made of thin pieces of wood or twigs woven together (NOTE: no plural)

wicket /ˈwɪkt/ noun (in cricket) 1. a set of three sticks put in the ground with two small sticks on top, used as the target ○ The first ball hit his wicket. 2. the main playing area between two sets of these sticks ○ fast wicket a wicket where the ball moves fast off the ground ○ slow wicket a wicket where the ball moves slowly off the ground ○ to be on a sticky wicket to be in an difficult situation (informal)

wicket-keeper /ˈwɪktɪkɪpər/ noun (in cricket) a player who stands behind the wicket to stop the balls that the batsman does not hit

wide /wɔːd/ adj 1. which measures from side to side ○ The table is three foot or three feet wide. ○ The river is not very wide at this point. 2. to a great degree, including a large amount ○ The shop carries a wide range of imported goods. ○ She has a wide knowledge of French painting. 3. width /wɔːdθ/ noun (NOTE: wider – widest) 4. adv 1. as far as possible, as much as possible ○ She opened her eyes wide. ○ The door was wide open so we just walked in. ○ wide apart separated by a large space ○ He stood with his legs wide apart. 2. not on the target ○ The shells fell wide of their target. ○ to be wide of the mark to be very wrong ○ He’s wide of the mark when he says that that old car is worth £2000. 5. noun (in cricket) a ball which goes too far to the side of the batsman

wide awake /wɔːd ˈwɜːk/ adj, adv completely awake

wide-eyed /wɔːd ˈwɜːk/ adj with eyes wide open

wilden /ˈwɪldən/ verb 1. to make wider ○ We need to widen the road to take larger lorries. 2. to become wider ○ Further along, the road widens into two lanes in each direction. wide-ranging /ˈwɜːd rɪŋ/ adj which covers a wide range of subjects. Synonym extensive. Antonym narrow

widescreen /ˈwɜːdskrɪn/ adj referring to a television whose screen is noticeably wider than average

widely /ˈwɜːdspred/ adj over a large area. Synonym extensive. Antonym limited

widget /ˈwɪdʒt/ noun a small useful object (humorous)

widow /ˈwɜːdɔʊ/ noun a woman whose husband has died and who has not married again ○ widow ○ widower

widower /ˈwɜːdɔʊ/ noun a man whose wife has died and who has not married again ○ widow ○ widower

wild /wɜːld/ verb 1. to hold something, usually by its handle, and use it ○ Her attacker was wielding a knife. 2. to use or have power to control people ○ The state wields enormous power over the ordinary citizen.

wife /wɔːft/ noun a woman who is married to a man ○ I know Mr Jones quite well but I’ve never met his wife. ○ They both came with their wives ○ old wives’ tale. Synonym spouse. Antonym husband (NOTE: The plural is wives /wɔːvz/)

wig /wɪg/ noun false hair worn on the head

wiggle /ˈwɪgl/ verb to move slightly up and down or from side to side. Synonym wriggle

wiggly /ˈwɪglɪ/ adj which is not straight

wild /wɜːld/ adj 1. living naturally, not tame ○ Wild dogs roam over parts of Australia. ○ wild animals animals which are living in natural surroundings, as opposed to pets or farm animals ○ We watched a TV programme on wild animals in Africa. 2. wild mountain scenery mountains with features such as high cliffs and waterfalls 3. very angry; very excited ○ He will be wild when he sees what I have done to the car. ○ The fans went wild at the end of the match. ○ to be wild about something to be very interested in something (informal) ○ She’s wild about motorbikes. ○ beyond your wildest
planned in advance. Wilful murder is a murder which was not, usually written wouldn't. Note also that will is often shortened to 'll: he'll = he will. Verb to will someone to do something to want someone to do something, and suggest it by thinking it. The crowd was willing her to win the match. Noun 1. power of the mind and character. She lost the will to live. To work with a will to work very earnestly and willingly with the best will in the world however much you want to do something. Even with the best will in the world, I don't see how we can finish it in time. A wish against your will without your agreement. He was forced to pay the money against his will. Of your own free will willingly, without being forced. He signed the document of his own free will. At will whenever you want to. Visitors can wander around the gardens at will. A legal document by which a person gives instructions to his or her executors as to what should happen to the property after he or she dies. He wrote his will in 1984. According to her will, all her property is left to her children. Has she made a will yet? Willing 'wel/adj keen to help. Is there anyone who is willing to drive the jeep? I need two willing helpers to wash the car. Noun eagerness to help. To show you are eager to help. Willingly 'wel/adv readily, in a eager way. Willingness 'wel/noun the quality of being ready to do something. Willowy 'wel/adj tall and slender. Willpower 'wel/noun strength of will. Synonym: determination. Antonym: weakness. Wilt 'wil/noun a disease of plants which makes them droop. The lettuces are all suffering from wilt. Verb to become weak and droop. We've had no rain for days and the plants in the garden have started to wilt. We all started off at a fast pace, but after the first mile or so some of us began to wilt. Wily 'wil/adj full of tricks. Synonym: crafty. Antonym: ingenuous. (NOTE: wiler ~ wiliest). Wimp 'wimp/noun a weak individual (informal insult). Win 'win/noun the act of beating someone in a game. The local team has only had two wins so far this year. We're disappointed, we expected a win. Synonym: victory. Antonym: defeat. Verb, to beat someone in a game; to be first in a race. I expect our team will win tomorrow. The local team won their match yesterday. She
wince 992

wind 992

windsurfing 992

wince

won the race easily. to win hands down to win easily. to get a prize. She won first prize in the art competition. He won two million pounds on the lottery. She’s hoping to win a new car in a competition in the paper. (NOTE: winning – won /wʌn/) wince /wɪns/ noun a reaction on your face which shows you feel pain or embarrassment. He gave a wince as the nurse cleaned his wound. verb to show signs of pain or embarrassment, especially on your face. He winced as the nurse gave him an injection.

wind /wɪnd/ noun

wind instrument /ˈwɪnd ɪnstrəmənt/ noun a musical instrument which you have to blow to make a note. windmill /ˈwɪndmɪl/ noun a mill driven by sails which turn when the wind blows. They live in an old windmill in East Anglia. Windmills were used to grind corn into flour.

window /ˈwɪndəʊ/ noun

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windswep t /ˈwɪndswept/ adj blown by the wind. Synonym desolate. Antonym sheltered.

wind up /wɪndˈʌp/ verb 1. to twist round and round 2. to twist a key to make a machine work 3. When did you wind up the clock or wind the clock up? 4. to turn a key to make something go up 5. to wind up a company to put a company into liquidation 6. The court ordered the company to be wound up, 7. to make someone annoyed 8. He only did it to wind you up.

wine /wɪn/ noun 1. an alcoholic drink made from grapes 2. Two glasses of white wine, please. 3. Should we have some white wine with the fish? 4. an alcoholic drink made from the juice of fruit or flowers 5. elderberry wine 6. to wine and dine someone to invite someone for an expensive meal 7. He seems to spend most of his time wining and dining potential customers.

wing /wɪŋ/ noun 1. one of the two parts of the body, which a bird or butterfly etc. uses to fly 2. a brown butterfly, with white spots on its wings 3. the little birds were flapping their wings, trying to fly 4. Which part of the chicken do you prefer, a leg or a wing? 5. to take someone under your wing to help someone by showing them what to do, especially someone who is new to the work or in training 6. one of the two flat parts sticking from the side of an aircraft, which hold an aircraft in the air 7. He had a seat by the wing, so he could not see much out of the window 8. a part of a large building which leads off to the side of the main building, often built as an extension 9. They are building a new wing for the hospital 10. a body panel over the wheel of a car, which protects against splashing water and mud 11. The front wing was dented in the crash. (NOTE: The US term is fender.) 12. the side of a football or hockey pitch 13. He ran along the left wing 14. a winger, player who plays on the wing 15. He passed the ball out to the wing 16. a part of a political party which has a certain tendency 17. She is on the right wing of the Conservative party 18. a group of squadrons in the air force 19. waiting in the wings waiting to do something 20. The boss must not make any more mistakes — Stephen is waiting in the wings to take over.

winger /ˈwɪŋər/ noun (in football, hockey, etc.) a person who plays on the side of the field 1. One of the wingers kicked the ball into the net 2. suffix referring to a person on the right or left wing politically 3. a right-winger.

wing mirror /ˈwɪŋ mɜːr/ noun one of a pair of mirrors attached to the outside of a vehicle and providing a view to the rear.

wingspan /ˈwɪŋspæn/ noun a measurement from the tip of one wing to the tip of another.

wind the clock up? /wɪnd/ verb 1. to shut and open one eye quickly, as a signal 2. She winked at him to try to tell him that everything was going well. 3. The lights of the harbour were winking in the distance.

wink /wɪŋk/ verb 1. to shut and open one eye quickly, as a signal 2. hardly sleep a wink almost not to sleep at all 3. We hardly slept a wink last night because the children kept waking us up.

winner /ˈwɪnər/ noun 1. a person who wins 2. The winner of the race gets a silver cup. 3. something which is successful 4. His latest book is a winner.

winter /ˈwɪntər/ noun 1. which has won 2. The winning team go on to the next stage of the tournament. 3. She had the winning lottery ticket. 4. pleasant, attractive 5. She has a very winning smile.

winter holiday /ˈwɪntər həˈlɪdəri/ noun a period of time when a person has continuing good luck.

wind over /wɪnd /verb to persuade someone who was previously reluctant.

winter /ˈwɪntər/ noun the coldest season of the year, the season between autumn and spring. 1. In some countries winter usually means snow. 2. It’s too cold to do any gardening in the winter. 3. We’re taking a winter holiday in Mexico. 4. to spend the winter in a place 5. These birds usually winter in Southern Portugal.
winter solstice /ˈwɪntər ˈsɒlstɪs/ noun 994

winter solstice /ˈwɪntər ˈsɒlstɪs/ noun 21 at December, the shortest day in the northern hemisphere, when the sun is at its furthest point north of the equator

winter sports /ˈwɪntər ˈspɔr츠/ plural noun sports which are done in the winter, such as skiing and skating etc.

wintry /ˈwɪntrɪ/ adj 1. cold like winter ○ They are forecasting more wintry weather tonight. 2. unfriendly and cold ○ He gave them a wintry smile which made conversation difficult.

win-win /ˈwɪn-ˈwɪn/ adj used to describe a situation which has a satisfactory outcome for all the parties involved

wipe /wɜːp/ verb 1. to clean or dry with a cloth ○ Wipe your shoes with a cloth before you polish them. ○ Here’s a hanky to wipe your nose. ○ Use the blue towel to wipe your hands. 2. noun the action of cleaning or drying with a cloth ○ She gave the table a quick wipe.

wipe out /wɜːp ˈaʊt/ verb 1. to kill, to destroy ○ The tidal wave wiped out half the villages along the coast. 2. to remove completely ○ The costs of moving to the new office have completely wiped out our profits.

wire /ˈwɜːrə/ noun 1. a thin piece of metal or metal thread ○ He used bits of wire to attach the apple tree to the wall. ○ The chip basket is made of woven wire. 2. (electric) wire thin metal thread along which electricity flows, usually covered with coloured plastic ○ The wires seem to be all right, so there must be a problem with the dishwasher itself.

wireless /ˈwɜːrəlis/ noun a radio receiver (dated, odd)

wiring /ˈwɜːrərɪŋ/ noun all the wires which make up a system to carry electricity round a building

wiry /ˈwɜːrə/ adj 1. (of a person) thin but strong 2. (of hair) stiff and not easily combed (NOTE: wirier – wiriest)

wisdom /ˈwɜːzdəm/ noun a general common sense. Antonym foolishness

wisdom tooth /ˈwɜːzdəm ˈtəʊθ/ noun one of the four back human teeth which only grow after the age of 20, or sometimes not at all

wise /ˈwɜːz/ adj 1. having intelligence and being sensible ○ I don’t think it’s wise to ask her to invest all that money in his business. ○ It was a wise decision to cancel the trip.

wit /wɪt/ noun 1. an ability to say clever and funny things ○ His wit comes out all through his book. 2. at your wits’ end not knowing what to do next ○ They were at their wits’ end when the builders reported even more...
cult situation and think hard what to do next. Don’t panic, keep your wits about you, and everything will be all right.

witch /wɪtʃ/ noun a woman believed to have magic powers. Compare wizard (NOTE: The plural is witches.)

witchcraft /wɪtʃˈkraɪft/ noun the art of magic

witch hunt /ˈwɪtʃ hʌnt/ noun persecution of people who are supposed to be politically unreliable

1. with /wɪð, ɪð/ prep 1. showing that things or people are together • She came here with her mother. • My sister is staying with us for a few days. (NOTE: with is used with many adjectives and verbs: to agree with, to be pleased with.) 2. something which you have • The girl with blond hair. • They live in the house with the pink door.

2. withdrawing /ˈwɪðdrɔʊɪŋ/ verb 1. to move back • The crowd slowly withdrew as the soldiers advanced. • He talked to the guests for a few moments, then withdrew into his library. 2. to take back • The old coins have been withdrawn from circulation. 3. to take money out of a bank account • You can withdraw up to £100 from any cash machine. 4. to take back something which has been said • She withdrew her offer to provide the food for the party. (NOTE: withdrew /wɪˈðruː/ withdrawn)

3. withdrawal /ˈwɪðdrɔʊəl/ noun 1. the act of removing money from a bank account • She made three withdrawals last week. 2. the act of going back, doing the opposite of what you had said you would do • His withdrawal from the election surprised his friends.

withdrawal symptoms /ˈwɪðdrɔʊəl ˈsɪmptrənz/ plural noun an unpleasant physical condition which occurs when someone stops taking an addictive drug

withdrawn /ˈwɪðdrɔʊn/ adj shy, not liking to meet other people

wither /ˈwɪðər/ verb (of plants) to grow weaker and dry up, to shrivel

withering /ˈwɪðərɪŋ/ adj disapproving, which makes someone feel embarrassed.

Synonym contemptuous. Antonym complimentary

withhold /wɪˈhaʊld/ verb to refuse to let someone have something. Synonym hold back (NOTE: withholding – withheld /wɪˈhɔld/)

within /wɪnˈθəns/ prep 1. (in space or time) in • The house is within easy reach of the station. • We are within walking distance of the shop. • I must go back for a checkup within three months. • They promised to deliver the sofa within a week. 2. within sight able to be seen • We are almost there, the house is within sight. • The ship sank within sight of land. 2. within the law legal • Is parking on the pavement within the law?

without /wɪˈθaʊt/ prep 1. not with • They came on a walking holiday without any boots. • She managed to live for a few days without any food. • He was stuck in Germany without any money. • They were fined for travelling without tickets. 2. not doing something • She sang for an hour without stopping. • They lived in the hut in the forest without seeing anybody for weeks. 3. without doubt certainly • It is, without any doubt, his best film ever.

withstand /wɪˈstænd/ verb to resist something difficult or unpleasant. Synonym endure □ to withstand the test of time to survive • Shakespeare’s comedies have withstood the test of time remarkably well.

wit /wɪt/ noun intelligence

witty /ˈwɪtɪ/ adj clever and funny. Synonym amusing (NOTE: Wittier – wittiest)
you when you really need help no one believes you. Call for help when you do not need it, so that you might know what to do next.

Wizard /ˈwɪzədr/ noun 1. a man who is believed to have magical powers. The wizard made the frog change into a prince. (NOTE: The female equivalent is a witch.) 2. a clever person, expert. He’s a wizard at chess.

Wizardry /ˈwɪzədrɪ/ noun being clever

Wizened /ˈwɪzn(ə)nd/ adj dried and wrinkled. Synonym: wrinkled

Wobble /ˈwɒbl/ verb to move unsteadily from side to side. The children made the jelly wobble in their bowls. Don’t wobble the table when I’m pouring coffee.

Wobbly /ˈwɒblɪ/ adj, unsteady shaking movement. The front wheel has a wobble.

Womb /wəʊmb/ noun a Chinese round-bottomed frying pan used in stir-fry cooking

Woke /wʊk/ woken /ˈwʊk(ə)n/ wake wolf /wʊlf/ noun 1. a wild animal like a large dog, usually living in groups in the forest. At night the wolves came and howled outside the hut. A pack of wolves is a group of wolves living together.

Wake wolf to cry wolf to call for help when you do not need it, so that when you really need help no one believes you. To keep the wolf from the door to have enough food to live on. With prices rising all the time they have difficulty in keeping the wolf from the door.

Wolf in sheep’s clothing a person who seems innocent but really is wicked.

Wolf whistle /wʊlf, wʌsəl/ noun a whistle made by a man when he sees an attractive woman.

Woman /ˈwʊmən/ noun 1. an adult female person. The manageress is an extremely witty woman. There were two middle-aged women in the seats next to ours.

Wonderland /ˈwʌndəlænd/ noun a marvellous imaginary place. Synonym: utopia
woolly /ˈwʊli/ adj, noun clothes made of knitted wool. Synonym clothing (NOTE: The US spelling is woollen.)

wondrous /ˈwʌndrəs/ adj wonderful (literary)

woody /ˈwʊdi/ adj, adv. 1. unreliable to use. 2. not straight

wood /wʊd/ noun 1. a hard material which comes from a tree. 2. The kitchen table is made of wood. 3. She picked up a piece of wood and put it on the fire. 4. A wood floor would be just right for this room. (NOTE: no plural: some wood, a piece of wood). 5. many trees growing together. 6. The path goes straight through the wood. 7. Their house is on the edge of a wood. (NOTE: The plural is woods.) 8. not to see the wood for the trees not to see what is important because you are concentrating only on details (informal 3). 9. we're not out of the woods yet we still have problems. 10. There’s still so much to do to the house, we’re not out of the woods yet.

woody /ˈwʊdi/ adj covered in trees

wooden /ˈwʊdn/ adj, noun 1. made out of wood. 2. In the market we bought little wooden dolls for the children. 3. (of an actor) showing no emotion when acting. 4. He was very wooden on stage, not at all natural.

woodland /ˈwʊdlænd/ noun an area of land covered in trees

woodpecker /ˈwʊdpɛkər/ noun a bird with a long sharp beak which makes holes in trees to find insects under the bark

woods /ˈwʊdz/ plural noun an area of land covered in trees

woodwind /ˈwʊdwɪnd/ noun smaller instruments in an orchestra such as the flute, clarinet, oboe and bassoon, which are played by blowing

woodwork /ˈwʊdərwɜːk/ noun 1. the art of working with wood. 2. Woodwork classes were the ones I liked best at school. 3. the parts of a building which are made of wood. 4. All the woodwork will be painted white. (NOTE: no plural)

woodworm /ˈwʊdərˈwɜːm/ noun a little insect that eats wood

woof /wʊfl/ noun 2. the sound made by a dog when it barks. 3. A dog goes ‘woof, woof’, a cat goes ‘miaow.’ 4. Your father must be back, I've just heard a woof from the garden. 5. verb (of a dog) to bark. 6. This great black dog roused out and woofed at me.

wool /wʊl/ noun 1. long threads of twisted animal hair, used to make clothes or carpets etc. 2. The carpet is made of wool. 3. I need an extra ball of wool to finish this pull-over. 4. the hair growing on a sheep. 5. The sheep are sheared and the wool sent to market in early summer. 6. to pull the wool over someone's eyes to deceive someone by not telling them the true facts. 7. The estate agent tried to pull the wool over our eyes about the house, but luckily the surveyor pointed out some structural defects.

woolens /ˈwʊlənz/ plural noun clothes made of wool. Synonym clothing (NOTE: The US spelling is woollen.)

woolly /ˈwʊli/ adj 1. made out of wool. 2. She wore a woolly hat. 3. looking like wool. 4. Little woolly clouds floated past in the sky. 5. not clear. 6. His explanation was really very woolly. (NOTE: woollier – woolliest) 7. noun a knitted piece of clothing made of wool. (informal) 8. Don't forget to take a woolly – it's quite cold today. 9. October – it's time to get your winter woollies out. (NOTE: The plural is woolies.)

woozy /ˈwʊzɪ/ adj feeling confused and dizzy

word /wɜːd/ noun 1. a separate piece of language, either written or spoken. 2. This sentence has five words. 3. He always spells some words wrongly, such as 'though'. 4. word for word exactly as it is said or written. 5. Tell me what he said word for word. 6. A word-for-word translation often doesn't make any sense. 7. something spoken. 8. She passed me in the street but didn’t say a word. 9. I'd like to say a few words about Mr Smith who is retiring today. 10. to have a word with something to say anything. 11. She went out of the room without a word. 12. by word of mouth spoken, not written. 13. something written. 14. We received a word from my sister – she's now in Canada. 15. We've not heard a word from the lawyers. 16. a promise which you have made. 17. to give your word to promise. 18. He gave his word that the matter would remain confidential. 19. to keep your word to do what you promised to do. 20. He kept his word, and the cheque arrived the next day.
take someone’s word for it to accept what someone says as being true. 5. to breathe a word to mention something. 6. We want to keep our plans secret for the moment, so don’t breathe a word to anyone. 7. to have words with someone to argue with someone. They were good friends until one day they had words about the fence. 8. in a word briefly. In other words that is to say. 9. It’s seven o’clock – in other words, time for dinner. 10. I’m going on holiday next month, in other words I’ll be away from the office for about four weeks. 11. not in so many words not speaking in exactly that way. 12. you took the words out of my mouth you’ve said exactly what I was going to say. 13. to mince your words to say exactly what you think. I didn’t mince my words – I told them exactly what I thought of their wretched plan. 14. for words to be mentioned. It’s too stupid for words. 15. to put in words, either written or spoken. He wrote a very strongly worded letter. Synonym express.

wording /ˈwɜːdɪŋ/ noun words and phrases used in a piece of writing. wordprocessing /ˈwɜːd.prəˈsesɪŋ/ noun using a computer to produce, check and change texts, reports and letters etc. Also called textprocessing.

word processor /ˈwɜːd.prəˈsesər/ noun 1. a small computer which is used to produce texts, reports and letters etc. She offered to write the letter for me on her word processor. 2. You can use my word processor to type your letter if you like. 3. a word-processing program which allows you to create texts, edit them and print them. Synonym wordeditor.

wordy /ˈwɜːdi/ adj using too many words. Synonym verbose. Antonym concise. (NOTE: wordier – wordiest)

word /ˈwɜːk/ noun 1. something done using your strength or your brain. There’s a great deal of work still to be done. 2. There’s too much work for one person. She tries to avoid doing too much work in the house. 3. If you’ve finished that piece of work, there’s plenty more to be done. 4. Cooking for two hundred people every day is hard work. 5. to have your work cut out to do something to find it difficult. They’ll have their work cut out to get the job finished on time. 6. a job done regularly to earn money. He goes to work every day on his bicycle. 7. Work starts at 9 a.m. and finishes at 5 p.m. Her work involves a lot of travelling. 8. He is still looking for work. Synonym job.

working /ˈwɜːkɪŋ/ adj 1. The builders are still hard at work. 2. She’s at work today, but will have the day off tomorrow. 3. out of work without a job. 4. Hundreds of people were out of work when the factory closed. 5. She has been out of work for six months. 6. something which has been made, painted or written by someone. 7. the complete works of Shakespeare. Synonym exhibition. An exhibition of the work of local artists.

verb 1. to use your strength or brain to do something. I can’t work in the garden if it’s raining. 2. He’s working well at school. We’re very pleased with his progress. 3. Work hard and you’ll soon get a better job. 4. to set to work to start working. 5. If we all set to work early, we should finish the job this evening. 6. to have a job. 7. She works in an office in London. 8. He used to work in his father’s shop. 9. She had to stop working when her mother was ill. 10. [of a machine] to run. The computers aren’t working. 11. The machine works by electricity. 12. to make a machine run. She works the biggest printing machine in the factory. 13. Do you know how to work the microwave? 14. to be successful. 15. His plan worked well. 16. Will the plan work? 17. If the cough medicine doesn’t work, you’ll have to see a doctor. 18. to move a little. 19. to work loose to become loose by constant use. 20. The nut holding the wheel must have worked loose.

workable /ˈwɜːkəbl/ adj which can work.

work against /ˈwɜːk əˈgenst/ verb to have the opposite effect. Synonym counteract.

workaholic /ˈwɜːkəˌholɪk/ noun a person who cannot stop working. (informal)

work at /ˈwɜːk ət/ verb 1. to work at something to work hard. 2. If you want to become a concert pianist you will have to work at it.

work bench /ˈwɜːk bɛntʃ/ noun a table in a workshop at which someone works.


worked up /ˈwɜːkt əˈpʊ/ adj (informal) 1. all worked up about something excited or annoyed about something. The people in the village got all worked up about the plan for the new airport.

worker /ˈwɜːkər/ noun 1. a person who works. 2. She’s a good worker. 3. He’s a fast worker. 4. a person who works in a particular job. 5. The factory closed when the workers went on strike. 6. Office workers usually work from 9.30 to 5.30. 7. a female bee which goes to find pollen to provide the queen with honey. 8. Workers go out of the hive to search.
The gold seam was worked out some years ago.

work ethic /ˈwɜːrk ɪθɪk/ noun a belief that working hard is the best way to live your life

workforce /ˈwɜːrk fɔːs/ noun all the people who work in an office or factory (NOTE: no plural)

working /ˈwɜːrkɪŋ/ adj referring to a job or to work. • The working population of a country. • The unions have complained about working conditions in the factory. • He came to the party in his working clothes.

work a way or ways in which something works • The workings of a car engine are a complete mystery to him. • I wish I could understand the workings of local government!

working breakfast /ˈwɜːrkɪŋ ˈbrekfəst/ noun a business meeting during breakfast

working class /ˈwɜːrkɪŋ ˈklɑs/ noun a group in society consisting of people who work with their hands, usually earning wages, not salaries.

working day /ˈwɜːrkɪŋ ˈdeɪ/ noun 1. a day on which someone works 2. the number of hours someone spends at work

working life /ˈwɜːrkɪŋ ˈlaɪf/ noun the years a person has worked

working party /ˈwɜːrkɪŋ ˈpɑrti/ noun a group of experts who study a problem and report on how to deal with it. Synonym: task force

workings /ˈwɜːrkɪŋz/ plural noun a place where a mineral has been dug • That hole is the entrance to some old iron workings.

working week /ˈwɜːrkɪŋ ˈwɪk/ noun the part of the week when people usually go to work

workload /ˈwɜːrk loʊd/ noun an amount of work which a person has to do

workman /ˈwɜːrkˌmæn/ noun a man who works with his hands (NOTE: The plural is workmen.)

workmanlike /ˈwɜːrkˌmænli/k/ adj thorough and satisfactory but not imaginative

workmanship /ˈwɜːrkˌmænʃip/ noun the skill of a good workman

work on /ˈwɜːrk ən/ verb to work hard to make something better

work out /ˈwɜːrk əut/ verb 1. to calculate • I’m trying to work out if we’ve sold more this year than last. • The waiter couldn’t work out the total bill. 2. to work out at to amount to an amount • The total works out at £10.50 per person. 2. to succeed • Everything worked out quite well in the end.

work something out to find a successful way of solving a problem 3. to do exercises • He works out every morning in the gym. 4. (of a mine) to exhaust a seam of coal etc., and not be able to continue working there

The steel works will be closed next week for stopovers.

He's worked himself up into such a state about his exams.

work ethic 999 world-class

workplace /ˈwɜːrkplɛs/ noun a place where work is done

work • works /ˈwɜːks/ plural noun 1. a factory • The steel works will be closed next week for the Christmas holidays. 2. parts of a machine • I looked inside the clock and there seems to be dust in the works. • noun 4. the works everything (informal) • They built a conservatory with a fountain, automatic lighting, a barbecue – the works!

worksheet /ˈwɜːrkʃɪst/ noun a sheet of questions for students to answer

workshop /ˈwɜːrkʃɔp/ noun a very small factory where things are made or repaired

workstation /ˈwɜːrkˌstɑːʃən/ noun a desk with terminal, monitor or keyboard etc., where a computer operator works. Synonym: workplace

work up /ˈwɜːrk ʌp/ verb 1. to develop • I find it difficult to work up any enthusiasm for my job. 2. to do some hard work to make something happen • I’m doing some digging to work up an appetite. 3. to work yourself up into a state to make yourself annoyed and worried by something • He’s worked himself up into such a state about his exams.

worked up 2. world /ˈwɜːrd/ noun 1. the earth on which we live • Here is a map of the world. 2. She flew round the world twice last year. • He has to travel all over the world on business. 3. A round-the-world ticket allows several stopovers. 4. to come into the world to be born • to bring a child into the world to give birth to a baby • who in the world is John Sparrow? do you have any idea who John Sparrow is? to be all alone in the world to have no family • He isn’t married, an only child, both his parents are dead, so he’s all alone in the world. 2. to be on top of the world to feel very happy (informal) • She’s got a new boyfriend and is on top of the world. 3. out of this world magnificent • The cooking in the restaurant was out of this world. 4. to think the world of someone to respect or love someone • They think the world of their daughter. 5. to do someone a world of good to make someone feel much better • His holiday has done him a world of good. 6. people with a particular interest or who work in a particular business • He’s very interested in the world of music. 7. She wants to get into the world of big business. 8. a particular group of animals etc. • the insect world • the world of mammals

world-class /ˈwɜːrd klas/ adj so good as to be among the best in the world. Synonym: first-rate
World Health Organization (WHO):

The WHO's top priority is the eradication of diseases through by twisting and turning material world shortened to the Web which has no limbs and lives in the soil worms.

Birds were pecking at the soil for worms. She absolutely worships her boyfriend. (NOTE: worshipping = worshipped)

worship

worship

worst

worst
worth

worth /wɜːθ/ adj 1. to be worth to have a certain value or price. 2. This ring’s worth a lot of money. 3. Gold is worth more than silver. 4. The house is worth more than £250,000. 5. The car is worth £6,000 on the secondhand market. 6. noun a value. 7. Its worth will increase each year. 8. She lost jewellery of great worth in the fire. 9. Can you give me twenty pounds’ worth of petrol? 10. worthless /wɜːθləs/ adj having no worth, no use.

worthwhile /wɜːθwai/ adj which is worth the effort spent on it. Antonym unworthy.

worth

would /wʊd/ modal verb 1. used as a polite way of asking someone to do something. 2. Would you please stop talking? 3. Would someone please tell me where the library is? 4. Would you like some more tea? 5. used as the past of ‘will’. 6. He said he would be here for lunch. 7. She hoped she would be well enough to come. 8. He wouldn’t go even if I paid him. 9. used as the past of ‘will’, showing something which often happens. 10. He would bring his dog with him, even though we asked him not to. 11. Naturally the car wouldn’t start when we were in a hurry. 12. My husband forgot my birthday again this year – he would! 13. used for showing something that you do not notice any more. 14. He would always be there waiting outside the station. 15. They would often bring us flowers. 16. used following a condition. 17. I’m sure that if they could come, they would. 18. I would’ve done it if you had asked me to. 19. If she were alive, she would sit where she’d be a hundred years old today. 20. If it snowed we would or we’d go skiing. (NOTE: the negative would not is usually written wouldn’t. Note also that would is often shortened to ‘d: she’d be a hundred, he’d stay at home. Note also that would is only used with other verbs and is not followed by to).

would-be /wʊdbi/ adj who hopes to become. Antonym hopeful.

wouldn’t /wʊdɪnt/ short form would not

would rather /wʊd rəˈðər/ verb to prefer. 1. a cut made on someone’s body, usually in fighting. 2. a hurt to someone’s feelings. 3. The wounds caused by the divorce will take years to heal. 4. verb /wʊnd/ 1. to hurt someone badly by cutting into their flesh. 2. Two of the gang were wounded in the bank robbery. 3. as a young soldier he was badly wounded in the battle of the Somme. 4. to hurt someone’s feelings. 5. She was deeply wounded by what he said.

wound up /ˈwʊnd ap/ adj tense and anxious (informal). Antonym relaxed.

wove, woven /ˈwʌv, ˈwʌvn/ past tense and past participle weave

wow /waʊ/ interj showing surprise and pleasure. 1. Wow! have you seen his new girlfriend? 2. Wow! have you seen his new car? 3. noun 1. someone or something that is impressive or successful. 2. a variation of sound frequency when playing back tapes. 3. Wow is usually caused by uneven tape movement. 4. verb (of a singer etc.) to excite an audience (informal). 5. The new singing group wowed their fans.

WPC abbr woman police constable (NOTE: also used as a title before a name: WPC Smith).
wreath
d of holly, hung on a door as a Christmas decoration. 3. a circle of leaves put round someone’s head. 4. a circle of leaves put round a door as a symbol of mourning.

wreck
1. a ship which has been sunk or badly damaged. 2. to ruin. 3. to twist and pull something violently. 4. to tow away the wreck of the car. 5. to ruin a person. 6. to ruin something violently. 7. something violently twisted or pulled. 8. a large spanner. 9. a new car is now a total wreck. 10. any material which has been damaged and cannot be used.

wreath
1. a circle of holly, hung on a door as a Christmas decoration. 2. wreaths of holly on their front doors at Christmas. 3. a circle of leaves put round someone’s head. 4. a circle of leaves put round a door as a symbol of mourning.

wretched
1. miserable and ill. 2. terrible or annoying. 3. wretched contract. 4. wretchedly. 5. wretchedly. 6. wretchedly. 7. wretchedly. 8. wretchedly. 9. wretchedly. 10. wretchedly.
Times? (NOTE: writing - wrote /rʌt/ - has written /rɪ'tɔːn/)  
write back /rɑːt 'baːk/ verb to answer by letter  
write down /rɑːt 'daʊn/ verb to write something  
write in /rɑːt 'ɪn/ verb to write a letter to an organisation  
write off /rɑːt 'ɒf/ verb 1. to cancel a debt 2. The bank couldn’t trace him so they had to write the debt off. 3. to remove an asset from a company’s accounts because it no longer has any value 4. the car was written off the insurance company considered it a total loss  
write-off /rɑːt ɒf/ noun a total loss, removing an asset from a company’s accounts  
write out /rɑːt 'aʊt/ verb to write something in full 1. to write out a cheque to write the words and figures on a cheque and then sign it  
write-protected /rɑːt prə'tektid/ adj (of a computer disk) which cannot be altered or erased  
writer /rɑːt/ noun a person who writes  
who is the writer of this letter? 2. She’s the writer of books on gardening. Synonym author  
write up /rɑːt 'ʌp/ verb to write a text fully from notes which you have taken 1. I took masses of notes, and now I have to write them up for the local newspaper.  
write-up /rɑːt ʌp/ noun an article about someone or something in a newspaper  
write /rɑːt/ verb to twist and turn when pain is very severe. Synonym squirm  
writing /'rɔːtɪŋ/ noun 1. something which is written 2. Please don’t phone, reply in writing. 3. Put everything in writing, then you have a record of what has been done. 2. the writing is on the wall there are signs that a disaster is about to happen (informal) 3. The writing is on the wall for old-fashioned grocer’s shops. 4. writing done by hand 5. His writing’s so bad I can’t read it. Synonym handwriting 4. the occupation of being a writer 5. He earns his living from writing.  
writings /rɪ'tɪŋz/ plural noun serious things written  
written /'rɪt(ə)n/ adj which has been put in writing  
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writings /ˈrɪtɪŋz/ plural noun serious things written  
written /ˈrɪt(ə)n/ adj which has been put in writing
x /eks/, X noun 1. the twenty-fourth letter of the alphabet, between W and Y 2. used to indicate an unknown person 3. a mark like a cross, especially on a map 4. an unknown mathematical value 5. a multiplication sign 6. showing size 7. the Roman numeral for ten or tenth 8. the Roman numeral for twenty or twentieth 9. Xmas /ˈkrɪsməs, ˈɛksməs/ noun same as Christmas (informal)  

XML noun a computer programming language designed for web documents  

X-ray /ˈɛks reɪ/ noun 1. radiation with a very short wavelength, which is invisible, but can go through soft tissue and register as a photograph on a film 2. a photograph taken with X-rays 3. verb to take an X-ray photograph of someone  

xenophobe /ˈzɛnəˌfoʊb/ noun a person who dislikes foreigners  

xenophobia /ˌzɛnəˈfəʊbɪə/ noun a dislike of foreigners. Synonym chauvinism  

XL abbr extra large  

X noun the Roman numeral for ten or tenth  

xylophone /ˈzɪləfoʊn/ noun a musical instrument consisting of wooden or metal bars of different lengths which make different notes when you tap them with a little hammer
yacht /jaʊt/ noun 1. a sailing boat, used for pleasure and sport 2. a large luxurious boat with a motor ○ She spent her holiday on a yacht in the Mediterranean.
yachting /'jaʊtɪŋ/ noun the activity of sailing on a yacht
yachtsman /'jɑːtsmən/ noun a person who sails a yacht (NOTE: The plural is yachtsmen.)
yachtswoman /'jɑːtswʊmən/ noun a woman who sails a yacht (NOTE: The plural is yachtswomen.)
yank /jæŋk/ noun a short sharp pull ○ He gave the rope a yank and it came away in his hands.  ■ verb to pull hard and sharply ○ Yank that string and it should ring a bell in the bell. ○ She tried to yank the pram out of the mud. Synonym pull
Yank /'jæŋk/, Yankee /'jæŋki/ noun an American, especially one from the northern states
yap /jɑːp/ verb (of a small dog) to bark ○ Her wretched little dog was yapping all the time.  ■ noun a little bark ○ When the doorbell rang the dog gave a yap.
yard /jɑːrd/ noun 1. a measurement of length, equal to 0.914 metres ○ The police station is only yards away from where the fight took place. ○ Can you move your car a couple of yards as it is blocking the entrance to our garage? 2. an area of concrete at the back or side of a house ○ We keep our bikes in the yard. 3. US a garden round a house ○ Let’s have a barbecue in the yard. 4. a large area where stores are kept outside, where lorries can load and unload ○ He went to the builder’s yard to buy some bricks. 5. the Yard headquarters of the London Metropolitan Police (informal) ○ They called in the Yard to investigate. ○ Scotland Yard officers were called in.
yardstick /'jɑːrdstɪk/ noun a standard for measurement
yarn /jɑːrn/ noun 1. a long piece of wool used in knitting or weaving ○ She sells yarn from the wool of her sheep. 2. a long story ○ He told me or he spun me some yarn about his time in the navy.
yawn /jan/ verb to open your mouth wide and breathe in and out deeply when you are tired or bored ○ He went on speaking for so long that half the people at the meeting started yawning or started to yawn.  ■ noun 1. the act of opening the mouth when you are bored or going to sleep ○ His yawns made everyone feel sleepy. ○ to stifle a yawn to try to prevent yourself from yawning 2. something which is very boring ○ The concert was just one big yawn.
yawning /'jænɪŋ/ adj open wide □ a big yawning hole a deep wide hole
yd abbr yard
ye /jɪ/ pron you (old) ○ Ye gods!  ■ article the (used in imitation old names) ○ The pub is called Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese.
yeah /jεə/ interj yes
year /jɪə/ noun 1. a period of time lasting twelve months, from January 1st to December 31st ○ Columbus discovered America in the year 1492. ○ Great celebrations which took place in the year 2000. ○ Last year we did not have any holiday. ○ Next year she’s going on holiday in Australia. ○ The weather was very bad for most of the year. ○ year in, year out, year after year every year, over a long period of time ○ Year in, year out he sends me a plant for my birthday. ○ all year round working or open for the whole year ○ The museum is open all year round. 2. since the year dot for a very long time (informal) ○ We’ve been going on holiday to Wales since the year dot. ○ New Year, New Year’s Day 3. a period of twelve months from a particular time ○ We spent five years in Hong Kong. ○ He died two hundred years ago today. ○ She’ll be eleven years old tomorrow. ○ How many years have you been working for the company? 4. ○ I haven’t seen him for years or donkey’s years I haven’t seen him for a very long time
yearbook /'jɛəbʊk/ noun a reference book which is published each year with updated or new information. Synonym annual
year-long /'jɛə lɒŋ/ adj which lasts a year
yearly /'jɛəli/ adj, adv which happens every year or once a year ○ They make a yearly trip to London to do their Christmas shopping.
yearn /jərn/ verb 1. to yearn for something to long for something, to want something very much 2. She's yearning for some peace and quiet.

yearning /jərnɪŋ/ noun a feeling of wanting something very much. Synonym desire

year-round /’jɪə raʊnd/ adj happening all the year.

yeast /jɛst/ noun a living fungus used to make bread and to ferment alcohol

yell /jɛl/ verb to shout very loudly 1. The policeman yelled to her to get out of the way. 2. noun a loud shout 1. He gave a yell and everyone came running to see what he had found. Synonym shriek

yellow /’jɛləʊ/ adj of a colour like that of the sun or gold 1. His new car is bright yellow. 2. She's wearing yellow sandals. 3. The yellow of the lichens on the rocks makes a very beautiful photograph. 4. The pages of the diary have yellowed with time but it is still legible.

yellow card /’jɛləʊ kɑrd/ noun in football, a card that a referee shows when giving a player a warning

yellowish /’jɛləʊ ɪʃ/ adj almost yellow in colour

yellow line /’jɛləʊ lайн/ noun a line painted along the side of a street, showing that you are not allowed to park

yellow pages /’jɛləʊ ’piːdʒiz/ trademark a section of a telephone directory printed on yellow paper, which lists businesses under various headings, such as computer shops, newsagent's etc. 1. He looked up 'airlines' in the yellow pages.

yelp /jɛlp/ verb (usually of animals) to give a short cry of pain or excitement 1. The dogs were yelping in the back of the car. 2. noun a short cry of pain 1. The dog gave a yelp when the little boy pulled its tail. Synonym yap

yep adv, interj yes

yes /jes/ adv a word showing that you agree or accept etc., the opposite of 'no' 1. They asked her if she wanted to come and she said 'yes'. 2. Anyone want more coffee? – Yes, please. 3. You don't like living in London? – Yes I do! 4. Didn't you work in Scotland at one time? – Yes, I did. 5. I need a clear answer – is it 'yes' or 'no'? Synonym affirmative. Antonym no

yes-man /jes man/ noun a person who always agrees with someone in authority

yesterday /’jɛst ə deɪ/ adv, noun 1. the day before today 2. Yesterday was March 1st so today must be the 2nd.

yoga /jəˈɡəʊ/ noun a system of exercises and meditation practised by Hindu thinkers, now popular in western countries as a way of keeping fit and relaxing
yoke /jəʊk/ noun 1. a piece of wood placed over the necks of two animals when they walk side by side, pulling something such as a cart. a yoke of oxen two oxen attached together 2. a piece of wood placed over a person’s shoulders, with baskets or buckets at each end 3. a part of a dress or shirt around the shoulders from which the rest of the dress falls. the yoke of her little girl’s dress is embroidered with flowers. (NOTE: Do not confuse with yolk.) ■ verb to join together, as if with a yoke. the water buffaloes were yoked together in pairs and taken to plough the fields. now that they are married she feels she’s yoked to him for the rest of her life.

yolk /jʊlk/ noun the yellow part inside an egg. (NOTE: Do not confuse with yoke.)

you’d /jʊd/ short form you had, you would
you’ll /jʊl/ short form you shall, you will

young /jʌŋ/ adj not old 1. This is where your Daddy lived when he was young. 2. She’s very young, she’s only six. 3. He became Prime Minister when he was still a young man. 4. My little brother’s much younger than me or than I am. 5. In the afternoon there are TV programmes for young children. (NOTE: younger – youngest) ■ noun 1. young animals or birds. 2. Animals. 3. a toy made of two round pieces and a string which you make the toy run up and down. 4. You go yo-yoing all week.

youth /jʊθ/ noun 1. a young man. 2. a period when you are young, especially the time between being a child and being an adult. 3. In his youth he was a great traveller. 4. I haven’t done that since the days of my youth.

youth club /jʊθ kləb/ noun a club where young people meet

youthful /jʊθfl/ adj young

youth hostel /jɪəθˈhɒstəl/ noun a building where young travellers or walkers can stay the night cheaply.

you’ve /jʊv/ short form you have

Yo-yos were very popular when I was at school. ■ verb to go up and down. share prices have been yo-yoing all week.

yr abbr year

yuck /jʌk/ interj used to show that something has a nasty taste

yucky /ˈjʌki/ adj not nice, unpleasant

yummy /ˈjʌmi/ adj delicious (informal)
z /zed/ Z noun the last and twenty-sixth letter of the alphabet
zany /ˈzenə/ adj wildly mad. Synonym unconventional (NOTE: zaniest – zaniest)
zap /zap/ verb 1. to hit, to kill 2. to shut down the television using the remote control (NOTE: zapping – zapped)
zenith /ˈzenθ/ noun 1. the highest point, point of greatest achievement 2. the highest point in the sky reached by the sun or moon 3. The sun is now at its zenith.
zero /ˈzɛroʊ/ noun 1. the number 0 2. the freezing point of water on a Celsius thermometer 3. The temperature stayed below zero for days. 4. nothing at all 5. They lost ten – zero. (NOTE: The plural is zeros.)
zero hour /ˈzɪərəʊ ˈhɔːr/ noun the time fixed to start something important, such as a battle
zest /zɛst/ noun 1. enthusiasm or enjoyment 2. Her zest for playing football made her apply to join the local club 3. added pleasure or spice 4. It all adds zest to the occasion 5. a thin piece of orange or lemon peel 6. Grate the zest of one lemon and add it to the cake mixs
zestful /ˈzɛstfʊl/ adj enthusiastic. Antonym apathetic
zigzag /ˈzɪɡzæg/ adj, noun a line which turns one way, then the opposite way 1. There are zigzag lines painted at pedestrian crossings to show that cars must not stop there. 2. verb to move from left to right, then from right to left 3. The car zigzagged up the motorway until the police managed to stop it. (NOTE: zigzaging – zigzagged)
zilch /ˈzɪlk/ noun nothing (informal) 1. Zillions of people watched the game on TV.
zinc /ˈzɪŋk/ noun a hard bright light-coloured metal
zip /zip/ noun a device for closing openings on clothes and bags, consisting of two rows of teeth which lock together (informal) 1. to go fast 2. Cars were zipping past us on the motorway.
zip drive /ˈzip ˈdrɪv/ trademark a trademark for a piece of computer equipment that makes large computer files smaller for easier storage or faster transmission
zip fastener /ˈzip fæstənər/ noun a sliding fastener for closing clothes and bags
zipper /ˈzipər/ noun US same as zip
zit /zɪt/ noun a pimple or spot on the skin
zither /ˈzɪðər/ noun a flat musical instrument
zodiac /ˈzəʊdɪək/ noun a set of 12 groups of stars that are related to 12 parts of the year and are believed by some people to influence character and suggest what will happen to them in the future
zombie /ˈzɒmbi/ noun 1. a dead body which is revived and controlled by witchcraft 2. a person who is unable to think 3. After thirteen hours in the plane I felt like a zombie.
zone /ˈzoʊn/ noun an area or part which is different from others, or which has something special ○ Police cars are patrolling the inner city zones. ■ verb to divide a town into parts for planning purposes ○ The land is zoned for industrial use.

zoned /ˈzoʊnd/ adj 1. very tired ○ He looks completely zonked. 2. under the influence of alcohol or drugs

zoo /ˈzuː/ noun a place where wild animals are kept, and where people can go to see them

zoo-keeper /ˌzuːˈkiːpər/ noun a person whose job is to look after the animals in a zoo

zoological /ˌzuːəˈlɒdʒɪk(ə), ˈzuːə-ˈlɒdʒɪk(ə)/ adj referring to the study of animals

zoological gardens /ˌzuːəˈlɒdʒɪk(ə)ˈgɑːrdənz/ plural noun same as zoo

zoologist /ˌzuːˈəʊlədʒɪst, ˈzuːəˌlədʒɪst/ noun a person who studies animals

zoology /ˈzuːəˈlɒdʒi, ˈzuːˌlədʒi/ noun the study of animals

zoom /ˈzuːm/ noun same as zoom lens ■ verb 1. to go very fast ○ Cars were zooming past me on the motorway. 2. to rise suddenly and steeply ○ The exchange rate zoomed up last month. 3. ○ to zoom in on something to focus a zoom lens so that it makes a distant object appear to come closer ○ He zoomed in on the yacht.

zoom lens /ˈzuːm lɛnz/ noun a camera lens which allows you to change quickly from distant to close-up shots while still keeping in focus

zucchini /ˈzuːkiːni/ noun US the fruit of the marrow at a very immature stage in its development (NOTE: The British term is courgette.)

zzz noun a representation of the sound made by somebody sleeping, often used in cartoons
SUPPLEMENT
Irregular Verbs

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How to say the Alphabet

A /æt/  N /en/
B /bi:/  O /ɔs/  
C /siz/  P /pi:/
D /diz/  Q /kʒu:/
E /i:/  R /ɑ:/
F /ɛf/  S /ɛs/
G /dʒi:/  T /ti:/
H /eɪtʃ/  U /jʊz/
I /aɪ/  V /vɪz/
J /dʒet/  W /ˈdɛb(ə)lju:z/
K /keɪ/  X /ɛks/
L /el/  Y /wai/
M /ɛm/  Z /ˈzed/, (US) /ˈzi:/

How to say Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numbers</th>
<th>You say</th>
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<tr>
<td>1, 2, 3, 4</td>
<td>one, two, three, four</td>
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<tr>
<td>I, II, III, IV</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th</td>
<td>first, second, third, fourth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5, 6, 7, 8</td>
<td>five, six, seven, eight</td>
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<tr>
<td>V, VI, VII, VIII</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th, 6th, 7th, 8th</td>
<td>fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth</td>
</tr>
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<td>9, 10, 11, 12</td>
<td>nine, ten, eleven, twelve</td>
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<tr>
<td>IX, X, XI, XII</td>
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<td>9th, 10th, 11th, 12th</td>
<td>ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth</td>
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<td>XIII, XIV, XV, XVI</td>
<td>thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen</td>
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<td>13th, 14th, 15th, 16th</td>
<td>thirteenth, fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth</td>
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<td>17, 18, 19, 20</td>
<td>seventeen, eighteen, nineteen, twenty</td>
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<td>XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX</td>
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<td>17th, 18th, 19th, 20th</td>
<td>seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth</td>
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<td>21, 22, 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>XXI, XXII, XXIII</td>
<td>twenty-first, twenty-second, twenty-third</td>
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<td>30, 31, 32</td>
<td>thirty, thirty-one, thirty-two</td>
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<tr>
<td>XXX, XXXI, XXXII</td>
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<tr>
<td>40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90</td>
<td>forty, fifty, sixty, seventy, eighty, ninety</td>
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<tr>
<td>XL, L, LX, LXX, LXXX, XC</td>
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<tr>
<td>40th, 50th, 60th, 70th, 80th, 90th</td>
<td>fortieth, fiftieth, sixtieth, seventieth, eightieth, ninetieth</td>
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<tr>
<td>100, 101</td>
<td>one hundred, a hundred; a hundred and one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C, CI</td>
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<tr>
<td>200, 300, 400, 500</td>
<td>two hundred, three hundred, four hundred, five hundred</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CC, CCC, CCCC, D</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>one thousand, a thousand</td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>ten thousand</td>
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<tr>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>one million, a million</td>
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<tr>
<td>1,000,000,000</td>
<td>one billion, a billion</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Decimals

0.5 zero point five, point five
0.25 zero point two five, point two five
2.5 two point five

Money

You say

£1 one pound, a pound
30p thirty pence, thirty pee
£1.25 one pound twenty-five (pee), one twenty-five
c£27.36 twenty-seven pounds thirty-six (pee)
£1 one dollar, a dollar
ten cents, or (US) a dime
25¢ twenty-five cents, or (US) a quarter
$1.25 one dollar twenty-five, a dollar twenty-five, one twenty-five

Telephone numbers

You say

020 7921 3567 oh-two-oh, seven-nine-two-one, three-five-six-seven

Years

You say

1905 nineteen oh five, nineteen hundred and five
1998 nineteen ninety-eight
the 1900s, the 1900’s the nineteen hundreds
2000 two thousand, the year two thousand
2005 two thousand and five

Dates

You say

2.1.98 or 2/1/98 the second of January, nineteen ninety eight, or (US) February first, nineteen ninety eight

(Note: European and British dates are written with the day before the month, American dates are written with the month before the day.)

Some words with numbers

You say

999, (US) 911, (Australia) 000 nine nine nine, (US) nine one one, (Australia) triple oh

(Nota: the number to phone in an emergency)

24/7 twenty-four seven (Nota: means ‘all the time’)

9/11 nine eleven (Nota: the eleventh of September 2001, when many people died in a terrorist attack in New York)

the big 40, 50, etc. the big four oh, five oh, etc. (Nota: used humorously to refer to a fortieth or fiftieth, etc. birthday)

A1, A12, B125, etc. /iəˈwʌn/ (Nota: means ‘excellent’)

A1, A12, B125, etc. /iəˈwʌn/, /ˈwʌdnəl/, /biː wʌn fəˈzævəl/ etc. (Nota: the numbering system for roads in Great Britain)

4x4 four by four (Nota: a vehicle with four-wheel drive)

4WD four-wheel drive (Nota: a system in which engine power drives all four wheels of a vehicle, or a vehicle with this system)

H2O /ˈhiːtwɔʊ/ (Nota: The chemical formula is sometimes used to say ‘water’)

M1, M25, etc. /ˈmiːwʌn/, /ˈmiːtwɛntʃəfævəl/ etc. (Nota: the numbering system for motorways in Great Britain)

Numbers are sometimes used as abbreviations in emails, text messages or adverts.

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<th>Day</th>
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<th>4U</th>
<th>5/7</th>
<th>L8R</th>
<th>later</th>
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<td>Cul8R</td>
<td>see you later</td>
<td>2day</td>
<td>for you</td>
<td>F2F</td>
<td>face to face</td>
<td>M8</td>
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<tr>
<td>B4</td>
<td>before</td>
<td>GR8</td>
<td>great</td>
<td>P2P</td>
<td>person to person</td>
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